Shouldn’t you do a wedding or funeral for just anybody?

By Dixon Cartwright

The Journal

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Moving day at LU

LIVING UNIVERSITY STUDENT HOUSING—A truck delivers belongings of new students to Living University, the school sponsored by the Living Church of God in Charlotte, N.C. As LU observes its 10th anniversary, the church’s institution of higher learning is offering seven undergraduate-certificate options. See the article beginning on this page for more information. See more photos on page 4. (Photo Courtesy Michael Germano)

Living Church of God moves forward with its Living University graduate-certificate options

By Dixon Cartwright

Sponsored by the Living Church of God, the church’s institution of higher learning is offering seven undergraduate-certificate options. See the article beginning on this page for more information.

“Living University seeks to serve the people of God in the 21st century utilizing state-of-the-art online instructional-delivery methods,” Dr. Germano said.

By Jean Ehler Uplegger

COSTA MESA, Calif.—I have attempted to compile a set of all editions of The Envoy, the AC yearbook. My set is almost complete through 1997, the last year of Ambassador College/University. I have made use of the Envoy plus pictorials and other source material for the database for the apcassio-
dendum.com website.

The first Envoy was published in 1951. From that volume to the end of AC in Big Sandy in 1997, the years for which there were no Envoy were 1954, 1970 the seniors that year were featured in the 1971 Envoy, 1975, 1976, 1977 and 1982.

For the missing years (excluding 1954) Pasadena published a pictorial brochure for the student body.

Big Sandy in the years 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1977-78 printed quarterly brochures for the student body, with one class featured in each edition.

There are two online sites on which one can find all the Envoy and most of the pictorials. These are as follows:

■ Herbert-Armstrong.org (after “Enter here” click on “Ambassador College,” will take you to the Envoy-and-pictorials section). This site has Envoy for 1951-1990 plus 1994 and 1996.

There are also student pictorials from AC Pasadena for the missing Envoy of the mid-’70s and the quarter-
brochures of Big Sandy 1976-77. You can even find an online ver-
sion of the Spokesman Club manual on this site.

■ Philfinds.org. This site fills in the other Envoy gaps, and Pasadena pictorials from 1981 through the Env-

oy of 1994. Click on the downloads tab at the top of the page.

We appreciate the hard work of AC grads Phil Robson and Roger Hoffman for their time and effort to put together the philfinds.org site.
Keep up appearances not a good idea  

...THE JOURNAL...
Mr. Dickerson is a longtime Church of God minister who lives with his wife, Cathy, in Arkansas.

John Dickerson

In 2004 Mr. Dickerson began working on an Internet forum for former students of Ambassador College, Big Sandy, conveying knowledge and answering questions of ministers and members. He had pressing responsibilities on the forum.

Looking in, he would see students from around the world asking questions about the Bible, doctrine and ministerial problems.

John Dickerson

It is a forum that has grown in recent years to nearly 1,000 members. On this Internet forum, members can interact with each other, old classmates and professors in the College of Biblical Literature.

There is a great variety of topics, including the interpretation of passages, doctrines, prophecy and history and current issues.

Private conversations and encounters with Jesus result in the stunning overthrow of Satan's authority. The focus is on the temptation of Jesus by Satan, with stirring dialogue.

Private conversations of Satan and his associates are examined long ago. Mr. Dickerson intends to create the conditions of the culture war over homosexuality. The earlier article can be read at michaelharris776@gmail.com.

The article below focuses on Mr. Harris’s experience of Christian growth and change and what he believes the Church of God’s response should be to encourage people struggling with same-sex attraction as they navigate their Christian lives.

Write Mr. Harris at michaelharris776@cs.com.

The writer is a freelance researcher and former editor of the Worldwide Church of God. He lives with his wife, Robbie, in North Carolina.

John Dickerson

As a Christian who lives in a heterogeneous and societal factors intertwine to create the conditions of the cultural war over homosexuality. The earlier article can be read at michaelharris776@gmail.com.

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LU’s on-campus program specifically for young single adults

Continued from page 1

accrued for the first time in its 50-year history.

 Ambassador closed in 1997, with the Big Sandy campus the only remaining of three (in Texas, California and the United Kingdom).

Further expanding

Living University continues as an on-campus undergraduate institution in Charlotte, at the church’s headquarters.

It “is further expanding its educational services to a rapidly growing online global student body,” Dr. Germano said.

The school has applied to the State of North Carolina for ‘licensure through the State of North Carolina.’

Mr. Germano said, which is state approval for the authority to offer an associate-arts degree as well as bachelor’s-degree minors in business and communications.

Student makeup

The coeducational student body is about 55 percent (130) men and 45 percent (104) women, of whom 15 are full time and 200 part time.

2016 and plans to add two more, he said. The on-campus program is designed specifically for single young adults.

On-campus students take online courses that normally provide additional discussion sessions during which students experience more interaction with faculty members and other students.

LU students say they’re “quite happy” with their “learning experience,” Dr. Germano reported.

99 percent satisfied

In a survey, 99 percent of participating students said they were “satisfied” with the LU experience, and 100 percent said they would recommend the school to a friend.

As a Christian institution, Living University is not pursuing licensure through the State of North Carolina.”

Is licensure a form of accreditation?

“No, it is not.”

The state-licensing people visited the campus in November 2015 and also just a few days before this writing.

“They wanted to take a look at the two new dormitories,” Dr. Germano said.

“And they said you’ve met all of our requirements for that and met all of the university’s board members.”

“At the present time they don’t want to move forward on accreditation until they’ve had an opportunity to see how the state handles all of its evaluations of the university,” Dr. Germano said. “They will probably deliberate that in about a year.”

Essentially the same

Anyway, he said, the requirement for licensure and accreditation “are essentially the same.”


Ian Boyne says distaffellowshipping doesn’t indicate a lack of love

Continued from page 1

He also asserted that “Armstrong never taught that so-called modern Israel was superior because of their race. That would indeed be racist.”

Byker Bob unpersuaded

Byker Bob (one of the regular commentators on these blogs), however, was not persuaded by Mr. Boyne’s arguments. He said:

“I still maintain that British Israelism is racist, although perhaps subliminally.”

