

WHO ARE WE?

Group Name: We have no official name--nor do we want one--however we provide the following: INTERDEPENDENT-INTERACTIVE, CHURCH OF GOD, SABBATH SERVICES, BIBLE STUDIES, AND OPEN FELLOWSHIP.

Address: 320 N. Griffin St. City: Bismarck State: ND Zip Code: 58501

Country: USA Phone: (701) 258-7172 FAX: (919) 640-1806

E-Mail: darwin-laura@earthlink.net

Website: <http://darwinlauralee.150m.com>

Leadership Body: Christ the Head of God's Church, Colossians 1:18, Ephesians 5:23, and I Corinthians 11:3. Local contact persons are Darwin or Laura Lee.

Purpose: To provide Interdependent-Interactive, Church of God, Sabbath Services and Bible Studies to all of God's People, including those who are not welcome to visit or attend other groups due to having been suspended or disfellowshipped, as well as those who want a place to attend weekly, those who are just visiting our area, and anyone else who is interested in God's way of living. We also have open fellowship here, meaning that you are welcome to come visit with us during our open fellowship times even if you are not interested in attending our Sabbath Services or Bible Studies.

History: We held our first Bible Study here on June 30, 2000 and our first Sabbath Service was held on December 16, 2000.

Affiliation/Membership: Our Affiliation is with God our Father and His Son Jesus the Christ. Our membership includes *all* of God's people, no matter where they are.

Distinctive Doctrines: John 13:34-35

Use Sacred Names?: Since salvation is between God and each individual (Philippians 2:12), so the use of sacred names would be between each individual person and God.

Observe Holy Days?: We believe that God commands us to keep the Weekly Sabbath as well as Passover/Days of Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, Feast of Trumpets, Atonement, Feast of Tabernacles, and the Last Great Day, however, we also believe there is much controversy out there in understanding if certain ones should or shouldn't be kept, how to keep them and when to keep them. So with this in mind, we will try to the best of our ability to accommodate these differences, believing and having faith that someday through God's Holy Spirit, we will all be brought into the same understanding on this subject. Until then let's follow John 13:34-35.

Evangelistic Efforts: We provide a service to God's People no matter where they are to the best of our ability. This service includes Interdependent-Interactive, Church of God, Sabbath Services, Bible Studies and Open Fellowship. We also welcome live speakers for interactive, and special music, on a volunteer only basis.

Periodicals: We have a newsletter, which we publish every 2 months.

Literature: We distribute some literature besides the distribution of newsletters to the best of our ability.

Parent Group: The greater Church of God--The Ekklesia. Language: English

Other Language: None Country: USA

Name: Contact Persons are Darwin & Laura Lee Address: 320 N. Griffin St.

City: Bismarck State: North Dakota Zip Code: 58501

Phone: (701) 258-7172 E-Mail: darwin-laura@earthlink.net

Directions To Meeting: 320 N. Griffin St., Bismarck, North Dakota, located at the corner of Rosser Avenue and Griffin Street, with plenty of side street parking.

Time of Meeting: Usually 2:00 PM, but may vary.

SABBATH SERVICES--Every Saturday unless stated other wise on page 2. We generally do a phone hookup, video tape, or cassette tape, service with various speakers. If you have a video or audio tape you think we should hear, please send it.

We also welcome live speakers, and special music, by others on a volunteer basis. Please ask us about hosting.

Sabbath Schedule is as follows:

- 1:00 PM----Open Fellowship
(Door Open, Come In)
- 2:00 PM----Sabbath Services
- 4:00 PM----Open Fellowship

BIBLE STUDIES--We have Bible Studies approximately every 6 weeks. We have a Pot Luck Meal before we start our Bible Studies, so please bring food if you would like to participate in the fellowship, which goes with a meal.

Bible Study Schedule is as follows:

- 6:30 PM----Open Fellowship
(Door Open, Come In)
- 7:00 PM----Pot Luck Meal
(Bring Food)
- 8:00 PM----Bible Study
- 9:00 PM----Open Fellowship

Bible Study Dates are as follows:

- Friday, January 13, 2006
- Friday, February 24, 2006
- Friday, April 7, 2006

GUEST ROOM--If you are from out of town and are here to attend Sabbath Services or one of our Bible Studies, we do have a guest room. Please call ahead so we know when you will be arriving. (701) 258-7172 (Please Leave a message.)

LOCATION--Sabbath Services and Bible Studies are held at the home of Darwin & Laura Lee, located at 320 N. Griffin St., Bismarck, North Dakota. Please use the upper back door by the garage. Phone Number (701) 258-7172 (Please Leave a message.)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE--The deadline for submitting articles and letters for possible inclusion in our March/April 2006 Newsletter is February 15, 2006. Thank You. Laura Lee (Editor)

AD SECTION

newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net

NOTICE: We do not necessarily agree with everything printed in this newsletter. If you do not agree with items printed within this newsletter, we expect to hear from you. Remember iron sharpens iron. Darwin & Laura Lee

SABBATH SCHEDULE--BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

December 17, 2005----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up

December 24, 2005----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #104 & Lesson #105

December 31, 2005----Public Video Presentation--Discovered Noah's Ark--2 hours

January 7, 2006----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up

January 13, 2006----Bible Study

January 14, 2006----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #106 & Lesson #107

January 21, 2006----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up

January 28, 2006----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #108 & Lesson #109

February 4, 2006----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up

February 11, 2006----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #110 & Lesson #111

February 18, 2006----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up

February 24, 2006----Bible Study

February 25, 2006----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #112 & Lesson #113

March 4, 2006----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up

March 11, 2006----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #114 & Lesson #115

If you want to host Sabbath Services and need 2 Sabbaths in a row for your presentation and/or would like to have your presentation listed on our Sabbath Schedule in our newsletter which is sent out to the public, the next deadline for that would be: February 15, 2006. On those Sabbaths of Open Hosting where no one signs up, we will just play a cassette tape by any of various speakers. All Sabbath Services are Hosted by Darwin & Laura Lee unless otherwise stated.

E-MAIL & SNAIL MAIL:

prayer-requests-darwin-laura@earthlink.net For Prayer Requests & Updates and letters in regard to them.

newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net For items meant for print in our newsletter or on our web site.

questions-section-darwin-laura@earthlink.net To ask Biblical Questions (50 words or less) and to answer Biblical Questions.

answer-me-darwin-laura@earthlink.net For all letters.

darwin-laura@earthlink.net If you don't know where to send it, send it here and we will sort it.

archeology-exchange-darwin-laura@earthlink.net For the exchange of Archeological Information.

FAX--Our Fax number is: (919) 640-1806

SNAIL MAIL--Our snail mail address is Darwin & Laura Lee, PO Box 2333, Bismarck, ND 58502.

WEB SITE ADDRESS--<http://darwinlauralee.150m.com>

FINANCIAL DISCLOSER:

We do not charge for the services that we provide to the brethren. We also do not take any wages from the gift donations we are sent. The services we provide do however cost us money. From 2001 to 2004 our total balance left owing for expenses for services provided was **-\$5674.28**. (New Computer Expense for 2005 was **-\$1265.28**)

Donations for 2005 total **+\$1286.00**. Expenses for 2005 are as follows: Postage **-\$957.56**, Telephone **-\$10.01**, Internet Services **-\$295.38**, Printing Charges **-\$534.02**, Local Services **-\$96.35** and Research Materials **-\$29.06**. Total balance for 2005 is: **-\$636.38**.

If you need a year end receipt, please request one. We truly appreciate the help we receive in helping others. Please make all checks out to Darwin and/or Laura Lee. Thank you Darwin & Laura Lee.

INFORMATION SECTION

newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net

PORT AUSTIN, MICHIGAN FEAST SUMMARY

by Rick Beltz
Kernersville, North Carolina

The Feast of Tabernacles observance in beautiful Port Austin was very inspiring and encouraging. Port Austin is located at the tip of the thumb of Michigan, right on Lake Huron. Daily attendance was close to 40 with a total of 50 people present at times. Some attendees traveled all the way from Colorado and British Columbia. Our theme of studying people of faith was very interesting, covering Jesus, Paul and Samuel from the Bible, to reformation men and women and some of our day who escaped a life of sin and accomplished great spiritual feats.

A number of people stayed on the Port Austin Bible Campus itself while others chose local motels for their temporary dwellings. Three full meals were served daily on campus in the comfortable dining hall. Other activities included a Bible bowl for both young and older alike. A hastily-prepared talent night, hosted by campus resident Jimmie Parr, turned out to be both entertaining and a smashing success. Three Bible studies were also held during the Feast, including an open forum on prophecy, spiritual gifts & healing and part of the Book of Romans. In addition, much prayer was evident, including a morning prayer meeting held daily in the dining hall before breakfast.

Messages were presented by John Krneta, Bill Buckman, Jimmie Parr, Andy Sanford, Leo Bredehoft, Norman Edwards and Rick Beltz. Much singing and instrumental music added to the atmosphere of rejoicing. Overall, the Feast in Port Austin was very inspiring, warm, prayerful and overflowing with brotherly love. It was definitely one of the most unforgettable Feasts we have ever attended!

(Port Austin Bible Campus is a non-denominational Sabbatarian Christian community with the primary goal of providing biblical life skills to young people. The methods used at PABC are not traditional classroom schooling, but the method more commonly used by Elijah, Elisha, Jesus and His disciples in the Bible: working and living together to accomplish the desired goals. Port Austin Bible Campus is now open full-time for biblical living within a community setting! With a few new people planning to come--some younger, some older, we hope

to continue our goal to create an environment where all can work and live together, learning, teaching and encouraging Christian growth in each other as spiritually-conscious neighbors. For more information contact: Port Austin Bible Campus, P.O. Box 474, Port Austin, MI 48467-0474. (989) 738-7700 or Email: pabc@portaustin.net Web: www.portaustin.net.

THE END**

IN MORTAL DANGER: MAJOR CITIES TARGETED?

by David Ben-Ariel
Toledo, Ohio

Will Providence permit foreign murderers in our midst (in attitude, if not yet in action) to unleash nuclear fires within our major cities? If our beloved nation has refused to remember our Hebrew roots and biblical responsibilities (and forswear foreign religious ways and hollow days of pagan origin God's Word condemns) and sustain a healthy interest in the spiritual and return to the God of the Bible, aren't we only reaping more of what we've sown and suffering CAUSE AND EFFECT, the dire consequences of our national sins? (Dan. 9:11).

Will the Great God of history and all creation let us continue to get knocked down and around until Europe deals us the death blow? Are we headed for the disasters of food and water shortages, race riots, terrorist sleeper cells activated, supernatural weather and plagues of biblical proportion until we suffer NATIONAL DEFEAT AND DEPORTATION?

Will we save ourselves and our loved ones from the savage state of near extinction, hear and heed the warnings of imminent famine, destruction and houses left desolate? (2 Chron. 7:14). Or will we demand divine intervention after three and a half years of "hell" before Heaven is established on Earth?

The CHOICE is ours to make. God help us to CHOOSE LIFE!

- 4 Alas, sinful nation, A people laden with iniquity, A brood of evildoers, Children who are corrupters! They have forsaken the LORD, They have provoked to anger The Holy One of Israel, They have turned away backward.
- 5 Why should you be stricken again? You will revolt more and more. The whole head is sick [the government], And the whole

heart faints [national morale].

- 6 From the sole of the foot even to the head, There is no soundness in it, But wounds and bruises and putrefying sores; They have not been closed or bound up, Or soothed with ointment.
- 7 Your country is desolate, Your cities are burned with fire; Strangers devour your land in your presence; And it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers.
- 8 So the daughter of Zion is left as a booth in a vineyard, As a hut in a garden of cucumbers, As a besieged city.
- 9 Unless the LORD of hosts Had left to us a very small remnant, We would have become like Sodom, We would have been made like Gomorrah. (Isaiah 1:4-9)

See David Ben-Ariel's Ad on our Web Site at: <http://darwinlauralee.150m.com> Also find his Web Site on our Links Page. Darwin & Laura Lee

THE END**

PRESIDENT REIGNITES EVOLUTION DEBATE

by Jeffrey Caldwell
San Jose, California

"Science", in former times, meant "knowledge" -- and in the minds of most the two remain synonymous, resulting in confusion. As defined by the current "scientific establishment", "science" excludes even consideration of the possibility of an Intelligent Designer as the original Creator or current Sustainer of our space/time/mass universe. "Science" so-called veers from free inquiry -- and courts failure to grasp essential Reality -- in its refusal to even consider the possibility of an Intelligent Designer in its "knowledge"!

THE END**

YOU ASK ME WHY

Sent by Rich Daniels
Shawano, Wisconsin

You ask me why I love the Lord.
Well, friend, just let me say
Life was not worth living
'Till the Saviour came my way.

You say I lose so much in life.

Yes, friend, PRAISE GOD, I do.
I lose the sin and sorrow
Which was all I ever knew.

I lose the days spent seeking joy,
The long nights full of tears;
I lose the heavy burdens,
Which I carried through the years.

But friend, I would not have them back
For all that you could pay.
My life was not worth living
'Till the Saviour came my way.
--Author unknown

THE END**

SORCERY; WITCHCRAFT

by Robert Goldman
Ione, California

STRONG'S GREEK DICTIONARY

❖ 5331 Pharmakeia: Medication, A Drug, Pharmacy

❖ 5332 Pharmakeus: Pharmacy, Pharmacist, Druggist

Revelation 18:23- Your Merchants (Pharmaceutical Companies) were great (Rich) men of the earth, All nations were led astray by your Sorcery- (Medications).

The worship of false god's and WITCHCRAFT (Pharmacy, Medications) I tell you now as I have told you in the past, That people who behave in these ways WILL NOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF YAHWEH. Galatians 5:20-21

(Also see Revelations 9:21; 21:8)

WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD DICTIONARY

❖ Medication: A medicating or being medicated, A medicine, Substances for curing or healing or for relieving pain.

❖ Pharmacy: The art or profession of preparing and dispensing drugs and medicines, Drug Store,

❖ Pharmaceutical: To practice witchcraft, use medicine, A poison, Medicine, Drug.

❖ Pharmacist: A person licensed to practice pharmacy, Druggist.

Editor's Note:

Re 18:23 And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy **merchants** were the great men of the earth; for by thy **sorceries** were all nations deceived.

Ga 5:20 Idolatry, **witchcraft**, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

Ga 5:21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told

you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Re 9:21 Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their **sorceries**, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

Re 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and **sorcerers**, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Rev. 18:23--Merchants
Strong #: 1713

Emporos (em'-por-os);

1. one on a journey, whether by sea or by land, esp. for trade
2. a merchant as opposed to a retailer or petty tradesman

Rev. 18:23--Sorceries

Gal. 5:20--Witchcraft

Rev. 9:21--Sorceries

Strong #: 5331

Pharmakeia (far-mak-i'-ah);

1. the use or the administering of drugs
2. poisoning
3. sorcery, magical arts, often found in connection with idolatry and fostered by it
4. metaph. the deceptions and seductions of idolatry

Rev. 21:8--sorcerers

Strong #: 5332

Pharmakeus (far-mak-yoos');

1. one who prepares or uses magical remedies
2. sorcerer

Although medications can certainly be used in a wrong way, so can many other things which would also be included under the heading of "witchcraft" or "sorcery".

In Rev. 18:23, merchants would not be solely confined to Pharmaceutical Companies but certainly could include them.

I just felt this needed some further clarification, so that someone did not get the idea that all Doctors and all Medication is wrong to use. For example, sometimes people break bones and need doctors to put them back together or some of us would have either bled to death or never been able to walk again. Sometimes certain medications are needed for infection or pain relief on a temporary basis. Sometimes people are diabetic and are not able to control the condition with diet so then need insulin. There are many other examples that could be used.

The wrong use of medications would certainly include all drugs used for recreational purposes and addictions, whether those drugs are bought on the street or from a Pharmacy. Laura Lee ***THE END**

FEAST OF TABERNACLES REPORT -- BENIN REPUBLIC

by Michael & Stella Porter
Benin Republic

Thanks for all that you are doing to keep the faith. This is our report of FOT held here in Benin republic. We bring you greetings from Cotonou, Benin Republic, Africa.

We are thankful to Almighty God and pleased to report a wonderful Feast of Tabernacles just completed at Ouidah (weedah) South of Benin Republic. The camp was filled to capacity with those eager to celebrate this key Biblical observance and to learn, experience, and share the Truth of the Word. Those attending traveled from different countries, and cities. We have brethren from Gabon, Congo, Togo, Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, Chad and Benin Republics.

The messages were stimulating, the music was memorable, the children's classes were a blessing, and the many activities kept everyone refreshed and ready for more each day. The weather was clement except on the second day. Our theme for this year's FOT is "To know Christ in-depth".

Six local chiefs (Dahs) from Abonmey (Abonmey is an ancient town where blood of human beings was used to build several houses for their kings. Nothing like this has ever happened before that a chief of this caliber will attend a Christian gathering. They were here for the whole seven days and they gave their lives to Christ. We are preparing them for baptism. We have just started bible studies in 3 locations where they came from. They promised to give some piece of land to build a church and a vocational center for their people. It amazes me on what the Lord is doing. There are brethren from Allada, Seme Podji, Bohicon, Ouidah, Parakou, Comɔ, Lokossa, etc.

We distributed free Bibles, reading glasses and provided a year of school fees for 28 orphaned children, some of their parents died because of aids. We thank God for the brethren whom He used to help us celebrate this year's FOT. Our thanks go to John Walsh of Actnet, Brother and sister David & Lori Johnson, Pastor Dennis McLeod, Pastor Jeff Henderson and his congregation, Stephen Wayne, and many of you who prayed and are praying for us. Without you it would have been very impossible for us to organize the FOT. May our great God continue to bless you all in abundance. We appreciate all the efforts of John Walsh to make sure we got all the money that was sent through the Visa account. The enemy wanted to frustrate us

QUESTIONS SECTION

questions-section-darwin-laura@earthlink.net

ANSWER BIBLICAL QUESTIONS

Send your answers to:

questions-section-darwin-laura@earthlink.net

Or

Darwin & Laura Lee
PO Box 2333
Bismarck, ND 58502

WE NEED ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

(When answering questions, please include the # of the question you are answering.)

QUESTION #8=How did the serpent speak to Eve?

QUESTION #12=After reading through the bible about money and it's role, I'm beginning to ask who created money and where was money created in heaven or in the world and for what purpose?---These are some of the questions about money in the bible.---(1) This is the first money transaction I saw in the bible, (Gen. 23 v 7-20 it is all about burial ground). (2) The second transaction is all about hatred (Gen. 37 v 26-28), this is where the power of money came into play (Gen. 42 v 25-38). No wonder Ecc. 7 v 12 calls it defense, but wisdom is better so where does it (money) come from?

QUESTION #22=This is the beginning of the teaching of the prophet Isaiah (Isah. 1 v 2-19 Isaiah here called on the people of his time by saying this and this in (v 12 who ask you to bring me animal sacrifice and here he condemned Sabbath keeping here too but in verse 18 the lord says come now lets settle the matter. The apostle Paul offered a sacrifice in this place Acts 21 v 26 G. N. B. He even performed ceremony of purification and every body quotes him when they wish it to go the other way around. 1 Timothy verse 1 It's the same Paul speaking here and please explain this Acts 24 v 17-18 G. N. B. verse 17 of Acts 21 this is where I would love to understand because here the ones I will call the living witness say to brother Paul verse 21 G. N. B., HERE PAUL OFFERED SACRIFICE OR WHAT IS THIS appeal?

QUESTION #23=In verse 35, 36, 37, 38 of Luke 21, the disciples said look here are two swords and the lord that demanded this says that is enough so what did the purse, bag and sword stand for?

QUESTION #34=I have been studying about the Giants in Genesis. I caught the tail end of an article on TV about the island were they found their skeletons and they were huge, but I didn't catch the name of the island do you know it?

QUESTION #35=Why did God create the Earth and put Adam & Eve in it?

THE END**

Question #48

Should animal sacrifices be done because GOD has commanded it to be so or should it not be done because Jesus Christ has come and died for us?

As in previous questions and answers on the subject of animal sacrifices we need to remember that **without shedding of blood there is no remission** [margin: *forgiveness*] (Heb. 9:22b, NKJV, throughout). This principle was known to Adam and to his sons. It has been in effect ever since. It was in effect during *Jesus'* time and it is in effect even now. **The fact that this principle of animal sacrifice has been in effect since Adam attests that Adam was taught it from God.** The second part of your question can be answered by reading Heb. 10:4 -- **For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins. That is why Jesus had to die.** Look at vs. 5-7 of the same chapter -- **5. Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have preserved for Me. 6. In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. 7. Then I said, 'Behold, I have come-- In the volume of the book It is written of Me-- To do Your will, O God.'" These verses plainly tell us that it was the divine will of God the Father that Jesus give His perfect, sinless life for the sins of mankind. Now, look at verse 10: **By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.** This is one of the reasons why we solemnly observe The Day of Atonement on the 10th day of the 7th month **every year.****

Also, it is important to note that animal sacrifices demand(ed) an altar and a temple. Neither are present today. Therefore, there are no animal sacrifices. In the near future, an altar will be erected in Jerusalem and animal sacrifices will at that time be reinstated. Then, once again, animal sacrifices will be a reminder of what is written in Heb. 9:22b -- **without shedding of blood there is no remission.**

Answered by:

Tommy West

Wake Forest, North Carolina

THE END**

Question #49

Why don't you unite to churches like Philadelphia, United or Living?

A uniting with various large organizations into a huge mega-organization is a well-intentioned goal that has no basis in reality.

Although there are lots of doctrines that all three have in common, there is the question of cooperation between Christians and exhibiting the mark of a disciple, love for each other (1 John 4:7, John 13:35).

Philadelphia has articles of great insight and depth. However, the top leadership suffers from delusions of grandeur, believing that the little book in Revelation refers to Malachi's Message. They also have a narrow idea of who Mr. Armstrong was. They insist that he was the end time Elijah. He died 19 years ago! How much longer will that myth be perpetuated? And if you don't agree with this and other absurdities, you will be kicked out.

United, is a more moderate organization, unless you happen to be a minister who is thinking outside the box or a member who incorporates truth from many sources, not just the headquarters. The Journal has at least 2 articles per year about ministers who have been abused by the United leadership. This could change, of course, but it's not likely.

Living, is an organization that tries to be a moment frozen in time, conforming to the image of what World Wide was in the 1970's. It would, in many ways, be an ideal organization, if it were less territorial and practiced exclusion to a lesser degree. Servants' News has pointed out the weakness of its parent organization Global. When one visits a Living congregation, it is not uncommon for a member to admonish

the visitor that "this is the one true church." Behavior that reflects this attitude is fairly obvious in most cases. Members who visit other organizations and groups are frowned upon. The spirit of competition is alive and well here.

On a positive note it can be said that there are excellent ministers, elders, and servants in all three of the organizations. However, the character of these fine men may be challenged in the near future in unusual ways and the choices they make may have to include departures from the organizations, regardless of paychecks, regardless of affiliations, and regardless of commitments.

If you have the Holy Spirit dwelling in you then you ARE the temple of God (1 Corinthians 3:16). You do not need numbers (memberships), buildings, corporate imperatives, or elaborate creeds to have contact with the Father or enjoy the presence of the Son. Two or three is enough (Matthew 18:20). It's time to transcend the typical corporate pattern.

Answered by:
Wily Elder
North Miami, Florida

Find Wily Elder's Web Site on our Links Page at: <http://darwinlauralee.150m.com>
Darwin & Laura Lee

THE END**

Question #50

Was Jesus the first person to condemn animal sacrifice and was it animal sacrifice that he condemned or the actions of the people?

I can find no instance in any of the four Gospels where Jesus condemned animal sacrifice. On the contrary, He actually commanded it in some cases. **Matt. 8:1-4** gives the account of Jesus healing a leper:

- 1. When He had come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed Him.**
- 2. And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean."**
- 3. Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.**
- 4. And Jesus said to him, "See that you tell no one; but go your way, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."**

The other 2 accounts of this incident, **Mark 1:40-44** and **Luke 5:12-16**, also show that Jesus intended for the healed leper to offer a gift before a priest. This extensive ritual is spelled out in the OT book of **Leviticus Chapters 13 and 14** and included an animal sacrifice. **It is important to remember that in the leper's case, this ritual occurred AFTER he was completely healed by Jesus. No condemnation is mentioned.**

To the second part of your question asking whether or not Jesus condemned the actions of the people, the answer has to be that the essential message--the primary point of Jesus' gospel was/is **repentance**. Repentance is not necessary unless sin is present. **Jesus condemned sin in the strongest possible terms to any who would listen. He is still proclaiming that same message today. It is our decision to either reject or to accept that message.**

Answered by:
Tommy West
Wake Forest, North Carolina

THE END**

Question #51

Are Jesus and Jehovah the same?

The name "Jehovah" is a lengthened modernized form of the Hebrew word "YHVH" (unpronounced except with vowel pointings). The King James renders this word as "LORD". This LORD, Jehovah, or YHVH is the "existing one".

"Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first and I am the last and beside me there is no God" (Isaiah 44:6). In this scripture two LORDs are mentioned. How can this be?

The word for God in the above scripture is the Hebrew "elohiyim", which is plural. This would appear, at first, to be a contradiction. But it isn't. One YHVH is superior to the other YHVH (the other Jehovah). Does the New Testament confirm this? Yes.