When I joined the conversation and pointed out that BI fits the dictionary definition of racism, one of the many “Anonymous” commentators said I was arguing ever semantics.

Back and forth

And so it went, back and forth. Byker Bob also stated that “German Assyrianism is racist. And Armstrong adherents forget that the majority DNA of the American population is actually not Anglo-Saxon, but in fact German. All of Europe is populated with ancestry spawned by the once called ‘Germanic Tribes.’ The British royal family is actually German.

Impossible to ignore

“arose from these factors which should be impossible for Armstrongites to ignore.”

Elders Ganny into the fires of hell if you liked his theology.”

What about distaffellowshipping?

At Banned by HWA (Mr. Leonard), Mr. Boyne revealed that he supports the practice of distaffellowshipping errant members. The post was titled “LCG [Living Church of God] Preaches That Godly Love Is The Most Unequate his use of excommunication with a lack of love.

He said: “The Bible clearly gives the ministry the right to excommunicate for doctrinal reasons. He went on to reveal that “I have never distaffellowshipped anyone for doctrinal reasons. I have distaffellowshipped a few for sexual immorality, but never for just a single act.”

Ian Boyne challenged Gavin Rumney and others to evaluate his CGI booklet Man’s Awesome Destiny, and Mr. Rumney took up the challenge.

Interestingly, Mr. Boyne also stated, “If I were HWA’s pastor in his first ten years of ministry or GTA’s, I would have distaffellowshipped them.”

Firmly in

Although I offered scriptural proof that excommunication is inconsistent with what the Bible actually teaches on the subject, Mr. Boyne never responded to my offer.

Hence, although the discussions were interesting, Mr. Boyne revealed that he is firmly in the Armstrong Church of God camp (even when he personally disagrees with a particular doctrine like British Israelism).

Pastor Boyne challenged Mr. Rumney and others to evaluate his CGI booklet Man’s Awesome Destiny, and Gavin took up the challenge.

Mad, mad, mad, mad whirl!

There was some good-natured back-and-forth about the acronym that the title creates, but I don’t think either side was persuaded of the points made by the other.

Nevertheless, at least Mr. Boyne is not afraid to join the arena of debating ideas and beliefs, which is more than we can say for most Church of God ministers.

LIVING VIEWS—As Living University, based in Charlotte, N.C., celebrates its 10th anniversary, the school is offering seven undergraduate-certificate options. LU operates as a subsidiary of the Living Church of God, the church founded in 1998 by Rod-erick Meredith.

Photo 1: Dr. Meredith, chairman of the board of regents of LU and presiding evangelist of the LCG. Photo 2: Students visit the recording studio. Photo 3: On-campus students pose for a photo. Photo 4: University president Michael Germano (left) and a student. Photo 5: Students in the library. See page 1 for another view of LU. [Courtesy photos]
I am seeking someone for a friend, a male of age 55-60, who can talk about the Bible and God. I would like to discuss it in depth. Please contact me at 903-561-5075.

Marilyn married Lorencia Daugay Canup on Aug. 13, 1967, and they recently celebrated 49 years of marriage. Marilyn and Daugay have two children: Lenos and Shana. She was the proud granddaughter of five grandchildren: Haley Canup, Alex Canup, Tyler Canup, Natasha Card, and Christofer Card. Marilyn loved bookkeeping and she worked at Kinde Inc., owned by the Ditto family, in Winnie, Texas, for 23 years. She worked for Kelley Insurance after moving to Big Sandy. After officially retiring, she continued her bookkeeping passion by serving as treasurer for New Beginnings Church. In addition, she was a member and officer of the Big Sandy Ministerial Alliance and treasurer of the Agape House Ministries, which is overseen by the alliance. Marilyn was chosen as Big Sandy Woman of the Year in 2014. She also worked as needed at Big Sandy City Hall up until her death. Marilyn was a huge part of the Next Generation young adult ministry at New Beginnings, as well as leading Bible studies for the Silver Statute of New Beginnings Fellowship. In addition, Marilyn was chosen as Big Sandy Woman of the Year in 2014. She also worked as needed at Big Sandy City Hall up until her death. Marilyn was a huge part of the Next Generation young adult ministry at New Beginnings, as well as leading Bible studies for the Silver Statute of New Beginnings Fellowship.

Marilyn Canup, 75, of Big Sandy, Texas, passed away peacefully at home in her sleep on Oct. 2, 2016. Born March 1, 1941, to Arta Xenex Russell and Susan Muriel Goodman Russell, Marilyn spent her childhood in Angelina County, Texas. As the oldest of the Russell girls and their beloved younger brother, Marilyn set the code of love of family, love for and dependence on God. She followed the example of Christ in helping those in need, not forgetting that humor can be a salve in many situations. She is survived by sister Judith Russell Omasta and husband Larry, sister Elizabeth Russell Coston and her husband Wood, brother-in-law Tom Pickett, and sister-in-law Jacqueline Russell, as well as nieces and nephews. Her sister Adrienne Russell Pickett preceded her in death. Marilyn married in 1959 from Huntington (Texas) High School. After high school she ventured off to California to attend Ambassador College and graduated from there with a bachelor’s degree in 1963. When AC opened its Big Sandy campus, Marilyn journeyed back to Texas to work as the college’s first librarian. Marilyn married Lorencia Daugay Canup on Aug. 13, 1967, and they recently celebrated 49 years of marriage. Marilyn and Daugay have two children: Lenos and Shana. She was the proud granddaughter of five grandchildren: Haley Canup, Alex Canup, Tyler Canup, Natasha Card, and Christofer Card. Marilyn loved bookkeeping and she worked at Kinde Inc., owned by the Ditto family, in Winnie, Texas, for 23 years. She worked for Kelley Insurance after moving to Big Sandy. After officially retiring, she continued her bookkeeping passion by serving as treasurer for New Beginnings Church. In addition, she was a member and officer of the Big Sandy Ministerial Alliance and treasurer of the Agape House Ministries, which is overseen by the alliance. Marilyn was chosen as Big Sandy Woman of the Year in 2014. She also worked as needed at Big Sandy City Hall up until her death. Marilyn was a huge part of the Next Generation young adult ministry at New Beginnings, as well as leading Bible studies for the Silver Statute of New Beginnings Fellowship. In addition, Marilyn was chosen as Big Sandy Woman of the Year in 2014. She also worked as needed at Big Sandy City Hall up until her death. Marilyn was a huge part of the Next Generation young adult ministry at New Beginnings, as well as leading Bible studies for the Silver Statute of New Beginnings Fellowship.