"...my Father is greater than I" (the words of Jesus (John 14:28)).

Are there also two Lords spoken of in the New Testament? Yes.

In the words of Jesus: "For David said by the Holy Spirit, the LORD said to my Lord, Sit you on my right hand, till I make your enemies your footstool" (Mark 12:36).

In answer to the question, yes, Jehovah (YHVH) is one name for Jesus. It is also a name for the Father. The Father is YHVH. Jesus is YHVH. Not only that; when Christ returns he will give us (if we overcome) his

name and the name of the Father.

"Him that overcomes will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name" (Revelation 3:12). This is Christ speaking. If we overcome we too will be given the names of the Father and the Son because we will be a part of the Kingdom of God. At the present time there are only two members. Who will give us these names? The individual who has become the first and the last. Who is that? It's Jesus Christ. Christ too is the Alpha and the Omega.

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty" (Revelation 1:8, King James Version).

The Greek texts of Stephens and Elzevir say, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending...."

The Greek texts of Griesbach, Lachmann, Tischendorf, Tregelles, Alford, Wordsworth, Scholz, and Aland say, "I am Alpha and Omega...."

Alpha and Omega, is the reconciliation of all things. We, as humans, have a fragmented consciousness. "For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away" (1 Corinthians 13:9). That which is perfect is the kingdom of God, which will be brought to this planet by Christ when he returns.

The Greek texts of Stephens and Elzevir say, "...says the Lord...."

The Greek texts of Griesbach, Lachmann, Tischendorf, Tregelles, Alford, Wordsworth, Scholz, and Aland say "...says the Lord God...."

So the majority of these Greek texts would generally agree with the following reading:

"I am Alpha and Omega, says the Lord God, which is, which was, and which is to come, the Almighty" (Revelation 1:8).

We have now come to a rendering (different from the King James), which does indeed impinge upon doctrine. This scripture shows explicitly the divinity of Christ (the Alpha and Omega), giving him not only the title of Lord (which all Christians acknowledge) but also the title of God (which some Christians do not acknowledge). Before Christ was born he was a member of the God Kingdom, the member who created this vast physical universe (John 1:1-4).

"He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not" (John 1:10).

He and the Father have existed eternally
CONTINUED ON PAGE 23**

* **LETTERS SECTION** *

* **Tape Recorded Letter Received:** *
* **October 27, 2005** *

* **Subject: ACCUSATIONS MADE** *
* **AGAINST DARWIN AND LAURA** *
* **LEE--Part #2** *

* **by Raymond G. Kaping** *
* **Shell Knob, Missouri** *

* **The following information was** *
* **received by us on October 27, 2005 in the** *
* **form of a cassette tape. We have tried to** *
* **the best of our ability to transcribe this** *
* **tape as accurately as possible. This letter** *
* **is continued from Issue #30.** *

Raymond records:

We went to Wagoner, for many years, which is a wonderful Feast Site. The room, the conference room there would seat 500 people comfortably and a when the Church of God International split over Garner Ted Armstrong's a carnal, well, when the Church of God International split, split because Garner Ted Armstrong was caught in the act of, of doing something that he shouldn't have been doing and the Church of God International refused to a take action to correct Garner Ted and instead they, they, they endeavored to cover up, they endeavored to sweep it under the rug and cover up for him.

And so people in the church felt like they were being betrayed because they were teaching them one thing on the one hand and on the other hand they were doing just quite contrary to what the scripture said they should do and of course Garner Ted Armstrong has a history of what he did.

Back in the Worldwide Church of God they put him out, well they didn't put him out, they sent him off on a sabbatical and when he was on his sabbatical a, the money dropped off. Cause he was on television, he was, he was doing the television show then, (cough, "excuse me") but when they put him out on a sabbatical to search himself out, to get himself squared away the church started loosing money, so rather than (cough, "did it again") rather than do the right thing and let him stay out on a sabbatical until such time as he got himself squared away, when the money dropped off, because of money they brought him back out of sabbatical and put him back on the air and Garner Ted Armstrong of course then he felt like well what he did was justified, cause they were going to put him back of the air, in spite of

the fact that they a, well they slapped his hand to put it quite bluntly, for what he was doing.

So in the Worldwide, in the church of God International when they finally, it came down to a decision making process of who was going to take over when Herbert died. And of course Garner Ted was still involved, well he was committing adultery in many cases and he was a taking young girls from the Ambassador College and having sex with them. He, ya know, he's got a wife, and he was doing all these things while he was there in the Worldwide Church of God and he didn't and when they brought him back out and put him back on the air, he didn't stop doing any of it. He kept right on, because actually what he got support, he got support for what he was doing but by virtue of the fact that the money started flowing off, so they put him back to work.

So Garner Ted Armstrong then formed the Church of God International and of course I didn't know what was going on in the Worldwide Church of God when I requested a booklet from the Worldwide Church of God. The booklet was "Revelations" and I was informed that they were in the process of revising all their booklets, re-doing all their booklets. And at the time I couldn't understand why they were doing that, because I was getting a lot out of them. I mean I, I was Bible ignorant to put it quite bluntly. And when they informed me that they were going to revise all of their booklets, I wondered why.

It turns out that the reason they were revising all of their booklets is because of the rift that was occurring in the church and that the new head of the church, Joseph Tkach, had, more or less what was happening, was they were trying to get rid of everything that Herbert Armstrong had done, because Herbert Armstrong, a I might add, Herbert Armstrong did just exactly what people in the church were advising him to do, and then when he did it then they condemned him for doing it.

He married a divorcee, which he shouldn't have done, that was, I mean first of all his wife died and this divorcee was available and I guess he was alone and he wanted to be with somebody. So they convinced him that this woman was the one he needed. She was not a widow, she was a divorcee. Anyway he married this divorcee which was contrary to the ministry, ministry weren't marrying a divorcee, especially with the circumstances that were involved. So Garner Ted Armstrong split off and did the CGI. Then he organized the CGI and apparently he went along pretty straight for a long time in the CGI.

He was getting things going, it was probably, it was tough getting started. But then right away, right away, I mean we joined, well we joined in 91, that's when we were baptized. We joined in 91, 91, because the neighbor across the road made mention of the fact that there was a guy by the name of Garner Ted Armstrong that he watched on television, and I thought oh and he said ya, he, he was in the Worldwide Church of God and he went out and made, started his own ministry called the Church of God International.

So, so we went over on Sunday morning, ya on Sunday morning and tuned into Garner Ted Armstrong, sure enough he was there, so I fired off a letter to Garner Ted Armstrong and asking him what was happening, why he was forming a new church and he gave me an answer, of course it was his version of the answer.

When I asked the Worldwide Church of God they flat wouldn't say anything, they just shut me off. So I thought, I thought to myself well good grief they could at least answer why the split, but they didn't. They, course I, I get the impression that they did that to all of their brethren in the church, that they were very, well first of all, a the attitude of the Worldwide Church of God and I found this out when we asked them for Baptism was that they had 37,000 members in the Worldwide Church of God and they were concerned that they were gonna go over that 44,000 and of course you know what the 44,000 is, but they were concerned they were going to go over the 44,000 and then the, they didn't know what, how to handle that if they went over the 44,000.

Laura writes:

It was supposed to be 144,000, not 44,000. Rev. 7:4 And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

Raymond records:

They considered themselves to be the tribes of Israel. And of course Worldwide Church of God had a lot of things that they thought they were and they thought Herbert W. Armstrong was an Apostle and he finally come to the conclusion that he was an Apostle and he started letting them call him an Apostle.

Ya know the Worldwide Church of God just kind of, well, like in the Bible it says the Apostasy was gonna come before the end of the age and that apostasy is happening right now and I've watched it since we've been in

the church, since 91.

We came out of the Church of God International because they were gonna sweep the situation under the rug and keep it quiet.

So we came out because we couldn't see any future in staying there if that's, and then after we came out, needless to say the first thing they did was everybody that left was condemned by the Church of God International for leaving. They weren't the ones that were wrong, we were the ones that were wrong because we left.

But anyway, they got into a business of buying property down in Tyler, they bought a piece of land, it seemed like it was 5 acres, I'm not sure, but it was right on Lake Palestine and they built a headquarters building and they had a, a what they call a Family Life Center there a gym you might say where they met and had their services. And they had a dining hall, I guess the dining hall was already there, they just renovated it and they had a place there where they could have kids camp, bring the kids down there in the summer time, to have a camp and they had these little cabins, where they would put the boys in one set of cabins and, well they didn't have enough cabins for boys and girls both, so they put the girls in the Family Life Center.

Bunked them in there, but I a, I noticed with interest that when they started buying property that like the Worldwide Church of God, they started asking for more money, asking people to do more, contribute more and you know, I started wondering well why are they asking people to contribute more?

They were already, at that time I think they were getting nearly 3 million dollars in tithe money from the brethren in the church and then when I went down there to attend the academy, a Imperial Academy they were up to 5 million and Garner Ted Armstrong had given himself a healthy pay raise, I think he was up to 320 million, a mean not million, \$320,000's a year salary where Ron Dart was still only getting \$100,000's a year salary.

Which you know these people they had control of the purse, so they took care of themselves. Everybody down there was family, his Garner Ted's family was everybody in the family had a job, they were getting paid, they had relatives, uncles, a aunts, all these people were involved in the headquarters and they were getting salary.

Some of them I might add, a they were there getting salaries, but I never did see them do a thing to earn it. A you know, Garner Ted kept on raising his salary but he wasn't willing to raise, ya know I got more out of Ron Dart, I hate to say that, because I don't want to lift him up to be an idol, but I got more out of his instruction, his teachings than I did out of Garner Ted.

A I, Garner Ted was interesting, I don't

mind telling ya, he was interesting and I liked to watch him on Sunday morning and listen to him, because he was interesting, he was talking about Israel and Revelations and the end of the age and all that stuff and it was all interesting because we were new, we were studying. We were studying the Bible and all the things that he was saying we were paying attention to because a lot of these things were taking place.

But the point I was trying to make here is when he started getting involved in buying property and building buildings then it seemed like, it, it, it got lost. And then Garner Ted Armstrong got his nice big fat salary and he was buying up all the property he could get his hands on around Tyler.

I imagine that his family is living off of that now or their hanging onto it, I don't know which. But anyway, he started buying up property around Tyler as quick as he could get it, so he was obviously getting more money, salary than he needed, but Ron Dart was still only getting \$100,000's a year.

So when the Church of God International split and a of course the first thing that happened was the income stopped coming in cause Garner Ted now was not on the air anymore. So when Garner Ted wasn't on the air anymore then needless to say the money stopped coming in and a, course the people that watched him on Sunday morning I don't think were aware of what was going on. They liked to watch him, because you know they were interested. Mainly they were interested in the end time prophesies, but they, they liked to watch him on Sunday morning because they seen him as somebody that a knew what he was talking about.

So, big salary, property, buying property, people, family, working earning salaries that, well they weren't working, they were getting paid salaries but weren't doing anything.

I'll have to admit that his two sons were a doing something, they were into the a PR, Public Relations, a, they were doing the media, and the filming and all that kind of stuff. But a, what I'm coming down to is when they got into property is when they seemed to be going the wrong way.

So what I'm seeing now happening with Norman Edwards is that a, the big criticism that everybody's got is that they are buying property and Norman Edwards is putting it in his own name.

And that is why these people were asking the question, why is it that these people that are asking for prayer don't have their name, a their address and their phone number listed in the prayer requests, course they don't need their phone number but an address where people, the Church of God in Springfield wanted to send money to help these people out but they were suspicious because there was no address where to send it.

The only address they had was yours, Darwin and Laura, so they were suspicious that you were gonna get the money that was being put out for these people to help them out on the prayer requests and then you was gonna send it to Norman.

Laura writes:

If these people in the COG in Springfield were having a problem with the way that we do things, then why didn't they contact us directly as Matthew 18:15-17 tells us to do.

Raymond records:

A course when I sent that \$20's for that request that I made for that information and you made a note that it went to Norman Edwards and a, I don't remember now whether you said it went to Servants' News, I think you said Servants' News, but anyway you diverted the money to the headquarters, I'll put it that way.

Laura writes:

This is an outright lie. We never sent you any note telling you that the \$20's you sent to us as a gift donation was going to be sent to Norman Edwards.

We have not sent any money at all to Norman Edwards since he purchased his property in Michigan, because we don't have any money to send to him. We are \$7312.65 in the hole since 2001 because of the newsletter we send to people.

Norman Edwards is not our headquarters. Norman Edwards and us are two totally separate autonomous churches, but we affiliate or associate in the exact same way that we affiliate or associate with you Raymond G. Kaping.

We believe that you either need to produce the proof of your above accusation or give us a public apology for this unfounded accusation.