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[The US flag represents the sun, with its stylized yellow rays surrounding the 50-point star centered on a red field, the cross of St. George, and the 50 stars meaning illumination or the great light of the sun. So the Washington Monument represents the sun with a cross on its base, the sun worship as the ancient Egyptian obelisk, it copied. Most of nations' military and police use the 5-point star symbol, and represents the god of forces (Dan 11:38). The early Egyptians copied it from the Roman and Ottoman empires.]

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CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

magic on your body." Many use charm bracelets, crystal necklaces, 4-leaf clover, crescent, or crescent and star appearance. Even some Masons use a Red Cross equivalent of Red Crescent and 5-point star of Muslims. The Islamic god Allah is the moon (2 K 7:16). In her book From Our Phallic Heritage: The engagement or wedding ring represents the female, is placed on the male's finger. As a sign of a marital union. [ Urged by a pope for new couples.]

the same ragamuffin costumes, begging and giver. In history US Thanksgiving Day featured door-to-door, or a prank is played on the non-works displays. Add to that US Flag Day also pole. Masons and witches claim Maypoles are spring fertility rite of intertwined ribbons on a star of Muslims. The Islamic god Allah is the immoral Jezebel (2 K 9:30). Makeup use coven, and the token of this child becoming a among occultists that when a girl is 13, she is said that she did not allow Chelsea to have her painted fingernails.”

US Father's Day is close to the summer sol-day holy or not (Lev 10:10). To avoid keeping any worldly holiday is per-son, and they must to Him. So they should-ing we can conduct business on a Sabbath at home, you would prepare ahead on a Sabbath throughout the year, but manage to-gether in false worship. It is called the ecu-
god in this. Yet Satan is trying to get the whole world to discern the spirit of a practice, as keeping a Se-rious error of holiday-keeping

This is something seriously wrong with keeping the same holiday that others keep, for their version could be false. COGs claim God's Holy Days or Pagan Holidays as if there is an important sepa-rate holiday for the true God's day. COGs are one, true. Yet some COGs keep some days set up by mere men, but observe only days wanted. Many in the COGs claim to be spiritu-

doing just business on a Sabbath at restaurants instead, perhaps multiple times on holiday seasons for more than just the duration of the week. COGs are sure their meeting days are set up by the Feast of Tabernacles, and a national holy-day. But thanksgiving for a false god is wrong. Is it cognitive dissonance? It does show hypocrisy, and setting a bad example. And why? Because it makes people think that it is ok to work a week in business on a Sabbath at a restaurant. As long as bus-

Do you keep Babylon holidays?

We are to come out of modern Babylon as the old one. Quit keeping its fake Sabbaths as Sunday for the sun god, and other false holy days or holidays. COGs claim we should avoid reli-gious holidays as wrong. True, but aren't they all? Based on a fake god for each day of the week? We should build on a sure foundation, and the present world calendar is definitely not one of it. It is in opposition to God. Any holiday on the false world calendar of the pope and Catholics has been abolished by the pope and Catholics. There are no more holy days or holidays. They are called the False. They are the same day. Most religious aspect and family tradition, and ignore any religious aspect. Most "religious Americans believe in keep-
ing Torah, but also think Sunday is the Sabbath. Do they somehow violate God's true Sabbath? Remember, there must be a great reason a day? Remember, there must be a great reason a
day? Remember, there must be a great reason a

eating. It is clear that the false religion is all right in Freemasonry, as the Bible for their oaths, as the Muslim Koran. Any faiths would not keep God's Holy Days unless these faiths would not keep God's Holy Days unless

The Bible tells us that God will send strong winds to blow them away. In fact, the end time lie (Mat 24:24), even the elect might be deceived by these lies. We should make a habit of avoiding the wrong ones and embrace the truth.

Ora von Wowbagger's book Secret Architecture of Our Nation's Capital was endorsed in the fore-

and former head of NASA. [NASA uses false god names for missions and vehicles.] Ora von Wowbagger's book Secret Architecture of Our Nation's Capital was endorsed in the fore-

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God’s Warning Message

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful Day of the LORD” (Malachi 4:5; Matthew 17:10-11).

The Reality and Fear of God

“You shall observe the Feast of Tabernacles seven days ... and you shall rejoice in your Feast ... Seven days you shall keep a Sacred Feast to the LORD your God IN THE PLACE which the LORD chooses ...” —Deuteronomy 16:13-15

Alton B. (Don) Billingsley

W here God Places His Name—This Scripture makes known members are commanded by the Almighty God to only attend a Feast site where He has placed His name. If a person grasps the reality of God, and fears to disobey Him, then each one should seriously ponder the needed question before their departure for their planned site: “Is this the place God has chosen to place His Name?” If not, God will not be there!

Three Options—There are presently three options available to the membership: (1) The remnant of the Philadelphia era (Revelation 3:7-13), (2) Those of the Laodicean era (Revelation 3:14-22), (3) The many sites established by those who were once ministers or others in the WWCG but have since gone off-track by those who were once ministers or others, who were then removed from the WWCG. All of them sat with their heads down. Not one said, “I am with you and will do the same!” Not one! I could relate more, but space prohibits it.

God’s True Church—For those who know and believe the teachings of God’s Holy Bible, Scripture reveals God has only ONE CHURCH (Matthew 16:18), and no more! And in that Church are only those whom God has selectively called and added to it (John 6:44; Ephesians 4:1-16); a little, little Church (Luke 12:32; Matthew 7:13-14). And in God’s true Church the fullness of His true teachings are believed and taught by His true and faithful ministers (Revelation 14:12).

Discernment—By reading the many writings in The Journal, while not questioning the sincerity of most of the writers, yet one should easily discern they are in error regarding the fullness of the true teachings of God (Matthew 4:4; John 17:17).