As I recall, you sent us a twenty dollar check in April of 2005 and a note asking me about whether Servants' News was going to re-start. At the time you asked me I didn't have a lot of information, but following is the exact reply that I gave to you: "Ray, Norman Edwards still exists. Servants' News is probably done. My understanding is a new newsletter may be started by Norm at some future point. There are major problems in Port Austin and Norm is being quiet at this point. Hope this helps! Laura"

This note was written to you on a "Thank You" card which we sent to you, thanking you for your donation of twenty dollars.

Please produce your evidence for what you have said on this tape. We keep copies of all email and snail mail sent to us just because of such bogus accusations. If anyone wants a copy of our proof, just ask.

TO BE CONTINUED IN ISSUE #32**

* Letter Received: *
* October 1, 2005 *
* Subject: GREETINGS *
* by Rolf B. L. S. De Jong *
* Pakistan *

Rolf writes:

Greetings to all of you greater COG folks out there in this big world.

Living in this country one realizes and appreciates that we have precious truth, what I think lots of us take for granted, as I perhaps also sometimes did when I still lived at home in the Netherlands.

By the way where does the Lee family live?

Laura writes:

We live near the Missouri River in Bismarck, North Dakota, approximately a 4 to 5 hour drive to the Canadian border. Bismarck is the capital city of North Dakota and has a population of approximately 50,000 people.

Rolf writes:

Salute from a still warm (34C) Islamabad.

THE END**

* Letter Received: *
* September 23, 2005 *
* Subject: THANK YOU FOR *
* YOUR NEWSLETTER *
* by Apolonio S. Federico *
* Philippines *

Dear Darwin & Laura Lee:

Greetings! I want to thank you very much for sending me your Newsletter, it is very enlightening material and I am looking forward to its future issues. I am greatly inspired by your work.

I just reread your newsletter July/August 2005 Issue No. 28, #36 on your column question page #8 about the article entitled "To Cover or Not to Cover" by Rhoda Foust. May I have a copy of said back Issue Newsletter #8 and a copy of this Treatise "Moses Maimone, Hebrew Calendar". Your Newsletter back Issue March/April 2005.

I am fervently hoping you can accommodate my humble request. May our Heavenly Almighty Father Yahweh and his son Yahshua our Savior bless you abundantly and your ministries. Shalom. Sincerely yours,

Editors Note:

Newsletter, Issue #8 with Rhoda Foust's article "To Cover or Not to Cover" and the document "Moses Maimone, Hebrew Calendar" will be sent to you with this current Newsletter, Issue #31. Thank you for your nice letter. Laura Lee

THE END**

* Letter Received: *
* August 20, 2005 *
* Subject: THANK YOU FOR *
* YOUR NEWSLETTER & NEED *
* HELP *
* by Peter Gichovi *
* Kenya *

Peter writes:

Dear Darwin & Laura Lee,

Thank you for sending me the news letter.

Again it is me for long waiting to hear from you and me Peter Gichovi greeting you. Also appreciate greetings from my family and Church of God -SABBATH.

We continue to study bible together, this includes the church and the friend.

Thank you for your prayers and we request more prayers for my family, for we have been in bed for two months ill, so brothers and sisters put me on a list of prayers for at last we lost our father in month of May 2005. Again we need materials and support for I need someone to support my family.

We request you to send 28 Bibles and Newsletters for our study with friends. We thank you very much for all that you have done for us from the very first day we came to know each other through emails. I would like to inform you that we like Bible studies or lessons and booklets so please send us Christian materials for study. Thanks again for your good service.

Laura writes:

We are sorry, but we do not have the funds to send you 28 Bibles, but perhaps someone else might, so we are printing your letter.

If you need extra copies of our Newsletter, please feel free to make as many copies as you need for study purposes.

If others have study materials to send to you they can contact you via e-mail at:

churchofgodmakima@yahoo.com

Peter writes:

Yours in the Lord's Service

P. S.

Dear Marisha Hileman. (Toledo Ohio) Its amazing truth from your subject of the Passover, but here in our area the people are looking for that truth. (See Newsletter, Issue #26 on Page #12)

The Passover beginning and ending and feasts (October 4th Tues.) (October 13 Thursday) (October 18th-24 Tuesday-Monday) (October 25 Tuesday) Feast of Trumpets) Day of Atonement) Feast of Tabernacles) Last Great Day).

Please we need your confirmation on this day, for we need to teach the real truth for his name and word go forth and not return void.

Laura writes:

The Holy Day dates we will be keeping in 2006 come from the Hebrew Calendar and are as follows: Passover/1st Day of Unleavened Bread (April 13, Observed at Sunset the Evening Before), Last Day of Unleavened Bread (April 19), Pentecost (June 2), Trumpets (September 23), Atonement (October 2), Tabernacles (October 7-13) and the Last Great Day (October 14).

Peter writes:

Again can you give the addresses and emails of Worldwide Church of God USA.

Laura writes:

We do not keep addresses on the Worldwide Church of God as they are no longer a Saturday Sabbath keeping group. Their Web Site address is:

<http://www.wcg.org/>

Peter writes:

Again I am looking for an invitation. Please assist me with this invitation letter to get VISA for it is easier with invitation from your office. I have a passport already NO: A942575.

Laura writes:

We do not help people with VISA's.

Peter writes:

Please tell me about the United Church of God-we need to know.

Laura writes:

The United Church of God is an off-shoot of the Worldwide Church of God which started in 1995. They teach some truth, however the way that they treat some of their ministry and many of the people in their congregations is anything but Christian. Check "The Journal" Web Site at: <http://www.thejournal.org/> for the many disfellowshipments which have happened through the years in the UCG. The UCG Web

Site can be found at: <http://www.ucg.org/>

THE END**

* Letter Received: *
* November 5, 2005 *
* Subject: Calendar *
* by Robert Goldman *
* Lone, California *

Robert writes:

Dear Darwin and Laura,

Hello! I was handed your newsletter in with a pile of other material. After going through it all, I came across yours and loved it a lot! It was a very interesting newsletter, that I have ever come across. Questions and Answers -- Great Stuff!

But one of your articles by David Ben-Ariel, "The Oracles of God" (**Newsletter, Issue #29 on Page #18**), was very interesting! About the sacred calendar -- do you have info on this?

Laura writes:

We recommend the following books: "The Comprehensive Hebrew Calendar" by Arthur Spier -- Feldheim Publishers, 200 Airport Executive Park, Nanuet, NY 10954 and "Understanding the Jewish Calendar" by Rabbi Nathan Bushwick -- Moznaim Publishing Corporation, 4304 12th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11219.

We will enclose with your newsletter the document "Moses Maimone, Hebrew Calendar" and possibly a few other items in regard to the calendar.

Robert writes:

When are the true days to celebrate His Holy Feasts?

Laura writes:

The Holy Day dates we will be keeping in 2006 come from the Hebrew Calendar and are as follows: Passover/1st Day of Unleavened Bread (April 13, Observed at Sunset the Evening Before), Last Day of Unleavened Bread (April 19), Pentecost (June 2), Trumpets (September 23), Atonement (October 2), Tabernacles (October 7-13) and the Last Great Day (October 14).

Robert writes:

The calendar we use today is not what Yahweh created according to Gen. 1:14. The moon does not match the days on the Roman Calendar! (Psalm 104:19)

Laura writes:

The Roman Calendar is not the calendar

used to determine God's Holy days. The Roman Calendar is a Solar Calendar only.

The calendar used to determine God's Holy Days is the Hebrew Calendar which is a Lunar/Solar Calendar.

Robert writes:

Plus if the Roman Calendar is false, this means Saturday is not the true Seventh Day Sabbath. Which Day?

Laura writes:

Even though the Solar Calendar we use today has been changed a couple of times through history, the weekly cycle has never been changed. So Saturday is the true Sabbath.

"Between 1582 and 1752 and down to 1919, all the nations of Europe gradually changed to the new calendar. But all during these 337 years, everyone had the very same days of the week." See:

<http://www.bible-sabbath.com/calendar.htm>

and

<http://homeworkhelp.aol.com/default?id=20050618120809990001>

Robert writes:

So I would really love to hear your input on this subject! Also, I'm not able to access a computer, but I would love to receive your newsletter! Could you please place me on your mailing list to receive it! Thank You!

Please place me on your prayer list and my address too! Thanks -- May Yahweh overwhelm you in His love and blessings! Shalom unto you both.

In Yahshua's Name

(Rev. 19:13) "The Word of Yahweh"

THE END**

* Letter Received: *
* July 30, 2005 *
* Subject: Calendar *
* by Richard Heath *
* Vero Beach, Florida *

Richard writes:

Dear Darwin & Laura

Greetings from Florida, and 'Yowm Tov!'

I had opportunity yesterday (Shabbat) to bring out your newsletter during our service here at our home. A brother in the assembly noticed the name of Lloyd Brumbaugh, and I took time (this morning) to re-read his correspondence with you, because of this coincidence. (Brother Bob said that he knew of Brother Lloyd for many years, although he hadn't spoken to him recently.)

It would appear that Brother Lloyd has definite opinions concerning the Hebrew calendar... and perhaps that they don't mesh with your own. I am not a referee, so I won't presume to arbitrate in favor of either bias, but reading this exchange reminded me that I also have studied into this 'calendar controversy.' If I may; I'd like to make a couple of pertinent observations.

Our Savior (Yahoshua) plainly stated that "one yodh or one tittle shall in no way pass from the Torah, till all be fulfilled" (Matt. 5:18). This means that the calendar rules, as found in Torah (Genesis-Deuteronomy) are the ones that are still in force, especially if they are in opposition to rules that man (or men) have devised since that time.

Gen. 7:11-8:4 are a part of Torah. They instruct that the five months spanned from 2-17 to 7-17 measure 150 days. Is there any other reason than disobedience that the 'Hebrew' calendars of our time only allow for approximately 148 days between these dates? The simple answer is "NO!"

A more detailed answer, however; is that the five months (Heb. "chodeshim") are NOT equal to our modern measurement of five 'lunations.' These two terms are NOT synonymous; not any more, anyhow.

Laura writes:

First of all, there are not several Hebrew Calendars, there is only one Hebrew Calendar.

The 150 days spoken of in Genesis and the 148 days now on the Hebrew Calendar are both correct.

At the time of the Genesis account the moon cycle was 30 days. Today the moon cycle is more like 29 1/2 days, which means the lunar months will alternate between 29 and 30 days.

There is historical evidence that calendars around the world changed to reflect a 365 day year instead of a 360 day year between the 8th to the 4th centuries BC.

The 8th century BC was a time between 799 BC - 700 BC. This is also the same time period in which the following books of the Bible were written: 2nd Kings, Amos, Hosea, Micah, Isaiah...

In Isaiah 38:8 it states: "Behold, I (God) will bring again the shadow of the degrees, which is gone down in the sun dial of Ahaz, **ten degrees backward. So the sun returned ten degrees, by which degrees it was gone down.**" For more details see:

<http://www.direct.ca/trinity/360vs365.html>

and

http://www.theforbiddenknowledge.com/hardtruth/joshuas_long_day.htm

It says in Isaiah 38:8 that God turned the sun dial of Ahaz ten degrees backwards. This would certainly be a miracle as any other miracle which God has performed

throughout the Bible and it would also provide an explanation as to why people all around the world were changing their calendars between the 8th and 4th centuries BC. This 10 degree change is enough to change both solar and lunar cycles, thus changing our calendars. Please also keep in mind that if God can turn a sun dial backwards by 10 degrees, he can also turn a sun dial forward 10 degrees at some point in the future.

In Revelation it also shows a future time when there will be 30 days in each month. (Revelation 13:5, 11:3, and 12:6)

Richard writes:

Torah further instructs (in Lev. 23 as well as Num. 28-29) that YHWH's mo'edim are to be counted out over seven of these 30-day months ...and then the year ends. All of this intricate, convoluted measurement of lunation's; trying to make twelve or thirteen of them somehow equal a 'year' is an exercise in frustration! YHWH plainly states that His 'year' is over at the time of the Feast of Ingathering... TWICE (in Ex. 23:16 & Ex. 34:22)!

Laura writes:

The Holy Day season just as the Harvest season both take place over a 7 month period. This however does not delete the rest of the year. The remaining 5/6 months are still a part of an entire year, they just are not a part of the Holy Day season or the Harvest season.

The book "Understanding the Jewish Calendar" by Rabbi Nathan Bushwick -- Moznaim Publishing Corporation, 4304 12th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11219, helps us to understand the calculations which go into the Hebrew Calendar. The Hebrew Calendar is not that hard to understand and it is the most accurate calendar that ever was.

Richard writes:

I am not a seer by any definition, so I can't say exactly on what days Yahoshua kept YHWH's mo'edim. I can only imagine that He did all according to Torah. That's the only thing that makes sense. He was, after all; without sin... and sin is practicing lawlessness.