The Larger Churches—These large churches have very popular ministers with great personalities and are very good speakers and writers. They lead members to believe the doctrinal teachings together with end-time prophecies are not as important as they are the harmonious unity and togetherness of the membership. Sadly, and tragically, many thousands of members believe them.

The Reality and Fear of God—Scripture teaches, “His mercy is upon them that fear Him” (Luke 1:50). Sad to say, God is not real to all who have gone off-track, otherwise they would repent and begin walking fully in His teachings as made known by Jesus Christ through His late apostle and the Elijah to come (Malachi 4:4-6; Matthew 17:10-11).

Time is Running Out—Based on what is made known by the news media, coupled with the end-time prophecies, it should be realized the handwriting is on the wall for this nation, and the end of it is now very close as it was for Belshazzar King of Babylon (Daniel 5:23-31). Prophecy reveals super-power America will be conquered by the Revived Holy Roman Empire, as was the impregnable Babylonian Empire by the Medio-Persian Empire. Once Queen Athaliah becomes the new president, little precious time will be left, probably no more than six short years, as it was for that evil queen (II Kings 11:3-11). Please reconsider where you will attend the Feast. The quotes and pictures above are for educational purposes only. Entire contents © 2016 The Church of God. All Rights Reserved. The copyright subsisting in material quoted in this publication and trademarks appearing in this publication belong to the respective owners thereof and no claim of ownership therein is made by The Church of God, Faithful Flock.

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What Exactly Is the Gospel?

The author concludes with the following statement: “It is not time for us to start proving all things from Scripture again and to begin to believe only what we read there and not from what we hear coming from pulpits that contradict the Bible?”

On this one statement I can agree with the author. So let's take some time to see if this fellow's statement is accurate. Or if he, best case, has taken things out of context and therefore comes to incorrect conclusions. We won't explore what the 'worst case' could be indicative of, but I strongly suggest you consider it in your own study of his ideas.

He contends there are seven aspects to the gospel. First is the gospel about Christ. "For many, this is a gospel about the messenger rather than the message the messenger preached. Yet (my emphasis) read what the (sic) Paul was inspired to write in 1 Corinthians" (The Journal, issue 186, page 5, column 1, paragraph 8).

I highlighted the word 'yet' for a reason. The word is intended to cast doubt on the preceding phrase. Take the following example. "Sam said he is going to the store, yet he drove off in the wrong direction." This is a classic this author uses extensively.

If you doubt the ability of the author to understand the implication of what he wrote, all you have to do is look to his education credentials in the first two paragraphs of this same page and column. He holds a Doctorate Degree in Theology and a Ph.D. in Science and is the founder of Ambassador Christian College. By his own claims of experience and education, he fully understands language and how to use it to accomplish the goals he sets for his work.

He then goes into a series of logical fallacies attempting to claim that Paul's statements in Paul's letters prove the only gospel was the one Paul preached at certain churches or in certain letters. First example: "That car is blue. Therefore, its engine is blue." We can all see the problem with the example statement.

If you care at all about the truth, and how God's word is twisted to become useless, you need to understand how people present what appear to be logical arguments, but are perversions of the truth. These people are attempting to steer your thought process, generally for their own gain. If you cannot see this, then you are doomed to fall into the trap they are setting.

We are warned by Christ Himself that there will arise false prophets that will deceive the elect, if it is possible. Do not let this happen to you because you don't see their literary tricks.

This author quotes several verses from Paul correctly, and then tells you, the reader, that only what Paul specifically states he preached was the full gospel.

"In fact, that is the only message Paul preached to those gentiles, the only message!" This may be accurate. (It may not be also, as Paul is wont to use literary tools to reinforce his message.) The author concludes that, because Paul said this was the only message he preached to this group, it was the only gospel message anyone preached to them. The author is using 1 Corinthians for the basis of his argument.

He correctly quotes 1 Cor 1:18, 23 and 1 Cor 2:2, then states: "If this message is not the gospel, then Paul never preached the gospel in Corinth." If you read just seven verses further, it is obvious there is more to the gospel than Christ crucified. Verse 7: "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." This author conveniently ignores the context.

Now, if the limit of the gospel is the death and resurrection of Christ and the saving redemption it offers mankind, exactly what was Paul talking about in verse seven?!!! That is what HWA had just began to teach us. The rest of the gospel, the entire story of God's plan.

The author would have you limited to one small (but admittedly very important) part of the plan. He would hide the rest of the plan from you, presumably claiming, "What difference does it make to our salvation?"

This is exactly what HWA was against, and you all know it. I hear it repeatedly from Christians when I attempt to point out truths from God's word that contradict their traditions. The truth about the events coming before the Millennial reign of Christ and the events to unfold during that reign, as revealed to us in God's word, cause a lot of problems with some cherished traditions. One being going to Heaven. Another being observation of the Holy Days.

Why would this author do this? I can only offer conjecture, but, from history, I can draw some guesses. One is this is a first step to moving people away from the requirements God set in His word for adherence to His standards.

Basically, "come to the foot of the Cross, and Jesus will accept you as you are!" Another could be attempts to draw people into his flock. We are constantly warned in the New Testament about wolves in sheep's clothing. I can't read his mind, therefore I can't say. But I can look back at what has happened in the past, and look at the ministry and college he

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

The author goes into a series of logical fallacies attempting to claim that Paul's statements in Paul's letters prove the only gospel was the one Paul preached at certain churches or in certain letters.

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What Is the Gospel?

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

He uses that verse to imply any message other than Christ's sacrifice is what Paul is condemning. Quote: "Another gospel—a perverted message—is that which differs from the 'grace of Christ.' Obviously, then, the true gospel Paul preached concerned the grace of God . . . It is the same true gospel message."

Same chapter, verses 21-23, Paul tells us there were churches already established, who had visited the things that he had already. Therefore, the claim that what Paul preached was the only message of the gospel is again shown to be an incorrect conclusion.

His next point is to claim the WCG taught against a message of salvation. The WCG often criticized the churches of this world for preaching a salvation message as the gospel. Well, that is one thing those churches got right. He then goes on to Eph 1:13. He uses that verse to, again, imply Paul taught something the WCG did not. He clearly wants you to think Paul is talking to all people.