My best to you in your wonderful service to us scattered brethren. YHWH bless you both. I am -- A fellow pilgrim

Laura writes:

It would make no sense for God to command us to keep the Holy Days and then not give us a calendar to show when they are. Since the oracles of God were given to the Jews, Romans 3:1-2 and since Christ kept the Holy Day dates as the Pharisees and Scribes kept them, this is where we

should look for the calendar used in keeping the Holy Days of God.

THE END**

* Letter Received: *
* August 11, 2005 *
* Subject: Health Information *
* by PF Lazor *
* Lone, California *

Dear Darwin & Laura,

Thanks for newsletter Issue #28. I found it an especially great issue, one of the best I've yet had the pleasure to read and be edified by. I'm very grateful that you are publishing the details of the Norm Edwards ordeal. I think Norm and Marleen are such EXCEPTIONALLY excellent people and Christians, and have proven themselves for years and years as being upright Christian folk of the very highest caliber. I'm so glad you are airing the truth about Satans attack on them by men Satan has obviously been using to create undue havoc and stir fabricated muck in the Edward's lives. So much energy, by this attack, has been DIVERTED from righteous work for Yahweh's cause -- but necessarily so insofar as the energy expended to clear their good name.

Besides other good articles, I found 4 in this issue to be EXCEPTIONAL, for a number of different reasons; each being very insightful and excellent teachers. I found Rusty Ames "Spirit of Ahab" article to be most superb and eloquently written with on-target insights. I hope he will be encouraged to write more, as I don't recall seeing his writing before, (or if so, not frequently).

I am always very disturbed in all COG publications prayer requests to see such a vast list of our flock suffering with cancer and other horrid and painful diseases WHICH ARE TOTALLY AVAILABLE. I wish I could write everyone of these people and tell them that they don't have to acquire these diseases, and in most cases, even those given up hope on by the medical community, THEY DON'T NEED TO KEEP THEM!

There is a Christian man (not COG) named GREG CIOLA, who for several years has devoted his life to doing warfare against the evils and frauds of Satan's big -- pharmaceutical corporate structures who operate and maintain the disease - sickness - premature death industry, and who own and certainly totally control the entire western medical community (AMA, Cancer Institutes and Societies many other agencies and entities pretending to find cures for all these abomanable diseases). The cures are already well known and implemented by many, but outside of the mainstream media.

I know GREG CIOLA'S organization has helped countless people back to vibrant health, even after being told there was no hope for survival. For at least 6-9 months, I know Greg has been offering his CRUSADOR health publication, back issues, for free (just for the cost of the shipping) as long as they last. These publications are a treasure chest of outstanding health information that isn't normally found anywhere else (except reprints in other non-mainstream papers).

The address for this publication is: CRUSADOR ENTERPRISES, PO Box 618205, Orlando, FL 32861-8205, Phone: 1-800-593-6273, Fax: 1-407-297-4094, www.TheHealthCrusader.com

(The different spelling Crusador and Crusader is not an error.)

For me to not send you this, I feel like I'm failing at my Christian and own duty to not sit and watch our people struck with painful diseases and death, when it is avoidable. I hope you might see fit to get this information out and that it will help some.

Lastly, please pray for me and put me on your prayer lists for (1) My Freedom. Our petition is now in the last court awaiting the judges' decision (in California Supreme Court, The Federal Courts just passed a new "law" in another man's case that they won't consider hearing this issue due to a "delay" time bar). I also need letters still, written on my behalf for the parole board. By law, my parole hearing had to be held no later than Feb. 2, 2005 (over 6 months ago). Due to repeated illegal and corruption -- based delays, we now still have time for people to write the parole board urging my freedom, after 22 years of false imprisonment. For more information about my PROVABLE innocence, life history and how and where to write the parole board, please call my friend, Gayle Travis at 1-510-886-4801 or e-mail Gayle at gaylet78@yahoo.com

(2) I can help save others' lives and health from here, but I cannot save my own, while imprisoned, because we are so utterly nutritionally depleted and bombarded with the most toxic and abominable so -- called food and anti-nutrition. They have now closed off all our access (avenues we once had) to means to get real and healthy foods. I have now been ill, under some very weird disease for 128 days, much of that time deathly ill, tho better (somewhat) now - it subsides and relapses full force like a tsunami strike, totally debilitating (wipeout) for many weeks at a time - then repeats this cycle. There is No access to genuine health treatment in here. Pray for my health to be restored, against all these worldly odds, while in here, and hold against the attacks of Satan's jaws of death, till I am freed. Thanks. Christian love and blessings. ***THE END***

ARTICLES SECTION

newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net

SPECIAL ARTICLES SECTION

Over the next several months we will devote this section to articles which pertain to the following subjects: Reconciliation, Repentance, Evil Speaking, Slander/Libel, should we rebuke a brother caught in a fault (sin)?, should women keep silent in the Church?, Anger, Bitterness, Reviling, Wickedness, what does it mean to offend someone, what does it mean to exhort someone, Persecution and Creation.

Some of these subjects are related to each other and some are not. There are many subjects throughout the Bible which need to be defined according to the Bible, so that people do not continue to make up their own definitions as they have been. If you have a topic or an article for this section, please send it to us for consideration.

Ed Burson "The Church needs a dictionary"

Darwin Lee "For example what is the definition of Reconciliation? Excuse me! I want the Bible definition, not your definition."

TOPIC:

SHOULD WE REBUKE A BROTHER/SISTER CAUGHT IN A FAULT (SIN)?

FALLING AWAY FROM THE LAODICEAN CHURCH

by **Sandy Kile**
Palisade, Minnesota

Let me tell you what I mean by "falling away from the Laodicean Church." I've heard more excuses lately for not meeting on the Sabbath and splitting up than you can shake a stick at. Some are splitting over doctrine, but quite often the "doctrines" are things so petty and silly it's practically unbelievable! Like song books or even single words in songs! Some are starting to keep the Sabbath whenever they want, however they want, (NOT from sunset to sunset) or not hosting Sabbath Services for troubling

reasons that compel me to speak.

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. FOR MEN SHALL BE LOVERS OF THEIR OWN SELVES, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, LOVERS OF PLEASURES MORE THAN LOVERS OF GOD; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away," (2 Timothy 3:1-5). It dawned on me the other day that these verses are not ONLY about people outside the church, but about US! I never thought so until recently.

EXCUSES OVERHEARD

Read the following examples of excuses of people not meeting on the Sabbath, of people pleasing themselves, doing what they please, as they please, and not pleasing God. See if you don't agree that LOVERS OF THEIR OWN SELVES and LOVERS OF PLEASURES MORE THAN LOVERS OF GOD applies to this church RIGHT NOW!

Remark: "It doesn't feel like the Sabbath to ME if I host Sabbath Services. It's too much work."

Answer: It's not about how you feel, it's about obeying the command that the Sabbath is a holy convocation (Lev. 23 & Heb. 10:25). Did the priests of old, say "I'm not slaughtering those bulls today. It's too much work?" Godward.org states, "Jesus referred to the law wherein the priests would work on the Sabbath and are blameless," (Num. 28:9).

Okay, that settles that, but what about this next excuse?

Remark: "It's too expensive to host Sabbath Services."

Answer: Excuse me, but this seems like a manufactured excuse when instead of potluck, you have a catered meal fit for a wedding party. Church is not supposed to be about the food anyway. And a lot of the excuses seem to be about food. Food has become, not an enhancement, but the focal point, and a stumbling block.

The next excuse is also about food:

Remark: "I have to make sure I have a full meal prepared for Sabbath in case someone doesn't bring something." These are people who turn the potluck meal with the idea of everyone bringing something so the hostess doesn't have to cook into an excuse TO COOK.

Answer: Forget the food, eat before you leave home, have the service and fellowship,

go home and eat. Simple.

Sabbath services, in too many cases have become little more than social events that revolve around eating.

LET'S EXAMINE OURSELVES

The answer to all three excuses are the most hard-hitting in the (CEV Contemporary English Version). "Some people have gotten out of the habit of meeting for worship, but we must not do that. We should keep on encouraging one another, especially since you know that the day of the Lord's coming is getting closer" (Heb 10:25). "Obeying God is always for our good and is part of how we show love to God," (Duet. 10:12-13), states Don Haney.¹ In other words, it's our responsibility to obey God. I don't see much responsibility in the Church these days, I see irresponsibility.

The Holy Days have been attacked with this "Do Your Own Thing Virus" as well, as in the **following example:** "We keep the Passover as the spirit moves us with whatever we have, including pop and pretzels. That's not wrong, is it?" they ask.

Answer: Yes, it is. Remember there are injunctions against taking the Passover ("unworthily" is the word used) and this is about as unworthily as it gets. "For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body" (1 Cor. 11:29). Also, see Deut. 12:32: "You must diligently observe everything that I command you; do not add to it or take anything from it." Phil. 3:18-19 also applies: "For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the BELLY; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on EARTHLY THINGS." There may be a spirit moving them to take Passover however and whenever they please, but I doubt it's of God.

I doubt very much if any of this is of God. The Sabbath (and Holy Days) are intended as signs (Ex. 31:13) between ourselves and God, and by not meeting on these days we are taking down our signs! Could it be that this is what was meant when Christ said, "Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8).

And what about another sign? Love. Where is it? This is another sign that's hard to find anymore. First, perhaps we need to be reminded what love is! "A new commandment I give unto you. That ye LOVE one another, as I have LOVED you, that you also LOVE one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye

have LOVE one to another," (John 13:34-35). Squabbling over song books, making up excuses to not meet together, and generally making a mockery of the commitment we once had is NOT love! "We don't have to agree with each other on every point of doctrine to love one another, (Study Romans 14 closely on this subject)," says Brian Knowles². Someone once said it is possible to disagree without being disagreeable. We can agree to disagree and remain friends. We can grow up, and quit focusing on food, and picking at every little thing. If not, God may take us to the wood shed for a thrashing, and you can bet it's not going to be as comfortable as if we disciplined ourselves.

Maybe we've already been taken to the wood shed. "We need to really consider," continues Don Haney, "Do we come off as arrogant or humble? This latest tragic satanic attack [referring to the shooting in the Living Church of God], ought to encourage us to EXAMINE OURSELVES and to really BE HUMBLE, and not to at all exalt ourselves!" We wouldn't do THAT would we?

DECEITFULNESS OF SIN

Apparently, we would. We are taking down our signs, hiding our lights under bushel baskets, burying our heads in the sand, and saying we are just fine: "... Thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked [spiritually unclothed]..." (Rev. 3:17). We need to be reminded of the deceitfulness of sin. In the tape/CD entitled, "The Passover Mystery," Duane Nicol³ does just that. He says "if nothing has changed in us, we have fallen into [sin's] trap," and are experiencing the deceitfulness of sin. If we have adjusted to our sins, done things without thinking about them, we are still carnal. It's also carnal to think we are doing just fine, when it is obvious to everyone but ourselves that we aren't. "Take care, brothers and sisters, that none of you may have an evil, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," so that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin" (Heb 3:12-13, NRSV).

The theme of Ron Dart's⁴ recent CEM letter was also about sin being alive and well, and finding a comfy home in the church: "In something as small as Paul's 'a little leaven leavens the whole lump' we are reminded that we are accountable for maintaining the integrity of the church. And if we don't, the whole church can be corrupted by a very small matter [like not meeting on the Sabbath] tolerated over a long period of time." He offered a taped sermon on the subject, "The Church Accountable," delivered

four years ago at Pentecost. He warns, however, "...be aware, this sermon will pinch more than a little. It will pinch you and your church."

We all ought to be "pinched," as Ron Dart put it, "more than a little" by the following. Kenneth Westby⁵ says, "A.M. Rosenthal of the New York Times writes, 'The shocking untold story of our times is that more Christians have died this century simply for being Christians than in the first nineteen centuries after the birth of Christ.'" While we in comfortable, relatively safe America let our candles flicker out, other Christians in China, Sudan, Mauritania, Pakistan, North Korea, Saudi Arabia, Vietnam, Egypt, Nigeria, Cuba, Laos and Uzbekistan are being persecuted. Westby says China is the worst, and that is hard to believe when you consider dissidents and Christians in North Korea may be being gassed, not just individuals, but WHOLE FAMILIES, according to the World Net Daily article, "Claim: North Korea gassing citizens," http://www.worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=44029

While distant brethren faithfully and bravely suffer, the (mostly American, I suspect) "Church of 'God Is Too Much Trouble,'" is in danger of falling away from the Laodicean Church, the one that Christ says He will spew out (Rev. 3:16). Why? Because we can't be bothered to even try reaching the "high" standards of the most lukewarm church in the Bible. We need to wake up and grow up before it's too late. As Christ said, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent" (Rev. 3:19).

Hopefully, we still have time to do that.