We know from the opening of the book he was talking to only believers. We also know from verse 14 (the very next verse) Paul tells them the ability to repent and be a part of that family. It is the 'down payment' (earnest) of the inheritance they are to receive. What is the inheritance??? A place in God's family! That is the message HW A brought! This fellow wants you to ignore the totality of the gospel and focus on one small part.

Remember the story of the three blind men who have never seen an elephant? The first touches its leg and says the elephant is like a tree. The second touches its trunk and says the elephant is like a snake. The third touches its side and says the elephant is like a wall. Each could understand from only a limited perspective. HW A tried to open our eyes to the whole view of the gospel and what our potential is.

The complaint HW A had against the world's churches was they preach only salvation. They never leave the basics. And they claim there is nothing else God expects from us other than repentance. This guy is leading you down the same primrose path. Don't fall for it!!

He makes another point and then tries to tell us the WCG denied John 3:16. "Indeed, how can any WCG minister deny that John 3:16 is the true gospel?" That statement is a bold-faced attempt to convince you of something that is patently false. The WCG never claimed John 3:16 was not part of the gospel. Logically it had to be, as the gospel the WCG taught was that of mankind would be offered salvation. All in their proper time. His next paragraph tries to tell you the ministry was spiritually blind. While I do not agree with some of the things they continue to teach, and I believe most know the truth behind the curtain they have set up about tithing, the holy day calendar and some other things, they most certainly do have the truth about the gospel.

Another logical fallacy is contained in the last column, first paragraph, page 5 of the same issue. "How is that good news if it happens 2,000 years in the future, and you will never live to see it?" This statement is utterly absurd!!

When President Eisenhower said, "I see . . . an America where a mighty network of highways spreads across our country," would anyone not see this as 'good news' even though the people building and financing this system of interstate highways would not live to see it completed? Good news is just that! Does it have to happen that instant, or in the lifetime of the person speaking the truth?

This author was a student at Ambassador and knows what was taught. He is doing exactly what Paul condemns, preaching another gospel.

Want more proof? "Don't merely tell me a kind point in time I suspect He may have emphasized) can be a part of it. Now, that is good news." How unbelievably selfish!

To paraphrase, I would put it like this, "Oh, I really don't give a rat's stinky behind about all those other people God wants to save. I'm just concerned about knowing how 1, me, myself, can get what I want!"

Herbert Armstrong had some things I see as mistakes in his life and his ministry. But the gospel message wasn't one of them. HW A correctly saw that the driving force in modern 'Christianity' is the desire to preserve the self. It's not about proving oneself qualified to assist in the salvation of the billions of humans that have ever lived on the earth.

It's about saving the listener's hide. I suspect I may have riled some feathers by calling out the self-centered doctrine of personal salvation. I know, because there are multiple ads and messages in this very paper that spout the same "Listen to us and you'll get you to the place of safety" message. If you really want to serve God, and want to work side by side with Christ to eradicate the scourge of death from our reality, then you best give up the idea that your life matters more than a grease spot in Wal Mart's parking lot. Christ sacrificed His very life for us. At the very end He questioned why His ministry was spiritually blind. While I do not agree with some of the things they continue to teach, and I believe most know the truth behind the curtain they have set up about tithing, the holy day point out that, if we were in the church to save our skin, we were there for the wrong reason, and, if I remember correctly, strongly implied we probably wouldn't make it into God's family.

The real good news is exactly what we were told it was: God is intent on saving all of humanity, not just our sorry tails. The author's statement belies his actual focus, self-preservation.

Guess what, boys and girls: That is exactly what Satan's goal is!!!

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Carl Hoffman,
55, of Cape Girardeau, Mo., died Sept. 19, 2016, at his home. He was born June 24, 1931, in Pittsburgh, Pa., to Carl and Mildred Compton Hoffman. He and Paula Cyrus were married June 6, 1953, in Lexington, Ky. Carl served from Crafton High School in Crafton, Pa. He then went on to graduate from the University of Kentucky as a bachelor of arts. Carl served in the U.S. Army 1953 to 1955. He worked for the U.S. Weather Bureau in Alaska and then transferred to the Internal Revenue Service, working in Cairo, Ill., and then in Cape Girardeau, before retiring in 1996.

Carl was a charter member and elder in the United Church of God in Cape Girardeau, present at its beginning on Aug. 6, 1966. He was ordained a deacon on Pentecost, 1969, and then on the first day of Unleavened Bread, March 27, 1975, he was ordained an elder. Carl is survived by his wife, Paula Hoffman of Cape Girardeau; three daughters, Karen (Mike) Kirby and Cheryl (Mark) Howard, both of St. Louis, and Patricia Montgomery of Chicago; a brother, Howard Hoffman of Surprise, Ariz.; and four grandchildren, Kathryn (Kirk) Dethrow of St. Louis, Marcus (Heather) Hoffman of Edmonton, Gabrielle Montgomery of Chicago and Matthew Montgomery of Elkhart, Ind. He was a man of many talents and touched people on many levels.

Al Killebrew
Al Killebrew passed away June 26, 2016, at his home. He was born in Festus, Mo., and was the only child of John and Joyce (Joy) Duke. Randy married Lauretta June 1979 in Elkhart, Ind. He was a man of many talents and touched people on many levels. He was a past band, Joe, and the family in your prayers.

The “666” and “Mark of the Beast” are identified from ancient sources, and the ramifications are much worse than you think!

From the historical evidence the riddle of the “666” is solved, including the “Name of the Beast” and its Mark. This is fully documented, and historically validated from numerous Mysteries; such as Babylonian, Egyptian, Freemasonry, and Greek. Ultimately, you must understand what “The Lie” is.