Sources:

- Bible, King James Version (KJV), Contemporary English Version (CEV), and New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)
- (1) Haney, Don, "A Wake Up Call to a House in Mourning," (godward.org)
 - (2) Knowles, Brian, "On Being a Christian in Troubled Times," (godward.org)
 - (3) Nicol, Duane, "The Passover Mystery," Church of God, International
 - (4) Dart, Ron, CEM letter, May 1, 2005
 - (5) Westby, Kenneth, "ACD newsletter," Keeping Watch section, (godward.org)

THE END**

WITH THIS ISSUE, WE ARE
STARTING OUR 6TH YEAR OF
PUBLISHING THIS
NEWSLETTER -- WE WANT TO
GIVE SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL
WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED IN
SOME WAY TO THIS
NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU.
DARWIN & LAURA LEE

HOW DARE YOU JUDGE ME!

by Nathaniel Burson
Big Sandy, Texas

How dare you judge me! How DARE you judge me! The strident cry echoes throughout the halls of the modern day church. Everywhere the name of Christ is spoken, this ardent cry shrills against the injustice of condemnation.

It's time you heard JUST HOW MUCH GOD HATES THAT! Today, I'm going to tell you why it's wrong, and just how it is that I **DARE to judge you!**

Who is it that hates to be judged? Who is it that screams "Antichrist!" when someone points to their sin? The person sinning!

And WHY does that sinner feel that "judging" is perhaps one of the most wretched sins a Christian can commit? BECAUSE HE HATES TRUTH, and LOVES HIS SIN! Only because he has no INTENTION of EVER TRULY REPENTING, and doesn't want his SIN brought to light!

Acts 7:26-27 *And the next day he [Moses] shewed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another? But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us?*

Who was it who resented Moses interfering? The man who had been wronged? No! The man who had SINNED demanded of Moses "HOW DARE YOU JUDGE ME!"

The Bible condemns judging frequently... or so it would seem. But I'm going to let you decide for yourself if that's what it says or not. You've been fed lies by the handful, all your lives. You've been told these lies by men who hated to be judged. They hated to be judged because it exposed sin they didn't want exposed. And when you expose a sin – when, for example, you say "Hey! You lied! Lying is wrong!" They'll be quick to say "How dare you judge me!" Then right away, they'll point to a scripture like this one;

Romans 2:1 *Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.*

Is Paul, in writing the book of Romans condemning judging? A cursory examination, particularly one that is made with the sole purpose of FINDING A WAY to prove that you shouldn't judge someone, might indicate that... But no. He wasn't condemning judging. He was condemning HYPOCRISY!

Hypocrisy, by definition, is telling someone to do something, and NOT DOING IT YOURSELF! Or telling someone not to lie, when you, yourself are lying! If you do this, God will judge YOU!

Romans 2:2-3 *But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things. And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?*

If you haven't yet STOPPED lying, if you haven't yet repented YOURSELF, then no! How DARE you judge someone else! This is hypocrisy and is HEARTILY condemned in scripture!

But it doesn't mean that you must forever be doing the same thing that he is! If you continue to lie, to the point that you are not qualified to tell another man that by lying, he is sinning... even after YEARS in this way of life.... then you are not headed for the Kingdom of God anyway!

Those who ARE headed for the Kingdom of God are ABLE to judge their brethren! And they are QUALIFIED to point out the sins of another, because THEY HAVE REPENTED, they have STOPPED COMMITTING THAT SIN THEMSELVES!

1 Corinthians 6:2-3 *Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?*

Verse 5 *I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren?*

You are not only qualified, you are RESPONSIBLE, and you are REQUIRED to judge your brother!

Leviticus 19:17 *Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him.*

You are not allowed NOT to judge your brother! If you see him sin, you MUST judge him! You MUST tell him! Or God will hold YOU responsible!

Ezekiel 33:1-7 *Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman: If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people; Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul. But if*

the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand.

If the watchman doesn't tell the people of the coming danger, HE is responsible! The danger coming upon this world is SIN! If your brother breaks the LAW OF GOD, he is bringing PAIN, and SUFFERING and DEATH to himself!

Verse 7 *So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me.*

If you've heard the word at His mouth – if you KNOW the law, and Know that your brother is sinning... and you don't blow the trumpet, if you don't WARN him of his coming DOOM, then he will die in his sins... but God will look to YOU for payment for his blood!

So just HOW BAD of a sin must your brother commit before you judge him? It doesn't matter! If you see him erring, you must tell him. He who breaks ONE commandment is guilty of the WHOLE LAW (James 2:10). But in order for you to judge him, it must actually BE a sin!

Colossians 2:16 *Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:*

This scripture is widely used to condemn ALL judging, but the scripture itself states "in respect to"... let no man judge you ABOUT THIS! Paul is describing a few things that WEREN'T SIN, that were causing problems... For example, some didn't think it was right to eat meat.

That wasn't a sin! So it's none of your business if your brother doesn't want to eat meat! If he thinks it's wrong to drink wine, is that YOUR problem? Is that a SIN on his part? No! So DON'T JUDGE HIM!

Romans 14:3 *Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him. Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.*

These scriptures are not talking about condemning sin! Nowhere does it say not to tell someone stealing that it is wrong to steal! JUDGING that thief by telling him stealing is SIN, and that he will ultimately suffer and DIE for it is your God-appointed RESPONSIBILITY, not a heinous sin as you've been taught!

The entire world believes you are not to judge another – EVER – REGARDLESS of the situation or sin you see them commit,

based primarily on the following words of Christ. **IS THAT WHAT THEY REALLY SAY?? NO!**

Matthew 7:1-5 *Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.*

Instead of reading to assuage your own guilt-ridden conscience, instead of TRYING to read into this what you've always been taught, and the ENTIRE CHRISTIAN WORLD BELIEVES, read the ENTIRE WORDS OF CHRIST. What does it REALLY SAY?

He begins by saying judge not THAT you be not judged. If this were all He said, then I would agree – the world is right! BUT IT ISN'T! He goes on to say that HOW YOU JUDGE, you will be judged. But think about it! In order to be judged based on HOW you judge, you have to judge someone! But if you aren't ever to judge, Christ's words make no sense!

He goes on to say that you don't pick at your brother's tiny problem, while you yourself have a huge problem... but INSTEAD, you REMOVE YOUR PROBLEM, then, THEN, THEN YOU ARE TO REMOVE THE MOTE IN HIS EYE! AFTER YOU HAVE JUDGED YOURSELF, THEN YOU JUDGE HIM!

HOW LONG do you suppose Christ intended you to walk around with a BEAM in your EYE?? THINK ABOUT IT! I know people who've been in the church 40 YEARS AND HAVEN'T REMOVED IT YET! Are THEY obeying the command of Christ? No!

What was His command? REMOVE the beam, THEN remove your brother's mote! Judge yourself, remove YOUR SINS, then you can see CLEARLY to help your BROTHER see HIS SINS!

It's right there in your Bible in plain English folks – Don't take my word for it, you can read it right there. You decide for yourself what Christ is saying and then DECIDE, based on TRUTH, and the ONLY word of Almighty God whether or not you should JUDGE your brother!

How dare I judge you? **How dare I NOT judge you!**

See Ed Burson's Ad on our Web Site at: <http://darwinlauralee.150m.com> Also find his Web Site on our Links Page. Darwin & Laura Lee ***THE END*****

COMING SOON:

Issue #32

Topic=Repentance

**What About Repentance Anyway?
by Wayne Schatzle**

**The Component of Repentance
by Wily Elder**

Issue #33

Topic=Creation

**Creation-Is the Earth Millions of
Years Old?
by Terry Knutson**

**Evolution, Evolution Mutation or
Creation?
by Laura Lee**

**WHAT EZEKIEL 38-39
REVEALS ABOUT
A FUTURE WORLD WAR III
--- Part #4**

**by Steven M. Collins
Sioux Falls, South Dakota**

**Nations NOT attacking the Western
Alliance:**

The content of Ezekiel 38-39 examined so far might lead some readers to assume that all the Israelite, Caucasian and Semitic nations will be attacked by nations descended from Ham and Japheth. Ezekiel 38:13 shows that to be an incorrect concept. Verse 13 foretells that when Gog's attack begins, several nations question (or object to) it. They are "Sheba, Dedan... [and] the merchants of Tarshish with all the young lions thereof." This prophecy poses both clear answers and interesting questions. While Ezekiel 38:5 stated "Cush" was among the attacking allies of Russia and China, verse 13 states "Sheba and Dedan" will not be among the attackers. Genesis 10:6-7 reveal that Sheba and Dedan are also nations descended from Cush; therefore, not all modern Cushite nations will attack the USA and the West. Tarshish, a nation shown by Genesis 10:4 to be descended from Japheth, is also not among the attackers. There are other nations affiliated with "the merchants of Tarshish" who also do not join the attack against the West, and these nations can also be identified.

It is easy to identify the "merchants of Tarshish." Tarshish was a son of "Javan" in Genesis 10:4 and its people will be an Asiatic

"nation of merchants" in the latter days. Ancestral veneration is a part of Asiatic culture so the modern nation of Tarshish could still be named in honor of its ancestor: Javan. In modern times, there is one Asian nation which has effectively pioneered and developed an economy based on merchandising finished goods to the Western nations. That nation is Japan (with a name strikingly close to "Javan," the father of Tarshish. Japan is such a nation of merchants that the world's financial press even called it "Japan, Inc." as it developed into a commercial powerhouse. The "young lions thereof" would be smaller Asian nations which copied the mercantile example of Japan in shaping their own economies. These nations include: South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Singapore, etc. The biblical expression "young lions" describes modern geopolitics in a strikingly accurate manner. There were no tigers in the ancient Holy Land so the Hebrew word for "lion" was used by Ezekiel. However, since the focus of this part of the prophecy is not the Middle East but instead is on the Western Pacific Rim where tigers are dominant over lions, the prophecy's translation could easily be the "young tiger" nations. The world financial press has called the nations of South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Singapore, etc. the "young tiger" nations for their aggressive export-driven economies modeled after the example of Japan.

It is easy to understand why Japan and the young tiger nations would not attack the USA and the West. Their economies are so linked to the West in banking, manufacturing, and trade relationships that any attack against the West would destroy their own economies! One could say China's attack is equally self-defeating but Ezekiel 38:12 reveals Russia and China have an overall goal of world domination. Japan and the "tiger nations" seek prosperity, not world domination. That Tarshish would not attack the nations of modern Israel is historically logical. Tarshish has enjoyed a commercial trading relationship with the Israelite nations since biblical times (II Chronicles 9:21).

Also, while the name of "Javan" is very similar to "Japan" and the mercantile policies of Japan argue that Japan is the nation identified in the prophecy as "Tarshish," one other possibility needs to be considered. The name of "Javan" is also present in "Java," one of the principal islands of the Islamic nation of Indonesia. Does the prophecy also imply Indonesia will not be allied with the attackers of the West? This is not clear. The nations of Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and India have received much help from America and the West in the aftermath of the great tsunami of 2004, and this factor argues in favor of a positive response toward America and the West, but such a response

is not certain. Indonesia may opt for an export-driven economy and become one of the "young tigers" allied to Japan or it may opt to ally itself with China and the radical Islamic nations.

What about "Sheba and Dedan?" These Cushite nations have more than one possible fulfillment in the modern world. Cushites are located in the Indian subcontinent and include nations such as Pakistan, Afghanistan, India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. There is another "brown"-skinned nation in Asia which has long been close to the USA. That nation is the Philippines, which is also a likely member of the Cushite family of nations. The Philippines have been linked to America since the Spanish-American war, and Filipino and American blood was shed together as allies in World War II. The Philippines are also located in the midst of the "young tiger nations" which are identified as not attacking the Israelite nations in the latter days, and it is logical that the Philippines are included among the "Sheba and Dedan" nations. However, there is a "wild card" in this analysis.

India is the largest Cushite nation, and it is also a Democracy. It is an axiom of world geopolitics that "democracies do not attack other democracies," and this would argue that India will not be with the anti-American alliance. Also, since the Ezekiel 38-39 alliance of anti-Western nations includes radical Islamic nations such as Iran (and Cushite Pakistan is strongly Islamic), it makes little sense that India, a historic rival of Pakistan and Islam, would be part of an East Bloc/Radical Islamic alliance against the USA. Furthermore, through the "outsourcing" of many jobs from America to English-speaking India, India is being drawn inexorably closer to the USA via economic ties. Because it was once a part of the British Empire, India retains historic ties to Great Britain and the English language is spoken by many in India. On the other hand, Russia was one of India's main weapons suppliers in the Cold War and India was a leader of the "Non-Aligned Nations" during the Cold War. Those non-aligned nations were generally perceived to be anti-American. Ezekiel 38-39 leaves the latter-day destinies of such important nations of India and Indonesia unclear. What can be said with certainty is that the modern Cushite nations will be divided: some will be allies of Russia and China and others will be allied to America and the Western alliance.