This Book is fully refereed, with 96 color history images, and provides enough understanding of the titles, symbols, and Marks used by the Great Dragon, To Be Forewarned. Buy the book on Amazon.com

Empowering His Communities To Get Out Of Babylon and To Live Outside Of “The System” www.Ywhils1.com

M any within the churches of God believe I Corinthians 7:13 does not allow divorce. Let’s look at a translation that reflects the original Greek without ambiguous “and, if the un-believing doth separate himself—let him separate himself the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such cases, and in peace bath God called us” (Young’s Literal Translation). Although the English is somewhat archaic, Young’s translation reflects the unambiguous meaning of the Greek doulou, which primarily means “become a slave.” This identity is not lost, even though the verse is not a direct address to the unbelieving spouse. How could the unbeliever be enslaved?

Jesus taught, “Therefore what God has joined together, let no man separate” (Mat 19:6b). Paul paraphrased this in I Corin-thians 7:13, “[A] wife is bound by law as long as her husband lives.” The override need to make peace.

Paul allowed that the believer was not absolutely required to stay with the unbeliever, even though Messiah’s statement taken literally would indicate otherwise. Paul’s statement is also an example of typical Hebrew parallelism. This is the point to examples of ancient usage sup-ported by the three or four good lexicons that are available. The three or four good lexicons that is better not to marry.” But He said to them, “If any man among you hunger, let him eat; but if any man among you thirst, let him drink…” (I Cor 7:9). If the unbeliever totally sever the relationship, that is on him/her. “All cannot accept this saying, but only those to whom it has been given” (Mat 19:12).

Are you serious about honoring your Creator and savior's command? This is simply one chunk of the iceberg of mis-understanding that blinds (Rev 3:17) the churches of God. Don’t assume this is the only thing that is misunderstood about the marriage relationship. Don’t wait for some one outlined of man to look into this for you. Develop your own relationship with the real head of the congregation of God by an in-depth study of His Word. CreatorsCovenant highlights import-ant instruction others gloss over. (Click: Other Studies / Divorce & Remarriage at the web address below)

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Issue No. 188 (Sept. 30, 2016)
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The Journal

Former pastor opines about funerals as times of celebration

Continued from page 13

evening, when more family members might be present.

A reason for the family visit, he said, is to learn about the relatives of the deceased, including how to pro-

“Nothing is very important,” he said. “I realize in modern society it is a matter of respect and being

No. The apostles Peter and Paul

I realize in modern society it is a matter of respect and being courteous to call someone master, but I do not believe it is correct. People have names. Names are all that are needed.

Rabbi, master, master mean same thing and are not inappropriate

Continued from page 3

seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets, and to be called of men. I realize in modern society it is a matter of respect and being courteous to call someone master, but I do not believe it is correct. People have names. Names are all that are needed.

底气 and self-respect. If a man engages in a conversation, he should be addressed as rabbi. He should not be called by his name. If a man has no consciousness or thought in the grave . . . You can say that that is the approach that I’m going to take in [funeral] ministering.

Counseling and mourning

This writer for The Journal, during the discussion, asked Mr. Gregory several ques-
tions, including his opinion of many modern funerals as “celebra-
tions” rather than “times of mourning.” Mr. Gregory’s response to the ques-
tion was to the point: “At my funeral I want . . .

Mr. Gregory’s response to a question about modern funerals as celebrations was to the point: “At my funeral I hope they cry.”

Mr. Gregory gave his viewpoint that, just as charismatics should not do altar calls at funerals, Church of God speakers should not try to convert people at funerals.

Patrick Dennis of Coffeyville, Kan., asked Mr. Gregory’s opinion of taping (audio or video) funeral ser-

“Those licences you can obtain at most Christian bookstores,” he said. “The minister is going to have to have some kind of license. Then he will have to register somewhere.”

Mr. Gregory said he likes to perform

No, said Mr. Gregory. “A minister

correction. People have names. Names are all that are needed.

In response to another question, Mr. Gregory said not everyone wants the left burning everything would go out the window. If you are throwing your money in the bar . . .

Type of messages

Steve Armstrong, a few years later

Mr. Gregory said he declined to do the

A true servant of God does not waste time displaying a title to be known. He is a true servant to all mankind.

I realize in modern society it is a matter of respect and being courteous to call someone master, but I do not believe it is correct. People have names. Names are all that are needed.

I realize in modern society it is a matter of respect and being courteous to call someone master, but I do not believe it is correct. People have names. Names are all that are needed.

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I realize in modern society it is a matter of respect and being courteous to call someone master, but I do not believe it is correct. People have names. Names are all that are needed.
My more-peaceful state of mind is sustained by coming to believe that God really loves me and that I am saved by His grace as I follow Him.

For someone who has left a homosexual lifestyle, the experience of building Christian friendships is critical to a successful Christian walk.

Typical approaches to homosexuality can be counterproductive if continued from page 3

Continued from page 3

human beings can’t bear to endure emotional isolation and psychic distance between the struggling person and the rest of society, and that seems to offer only condemna- tion and despair to those who are just struggling with their personal identity.

Like me, many (and probably most) homosexual people living in the Western world have grown up in environments where their own sexual and emotional orientation was rejected and negated. It has been suggested that the early years of the 20th century were a renaissance of the religious concepts created through traditional religious concepts compelled homosex- ual people to live in shame, self-hatred, and fear. In the late 1960s many homosexuals began organized efforts to change this and to divorce themselves from this kind of pain.

Bitter fruit

It is from the roots of this pain that the seeds of our society’s culture war over homosexuality were sown. Those who have bitter fruit between gay-right activists and their opponents.

Gay activists insist that their homosexuality is their innate emotional identity that was not of their choosing because they have experienced it as an inherent state of mind that may or may not include sexual activity.

While it is a fact that behavior (but not sexual attraction) is based on choice, condemning a homosexual for their behavior rather than the terms of sin and choice—without considering the emotional and developmental factors of homosexuality—will not help the homosexual man (or woman) with his or her struggle.

Because of the developmental facets of homosexuality, many homosexual people find it painful to try to resist homosexual temptation. To gays it is their personal identity: what they feel inside and who they are as people. Many gays know no other way to be. They, as I once did, feel condemned without understanding.

Freely chosen?

One of Christianity’s most serious mistakes in responding to homosexuality during the formative years of the culture war was to preach condemnation and despair to those who are just struggling with their personal identity.

Many people who fight to uphold traditional Christian precepts express their concern over homosexuality. Many homosexuals have chosen to be homosexual and harbor an agenda to bring down society through their immor- al behavior. Others are counter that they were born biologically gay and that they believe those who desarightful ways as a matter of fairness.

In reality, the truth is somewhere between those two positions. I am a Christian man who has coped for many years, that I did not choose to have sexual desires, that I did not choose to experience same-sex attractions—nor was I just having such feelings since I was a boy.

Some authorities say the classical Christian perspective that every homosexual with a child is a recurring factor in the development of homosexuality. Other reasons for the same would seem to be that there was too much stress in my family. Although I have no way of knowing that they had a close relationship with their parents, I had a conflicted, emo- tional relationship with my mother and a distant relationship with my father. As an adult, I can remember having some degree of gender-identity confu- sion, which I believe related to my stressful family environment. At that time in my life I did not realize that I could not put a label on the stress and the same-sex love was unconsciously becoming even more central to my developing sexual attraction.

Something bad

I was afraid to talk about my teen- age sexual feelings, instinctively knowing that I could not let people know I liked other boys instead of girls. I didn’t consider myself to be homosexual at all. I instinctively knew that if I at- tempted to talk about my feelings the others at school would see me as strange, and that I would be seized by the pain and coped as best I could. Now, years later, I have learned to live as a celibate gay man and a manner to be resembling that of other single men in my church congregation. I don’t have contempt for homosexu- al sinners. My strongest feelings toward them are empathy and compassion. From there to here

In back in 1982 I made my decision to remain faithful to my calling to live my life as a Christian and follow Christ— and to forsake the gay lifestyle. Humanly, for me it was the most painful, conflicted decision I have ever made. With all of my being my humanity cried out for me to run to the arms of the gay community for comfort. For me, it was even more vital to come to really believe that God really loves me. I know that I don’t have to hate myself in order for God to love me. Yet, over my struggle is a shadow of what it could be. I no longer worry about the lack of feeling heterosexual attraction. However, if I did feel heterosexual attraction, I would still face temptation or struggle.

I have come to see that human sexuality—or the nature of any attraction—is something I don’t define a Christian’s relationship with God as.

I have come to understand that my relationship with God was possible only because God first reached out to me to begin my early years as a Christian, and that I made my personal burden even heavier. It is vital that we find a way to search for affection and connection in the gay community.

Not allowed to do both

This prompted the WCG minister in my area to intervene with some tough love. This pastor’s tough love and my emotional struggle made me made my early years as a Christian, and I have made my personal burden even heavier. It is vital that we find a way to search for affection and connection in the gay community. I am a man who still struggles with his sexual feelings, instinctively knowing that I could not let people know I liked other boys instead of girls. I didn’t consider myself to be homosexual at all. I instinctively knew that if I attempted to talk about my feelings the others at school would see me as strange, and that I would be seized by the pain and coped as best I could. Now, years later, I have learned to live as a celibate gay man and a manner to be resembling that of other single men in my church congregation. I don’t have contempt for homosexual sinners. My strongest feelings toward them are empathy and compassion.

Vital encouragement and support

Christianity is about relationships. It is vital that someone struggling with homosexual temptation receive encouragement and support from other Christians to build and maintain Christian relationships.

Struggling in isolation is debilitating and may lead to a sense of isolation and depression. It was an agonizing struggle be- cause I desperately wanted to be able to do both. I had to choose—and I hurt so much. What did I want most: fellow- ship in the church congregation where I had struggled for years in secret pain and conflict, or the seeming accept- ance: of God’s grace and how I feel to know. I felt condemned without understand- ing that sin is essential, yet so are love and forgiveness. As crucial as human support is, what has been even more vital to me was the ability to choose to embrace and maintain a reparent way of life with a personal relationship with God that I really believe God really loves me.

During years of my struggle in the minisely I would tell myself over and over that God loved me. One day, several years ago, I prayed on my knees, an honest you-and-me-Lord entreaty.

The struggle is easier now

I am a man who still struggles with homosexual attraction, but I know God truly loves me. I know that I don’t have to hate myself in order for God to love me. Yet, over my struggle is only a shadow of what it could be. I no longer worry about the lack of feeling heterosexual attraction. However, if I did feel heterosexual attraction, I would still face temptation or struggle.

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The Journal

Howard Clark said to be related to one of Washington’s generals

Continued from page 14

The motor function of his muscles, but all the nerve pain came back along with the motor aspect, since apparent- ly the nerves were restored also, thus bringing back the pain.

So it was a good-news-bad-news kind of note. I asked him: “But how much pain do you have?” He told me, “I keep from crying.” I don’t recall who Howard’s X’s origins really showed that his spinal cord had been severed before he was even born. He had been hit by a mortar shell in Korea. So that finally showed that his spinal cord had been severed before he was even born. This had been severely, repeatedly. He had been hit by a mortar shell in Korea. So that finally showed that his spinal cord had been severed even before he was even born. He had been hit by a mortar shell in Korea. So that finally showed that his spinal cord had been severed.

Sometimes Howard’s action was originally showed that his spinal cord had been severed also, thus bringing back the pain.

Howard Clark in 1959

Messages from Mrs. Clark and friends of Howard Clark

I had to choose which was more important: Jesus or my own way

Continued from page 14

I see now that my relationship is sustained through living under a state of grace and warning bretheren not to reflect their relationship with Christ by misconstruing grace.

Yet I often feel like Paul as he de- scribed his struggle with his humanity in Romans 7:8.

Paul had been converted by the Holy Spirit before, yet he still struggled with his fleshly, carnal nature. Paul lamented his continuing struggle, yet rejoiced that it was Jesus who would save him from death.

Paul tells us in Romans 8:1 that “there is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”

From there to here and forward

Under the grace of God the Church of God is moving forward. I understand more maturerly the spiritual purpose that one of George Washington’s generals. If I recall correctly it was said it was Gen. Armstrong Dickelson.

Howard was a mountain of a man, more ways than one. I never knew anyone who stood up to Herbert Armstrong like he did. Armstrong had that time Mr. Armstrong had him in his office and worked him over verbally for six hours while Armstrong was still in the doghouse so much was he because Mr. Armstrong just couldn’t break his spirit.