Ezekiel 38:14-16 includes commentary by God himself directed at Gog's alliance. God repeats verse 6's information that Gog's attack against Israel's nations will be out of the north, and that it will constitute a very large military force. God reiterates it will be fulfilled "in the latter days" (i.e. the end or

climax of this current age). God chides Gog's alliance that they will attack Israel while Israel is dwelling "safely." The Hebrew word translated "safely" in the *King James Version* of the Bible can also be translated "carelessly" or "without care."⁴ The word "carelessly" fits the context of this chapter better than "safely" because this prophecy makes it very clear that the Israelite nations will not be dwelling safely. Indeed, they are about to be attacked very violently, but they are dwelling carelessly, oblivious to the imminent danger. This fits the imagery of verse 11 that the Israelite nations would be dwelling "without walls or gates," having let down their defenses. Verse 12 acknowledges that the Israelite nations will be prosperous nations when they are attacked so in modern terms the Israelite nations will be pursuing materialistic comforts at a time when they should be preparing to defend themselves! In verse 16, God says he will "bring Gog" into Israel's land in order for God to "sanctify" and reveal himself to the world's nations when God himself intervenes in this war.

Ezekiel 38-39 Parallels other Prophecies:

Ezekiel 38:17 links this prophecy together with other biblical prophecies. God says of Gog's alliance: "Art thou he of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied...that I would bring thee against them?" This is a "smoking gun" verse in which God himself declares this prophecy has parallels in other, previously-inspired prophecies in the Bible. Let's look for such prophecies, knowing that they must pre-date the lifetime of Ezekiel in the 6th century BC. Genesis 49 was a prophecy given by Jacob (renamed "Israel") about the fates of the tribes of Israel in the latter days. Since it was for "the latter days," we know conclusively that it is for the same time context as Ezekiel 38-39. It also confirms that all of the 12 tribes of Israel will be present and involved in global events in the latter days, so no one can assert that the tribes of Israel "died out" or cannot be found. Indeed, this prophecy contains specific clues on how to find each of the tribes of Israel in the latter days, and the nations of the modern ten tribes of Israel are identified in this author's books which apply Genesis 49's clues to the modern world. [These books are available at: www.bibleblessings.net].

Genesis 49's prophecy dates to over a millennium before Ezekiel's lifetime so there is no question it was penned "in old time" from the perspective of Ezekiel's day. This prophecy foretells in verse 22-26 that the tribe of Joseph (the birthright tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh, the sons of Joseph) will have many "blessings" of prosperity, favorable climate, population growth, etc. during the latter days. However, verses 23-24

also foretell that these tribes will be attacked by enemies who hate them in the latter days. The term "Israel" was placed specifically on Ephraim and Manasseh (Joseph's sons) in Genesis 48:14-16 so the term "Israel" in Ezekiel 38-39 directly parallels Genesis 49's term for "Joseph." Ezekiel 38 reveals which nations will constitute the nations who "hate" and "attack" Joseph's tribes in Genesis 49. Interestingly, the imagery of Genesis 49 indicates the attack against Ephraim and Manasseh in the latter days will begin with archers shooting "arrows." In ancient times, arrows were long-distance weapons which were shot while far from an opponent. In modern applications, such weapons would be called ICBMS, cruise missiles, etc. Genesis 49:24-25 also states Joseph's tribes will not remain helpless against this attack. God is prophesied to strengthen Joseph's "bow" and "arms" to fight against his enemies, and God declares that he will personally "help" Joseph in this climactic war. This exact same theme is found in Ezekiel 38-39.

Another prophecy which predates Ezekiel 38-39 is Joel 2, which was written circa 800 B.C. (centuries before Ezekiel lived). Joel 2:1 confirms that its prophecy will be fulfilled just before "the day of the Lord," a time when God intervenes in human affairs. It describes God's angelic army which will not be hurt by human weaponry (verse 8), and adds that a great earthquake and heavenly signs will occur simultaneous to this event as God himself utters his voice at the head of this spiritual army (verse 11). Who do they intervene to protect and who do they attack? Verse 17-27 reveal that God intervenes to "spare his people" who are also called "Israel." This directly parallels Genesis 49 and Ezekiel 38-39 as those prophecies also address a time when God personally intervenes to rescue Israel (the ten tribes) at the end of this age. God's divine army attacks and slaughters an invading enemy which is called "the northern army" (Joel 2:20). He does so only after God's people pray and entreat him to intervene in their behalf (verses 17-20). This directly parallels Ezekiel 38 which described Gog's army as one which attacks Israel "from the north." The enemy army is destroyed by God in Israel's latter-day land which has an "eastern" and a "western" sea. What modern nation is known as the land "from sea to shining sea" because it is bordered by two oceans on its west and east? The United States of America, the latter day nation of Manasseh fits that description. Great Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, the nations of modern Ephraim, are also all located between eastern and western seas, just like the USA. All the nations of modern Joseph (or "Israel") fit the description of Joel 2's target nations which are attacked by a

northern army. The modern Jewish nation doesn't fit this description. It has a western sea, but the "Dead Sea" on its eastern side is not a "sea" defining its entire eastern border, but is rather a shriveled salt-water lake.

One more prophecy written before Ezekiel's time will be mentioned: Jeremiah 30. It describes a time of "Jacob's Trouble" (verse 7) which will occur in "the latter days" (verse 24). This parallels Genesis 49, Joel 2 and Ezekiel 38-39. This prophecy reveals that the attack against Israel is also directed *simultaneously* against Judah (the Israelis and Jews) as well as against "Israel" (verse 3). Verse 3 is badly mistranslated in the *King James Version* as most other versions of the Bible render the phrase not as "I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah..." but rather as: "I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel and Judah..." Jeremiah's prophecy confirms that the attack of Russia, China and Iran will be against the Jewish/Israeli nation as well as against the USA, the UK, NATO, etc. It is a time of global danger and warfare so great that it is unparalleled in human history (verse 7), but the prophecy declares Israel and Judah "will be saved" by God's divine action. This also parallels the previously-examined prophecies. The fact that this will be a time of unparalleled danger on the earth indicates that this event also parallels other prophecies in Daniel 11:40-12:4 and in Matthew 24:21 which call this time the "Great Tribulation." Combining all these prophecies together, it is the invasion of the nations of the latter day ten tribes of Israel by Russia, China, Iran, etc. which constitutes "Jacob's Trouble." However, the modern nations of Israel strike back with breathtaking violence against their attackers, quickly escalating this world war into a threat to all humanity (i.e. "the Great Tribulation" which threatens all life on our planet). All these prophecies are climaxed by Divine intervention which ends the war, saves the nations of Israel and ushers in the Messianic Age/the millennium.

⁴ *Young's Analytical Concordance to the Bible*, see word "Safely," p. 830 and see word "betach," Hebrew Lexicon Section, p. 8

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TO BE CONTINUED IN ISSUE #32**



**WAS CHRIST GOD BEFORE HIS
HUMAN BIRTH?**

by Nathaniel Burson
Big Sandy, Texas

Was Christ a created being? Did His existence begin in the womb of Mary? Who was the God, "Jehovah" of the old testament? Or did God create Christ, then have Him create the world?

This is quite possibly one of the easiest doctrines in scripture to prove. The idea that Christ didn't exist before His human birth is utterly without merit.

Acts 2:34-36 *For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, **The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, Until I make thy foes thy footstool. therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.***

Notice that THE LORD said unto DAVID'S LORD... This means that David dealt with "A LORD" and THE LORD was telling HIM what to do. This is God the Father speaking to Christ. If this needed confirmation, Peter then said that this is THAT SAME JESUS.

God then MADE that same Jesus – the LORD of the old testament, LORD and CHRIST. Not that He CREATED him, but he MADE HIM THE CHRIST. Because He is greater than Christ – as Christ, Himself said often.

John 17:5 *And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.*

Christ had GLORY with the father BEFORE THE WORLD WAS. He could not have had glory before the world was, if He didn't exist **before** He was in the womb of Mary.

John 8:58 *Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Before Abraham was, I am.***

John 6:38 *For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.*

John 3:13 *And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.*

I Corinthians 10:1-4 *Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers ... did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.*

Philippians 2:5 *Let this mind be in you,*

which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

He MADE himself of no reputation, and he TOOK upon himself the form of a servant, and then WAS MADE in the likeness of man.

Jude 1:14 *And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,*

Enoch's Lord was coming with ten thousands of his saints. Who is returning to earth with the saints behind him? Christ, no?

Job 19:25 *For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:*

This was probably written circa 1700 B.C.... and yet Job's "REDEEMER" LIVED THEN. Who is Job's redeemer, if not Christ?

In short, you can see that there is an enormous amount of actual statements that prove that Christ was the God of the old testament. There are even more fulfilled prophecies that prove it – for example:

Isaiah 44:24 *Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself; (See also **Isaiah 48:17**)*

Isaiah 47:4 *As for our redeemer, the LORD of hosts is his name, the Holy One of Israel.*

Christ is your redeemer... and HE is the one who formed you in the womb, and made all things. He spoke in first person (By saying "I") in the old testament. And notice that He calls himself the Holy ONE of Israel...

Mark 1:24 *Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.*

Isaiah 8:13-14 *Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem*

1 Peter 2:7-8 *[Speaking of Christ] Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were*

appointed.

These are just two of the most obvious examples. Next question, WHO Created the heavens?

Colossians 1:16-17 *For by him [Speaking of Christ] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.*

John 1:1-3 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.*

Christ, beyond a doubt, created the heavens and the earth. That is inescapable. Those who get confused on this generally refer to this scripture:

Revelation 4:10-11 *The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*

Revelation 5:5-7 *And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, ... And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.*

So what this is describing is a God on the throne, and the elders saying that HE created all things for HIS pleasure. Then, in the same scene, we see a Lamb before that same throne, and this Lamb – clearly Christ – took a book out of the hand of Him that sat on the throne – the one who "Created all things". Now, how do we reconcile this?

Hebrews 1:1-2 *God, ... Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;*

So we see the resolution of the conflict! God made the worlds BY CHRIST. Christ did the actual work, but God, as the Being ultimately in charge, is the one who gave the order! "And God said, Let US make man in our image, after our likeness..." (**Genesis 1:26**), and so Christ created man, gave him the breath of life, and here we are. Another scripture that can confuse people, is

Deuteronomy 6:4 *Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:*

God (the Father) is ONE lord. OUR Lord, Christ, serves him – and Christ came to earth

to reveal the Father.

Acts 3:13 *The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; ...*

So then, how can Jesus be the God of the old testament, if the God of the old testament glorified Jesus? Because while Jesus was the one who dealt with people in the old testament, God was ALWAYS the one behind the scenes.

Psalms 110:1 *The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.*

THE LORD – God the Father – was (and is) the ultimate authority. THIS God, God the Father, glorified His Son Jesus – who was the one who dealt with people in the old testament. So you see that all the scriptures CAN harmonize, without doing violence to any of them!

Colossians 1:12-15 *Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:*

There is only one last fallacy people believe about the preexistence of Christ. They believe all that we've said, excepting only that they believe God CREATED Christ, then He in turn created the world. There are many flaws with this – among which is the simple question... if God could create a perfect being like Christ, why did He only create one? Why, if He could make perfect beings, need we go through life? Why not just create us perfect, like Christ?

Hebrews 7:1-3 *For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace; Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.*

This priest, Melchisedec, who WAS Christ as Paul says in his references in the book of Hebrews, had neither beginning of life, nor end of days... If Christ had been created – even before the world existed – He would have had to have had a BEGINNING of days – and yet scripture says He HAD no beginning of days! So He COULDN'T have been created – He IS an eternal being! If they had only kept reading in Colossians, they would have seen the TRUTH not 3 verses away!

Colossians 1:18 *And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.*

Revelation 3:14 *And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;*

He was the FIRSTBORN FROM THE DEAD. Not that He was CREATED by God, but He was the FIRST ONE to ever DIE and then inherit ETERNAL life! As such, He was the BEGINNING of the Creation of Sons and Daughters, born from the dead, WITH ETERNAL LIFE IN THEM!

1 Corinthians 15:23-28 *For he [Christ] must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.*

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THE END**



An article in the 1991 edition of the *Epigraphic Society Occasional Publications (ESOP)* entitled "The Davenport and Newark Inscriptions," by Charles Moyer asserted that certain ancient North American artifacts and inscriptions could not be Hebrew because "the ancient Hebrews feared and hated the sea and have never shown any evidence of being a sea-faring people..." I do not believe that assertion can be substantiated, and the word "never" particularly misstates the historical reality of the ancient Hebrews. This article will document that the ancient Hebrews (i.e. "Israelites") had well-developed sea-faring skills. It will also show why historians have failed to recognize this fact.