I recall then that I had a lot of contact with him after I left college. In the last number of the few conversations we had were warm, but I found Armstrong much harder to get along with. He had a lot of pluck, a good heart, and invited us to just lay down on the floor and stretched out while Herbert was yelling at him. I guess he was in the doghouse so much was he because Mr. Armstrong just couldn’t break his spirit.

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See comments elsewhere on this page of The Journal that readers sent in up to the time of printing, in 2002. Mrs. Clark died in 2014. Also on this page see the “Card of Thanks” and photo Mrs. Clark sent to friends including The Journal at that time.

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Church governance

LINCOLN, England—James McBride, executive editor of this magazine published by the Churches of God Outreach Ministries, sent an e-mail to announce the availability of a document in PDF format.

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CEM hires new vice president

WHITEHOUSE, Texas—Al- lie Dart, who with her hus- band, Ronald Dart, founded Christian Educational Ministries (CEM) in 1995, announced that their organization has hired a vice president to help Mrs. Dart with the operation.

She and her hus- band, who died in Jan- uary 2016, built a min- istry that features the successful radio broad- cast, Christian Education Hour, which is tele- vised and broadcast in Canada, Europe, and the United States.

Mrs. Dart made the announcement in a CEM newsletter dated Sept. 20, 2016.

“There is more good news,” wrote Mrs. Dart. “After much praying and searching, God has provided the young man we’ve been looking for to fill the vice-presidential position for ministerial services and organiza- tion.

The letter announced that David Havir III, 35, of Lindale, Texas, will be the new vice president.

Havir was born in Havir, Texas, and moved to Texas when he was a young child.

Havir’s first wife died, and he is now married to Danae Havir. He has a daughter, Danae. [Photo by Card Bailey]

Havir is a fine young man and his family is a wonderful family.

He has enormous potential, and we feel his gifts and talents are what we need to thrust Born to Win forward in the right direction. Please thank God for him and pray for him.

Goals to accomplish

Mr. Havir, who was interviewed for the position, according to Mrs. Dart and three members of the CEM board, told THE JOURNAL he looks forward to working with Mrs. Dart and her staff.

“I anticipate this exciting challenge and deeply appreciate the opportunity to make a positive impact in CEM,” Mr. Havir said.

Havir mentioned some of the goals of CEM:

1. We will continually pray that the Bible can be an instrument for accomplishing the following goals: increasing listenership of the Born to Win broadcast [which will continue carrying reruns of Mr. Dart’s programs], enhancing the Youth Summer Camp, reestablishing the Feet on the Street program, growing our mailing list and helping the people in the church with his dad being a minis- 
ter. Please watch the next Born to Win newsletter for more details about this fine young man and his family.

2. God really didn’t want the change, but He was stuck with it and had to bind it.

3. God wanted the change and inspired the pastor general and advis- ers to proclaim the change.

4. Christians need to compare the proclamation back to the Bible to see if Scripture supports the proclamations from men with religious titles.

Contracting variations

3. Throughout the years the leaders of the Worldwide Church of God occasionally changed the administra- tion of the church on “divorce and remarriage.”

Oftentimes a new policy contra- dicts an old policy.

a. God really didn’t want each of those changes, but He was stuck with each variation and had to bind each variation as it occurred.

b. God wanted each of those changes (no matter how contradicto- rily) and inspired the pastor general and advisers to implement each of the variations.

c. Christians need to compare each proclama- tion back to the Bible to see if Scripture supports each proclamation from men with religious titles.

Flip-flopping

4. Historically the lead- ers of the Worldwide Church of God flip-flopped on doctrine about a woman’s use of cosmetics.

b. God wasn’t really interested in flip-flopping this doctrine, but He was stuck with each change and had to bind each change.

c. God wanted each flip-flop of this doctrine, but He was stuck with each variation and had to bind each variation as it occurred.

Puttingbridge

4. Christians need to compare each proclamation back to the Bible to see if Scripture supports this proclamation from men with religious titles.

Continued from page 3

inspired the pope and cardinals to pro- claim the change.

2. God does not inspire every proclama- tion.

God is not trampled by the state- ments of men.

3. God does not expect every proclamation of apparent leaders.

4. God expects saints to prove which proclamations are from Him.

Déjà vu

2. Two decades ago the leaders of the Worldwide Church of God changed its doctrine about the Sabbath.

b. God really didn’t want the change, but He was stuck with it and had to bind it.

Bound in heaven

This little text crystallizes some ob- vious conclusions.

b. God is not trampled by the state- ments of men.

c. God does not expect every proclamation of apparent leaders.

What about Acts 15?

Some people claim that Acts 15 is about ruling in determining and enforcing man-made policies.

Misapplications of Acts 15 are often about rulers justifying themselves in determining and enforcing man-made policies.

What about Acts 15?

Some people claim that Acts 15 is the account of the Jerusalem confer- ence about circumcision—proves that apparent leaders make decisions of binding and loosing for the people of God.

Is that really what it says?

It is important to realize this decision in Acts 15 was not made by phys- ical people.

It is important to realize this decision was not a spur-of-the-mo- ment decision by God. When God made a proclamation about the role of the vicar of Christ (as practiced by the Roman Catholic Church).

Without realizing it, many saints put a man or a group of men into the role of the vicar of Christ (as practiced by the Roman Catholic Church).

Without realizing it, many saints put a man or a group of men into an exaggerated role of binding and loos- ing on earth.

Pray for our friends

Sometimes it’s difficult

Among the Churches of God are many intelligent and sincere saints who still believe that men with religious titles are—by people with religious titles.

If not realizing it, many saints put a man or a group of men into an exaggerated role of binding and loos- ing on earth.

The Williams translation of the Bible quotes Matthew 16:19 this way: “... Whatever you bind—that is, declare to be improper and unlawful—on earth must be already bound in heaven; and whatever you loose or declare to be proper and lawful—must be what is already loosed in heaven.”

The Amplified Version of the Bible quotes Matthew 16:19 this way: “... Whatever you bind—that is, declare to be improper and unlawful—on earth must already be bound in heaven; and whatever you loosen or declare to be proper and lawful—must be what is already loosed in heaven.”

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