Concerning ancient Israel's pre-monarchical period, it is stated in Judges 5:17; "Why did Dan remain in ships?" This comment is made in what is called "Deborah's song," and is a commentary describing what various tribes of Israel did (or did not do) in a victorious military battle. This

biblical comment indicates that the tribe of Dan was, at that time, closely identified with a maritime way of life. Some Bibles offer a date of 1200 B.C. as a guide for dating that battle.

Interestingly, Egyptian and Greek sources record that one of the tribes of the Sea Peoples, a sea-raiding people in the eastern Mediterranean at that time, were called the "Danauna" or the "Danaans." The Encyclopedia Britannica (1943 Ed., see Heading "Troy") cites the Egyptian and Greek accounts of these sea raiders and dates them to being present in the Levant "between 1230 and 1190 B.C." [Other sources render the spelling of these people as Danaouna or Danaoi, but all spellings cited include the easily recognizable root word "Dan"]. It is noteworthy that the secular historical dates coincide with the biblical dates for the tribe of Dan being a maritime tribe. Since one of the traits of the tribe of Dan was naming things after its tribal name (Joshua 19:47), it is not surprising that this maritime tribe would have its name recognizable in Egyptian and Greek accounts about them.

Also, the Hebrew tribes of Israel developed very strong maritime skills during the reign of King Solomon via their close alliance with the Phoenicians. Indeed, this alliance was so close that Solomon's alliance with King Hiram of the Phoenician city-states (which began under King David) led to many thousands of Israelites working in Phoenicia and vice-versa as the Hebrews and Phoenicians jointly implemented Solomon's prodigious building projects (I Kings 5). King Hiram shared the special maritime skills of the Phoenicians with the Israelite Hebrews (II Chronicles 8:18 records that Israelite mariners were taught by Phoenicians "who had knowledge of the sea.") II Chronicles 9:21 notes that the Israelites and Phoenicians jointly crewed a common navy. II Chronicles 9:10 and 21 mention Ophir and Tarshish as ports of call for their joint fleet, and the cargo manifest of "ivory, apes and peacocks" indicates their trading fleet had (at a minimum) African and Asian ports-of-call. Contained in my pending four-book set on Israelite history will be information documenting the specific technologies used by the Israelite/Phoenician mariners to navigate the world's oceans. As readers will see when these books are released, the Phoenicians had invented ingenious devices to enable them to navigate planned courses and headings on the open oceans, even in unfavorable weather! These ingenious devices were shared with the Israelites as part of the "knowledge of the sea." After receiving these technologies, the oceans became navigable highways for the Israelite mariners.

I Kings 9:26-27 records that King Solomon built a fleet which was home-ported

in Ezion-geber on the Red Sea, in which Phoenicians also served to teach the Israelites the "knowledge of the sea." This indicates that King Solomon's Israelite navy became a "two-ocean fleet" as his Mediterranean fleet could sail to Atlantic destinations, and his Red Sea fleet could sail to African, Asian and Pacific ports. I Kings 10:22 adds that the Israelites had at sea a "navy of Tharshish." Does this refer to a trading fleet that sailed to "Tarshish," or is there a distinct and separate meaning in the word "Tharshish?" Since "Tharshish" was the proper name of one of the patriarchs of the tribe of Benjamin (I Chronicles 7:10), it is possible the writer of I Kings used an Israelite clan name to designate a particular group of Israelites who were assigned to naval service. If so, they would have been readily known to the writer's contemporaries, but not to readers in the 20th century.

At any rate, Israelite mariners learned their "knowledge of the sea" from what are widely-acknowledged to be the very best maritime teachers available in the ancient world! There is no indication that the Hebrews "feared and hated the sea." Indeed, it appears King Solomon and the tribes of Israel under his rule were eager to learn the secret maritime skills of the Phoenicians and build their own naval fleets. Why wouldn't they be eager to learn such knowledge? There would have been a tremendous commercial, economic advantage to joining the Phoenicians' monopoly of the ancient world's sea routes.

The Egyptians were also very skilled mariners at that time, and Solomon's first father-in-law was the Pharaoh of Egypt (I Kings 9:9-16). This marriage between the royal houses of Israel and Egypt resulted in a tripartite Phoenician-Israelite-Egyptian alliance in Solomon's time.

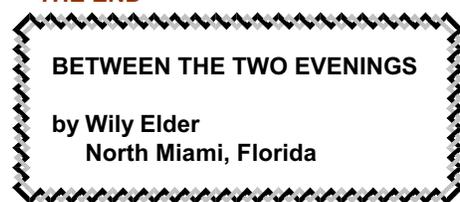
After the Hebrew tribes divided into a northern kingdom (Israel) and a southern kingdom (Judah), the Bible records that they became perennial enemies, fighting many wars against each other (albeit with a few interludes of peaceful relations). Biblical accounts show that while the northern kingdom, Israel (which was more populous as it contained ten Israelite tribes and Judah retained only two tribes), remained in alliance with Egypt and Phoenicia, Judah was afterward excluded from the Phoenician alliance. Indeed, the first ruler of the northern kingdom of Israel after the Israelite schism was Jeroboam, a prominent Israelite noble who had previously been a courtier of Egypt's Pharaoh Shishak (I Kings 11:40). This would have resulted in very favorable relations between Egypt and the ten-tribed kingdom of Israel. Evidence that Jeroboam retained a very strong affinity to Egypt is clear in his instituting Egyptian religion (calf-worship) in the northern kingdom of Israel (I Kings 12:25-

30). It is evident that Israel's alliance with the Phoenicians was long-lasting as, almost a century later, we find the royal houses of Israel and the Phoenician city of Sidon intermarried during the reign of King Ahab of Israel (I Kings 16:31). Likewise, Israel's long-standing attachment to the fertility practices of the Phoenicians also argues that the Israelite-Phoenician alliance was quite durable.

The alliances of Israel, the northern Hebrew Kingdom, with Phoenicia and Egypt, and their longstanding fealty to Egyptian and Phoenician religions, would have caused the northern kingdom of Israel to become culturally more like their allies, and progressively less like the Jews, their fellow Israelites from whom they were estranged. The Bible records that the Kingdom of Israel never seriously returned to the worship of the Bible's God, but remained steadfastly in the cultural and religious camp of the Egyptians and (especially) the Phoenicians. This would have resulted, as decades and centuries passed, in the "Hebrew" language of the kingdom of Israel becoming more like the already similar Semitic tongue of their close allies (the Phoenicians) and less like the "Hebrew" language of Judah (the Jewish Hebrew nation). I Kings 12:25-33 records that severing his people's religious and cultural ties to Judah was a deliberate, state policy of King Jeroboam of Israel! Given this fact, the northern kingdom of Israel would have progressively merged with the culture of their close allies in Tyre and Sidon. Modern archaeologists, who do not realize this fact, routinely label as "Phoenician" the artifacts and inscriptions made by Israelites of the northern Kingdom of Israel. The people of Judah, who retained a more distinctly "Hebrew" culture and language were much less numerous and were excluded from the Phoenician alliance, giving the mistaken impression that ancient "Hebrews" were an insignificant and land-bound people.

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THE END**



"Ben ha arbayim" is the famous "between the two evenings".

"And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it "in the evening" (Exodus 12:6,

KJV). In the King James we read, "in the evening."

Most people who study the Bible in depth in the original languages are aware that the King James Version contains some major mistranslations. One of the most blatant is the word "hell". When we first noticed this it may have been initially difficult for us to grasp because several different words in the original languages were translated as "hell". Another difficulty may have been the fact that we recognized that the person or persons guiding us to this knowledge had a different theology than the mainstream and therefore may have had the motive of taking us away from a religious association. On the other hand there are hundreds of religious associations who depend on fear (fear of going to an ever-burning hell) to keep their flock in line. The religious leaders have a vested interest in maintaining the status quo (the status quo, in this case, being a belief in an underground torture chamber for the purpose of eternal punishing).

Before going into the discussion of "between the two evenings" we should reflect on what is the most important part of your life. Is it what you do or when you do it? What you do is more important than when you do it. In a sense, the weekly Sabbath is an exception to this rule. In obeying the command to keep the weekly Sabbath, the when is the what because the seventh day is specified, not simply one out of seven. Also a young child can calculate the weekly Sabbath.

Can a young child calculate the annual holy days? No. Even adults have difficulty in this area. And to add to the problem there are always people who will implement the tool of fear in this area. We need to acknowledge that God knows where our heart is. He is not like some picky history professor who is happy to fail you when you can't figure out some obscure date. God is not trying to unnecessarily scare us. Why should we be trying to scare each other? Also why should we not be tolerant of each other's differences? There are no two people on the face of the earth who have exactly the same set of doctrines. However there will always be some that insist that their view of some particular date is absolutely correct and will assign people to the lake of fire if they disagree with them.

The Passover in which the central figure is the lamb, which represents Christ, is an activity that consists of at least 3 parts:

First part was obtaining the Passover lamb (Exodus 12:3). This was on the tenth of the month. No one disagrees with this date.

The second part was the killing of the Passover lamb (Exodus 12:6). This was on the fourteenth of the month. Most do not disagree on this date for the killing of the

Passover lamb.

The third part was the consuming of the Passover lamb (Exodus 12:8). This is the part that people disagree on. The lamb represents Christ in the Old Testament (and the unleavened bread represents Christ in the New Testament). So EATING the Passover is the controversial part. Obtaining the Passover (which Christians do not do) and killing the Passover (which Christians do not do) are of no significance. Symbolically we eat Christ, the Lamb of God, when we eat the unleavened bread of Passover. When should we do it? Obviously we should eat the unleavened bread of the Passover the same time when the Children of Israel ate the Passover lamb. It would be odd to do it at a different time unless circumstances did not allow for it. Christ did a rehearsal of the New Testament Passover with his disciples at an earlier date because he couldn't do it with them at the correct time that year. Why? It's because that year he became the Passover. On the fourteenth he was killed. On the fifteenth he was already in the ground.

Before we discuss "between the two evenings" it is important to point out how we investigate the truth.

The first obvious way we investigate the truth is to simply read the Bible in our language.

For most of the English speaking people that would mean reading the King James Version, the New International Version, the New American Standard Bible or some other translation.

If we find a difficult scripture that we do not totally understand we can look at different translations. Sometimes this will resolve a difficulty.

However after looking at various translations, if the difficulty has not been resolved, we may want to look at the original language, the Greek or the Hebrew. Years ago I used to look at the Strong's Concordance. The book weighed over 5 pounds. However it had every word (except short common words) in the Bible in alphabetic order, along with a number. The number, when you looked it up would give you the Greek or Hebrew and a definition. Strong's definitions are very short. But sometimes that is all that is needed.

Strong's definitions were generally good if all you needed was a one-liner.

And today, of course, we have the same system available in a computer that weighs less than one half pound.

But for the subject of "between the two evenings" we need more than a one-liner. For this we need to go to a regular Hebrew lexicon.

But before we consult the lexicon there is one other item we need to study in order to get an accurate perspective.

"Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and

to his disciples, Saying, The scribes and Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, [that] observe and do; but do not [do] after their works: for they say, and do not" (Matthew 23:1-3).

Christ said, in essence, the Pharisees were legitimate Jews (sitting in Moses seat). If they say observe something, then observe it. What they are telling you to observe is correct but don't practice their behavior. Many of them were not observing what they were telling others to observe. And on many occasions Christ told the Pharisees of their shortcomings. But he never denied they had the right to sit in Moses' seat. It was they (the Pharisees), the Jews, who had the oracles (Romans 3:1-2). But what about the other groups? What legitimacy did the Sadducees have? What legitimacy did the Samaritans have?

The Sadducees were considered by other Jews as being false Jews because they (the Sadducees) submitted themselves to their Roman overseers. They were basically a political group more so than a religious group. They did not even believe in the resurrection (Matthew 22:23-33), a very basic concept (the milk of the Word). When they were made into magistrates they would imitate the Pharisees because the people would not put up with them otherwise. Many of the Sadducees simply considered themselves to be philosophers. To apply any legitimacy to the Sadducees (relating to the oracles) would be a stretch of the imagination.

The Samaritans were originally Cutheans. They came from cuthah, a province of Persia. They migrated to Samaria. So they were called Samaritans. They pretended to be Jews when it was politically correct to be Jewish. They were non-Jewish at all other times. They claimed to be Sidonians when they recognized Antiochus as a god. Whereas the Sadducees were false Jews because their attitude and character was foreign to the rest of the Jews, the Samaritans were false Jews because, by blood, they were, in fact, foreigners. And in their fickle character they were foreigners. So to apply any legitimacy to the Samaritans (relating to the oracles) would also be a stretch of the imagination.

The lack of legitimacy of the Samaritans and the Sadducees is not only an issue in determining when to observe the Passover. It is also an issue in determining when to observe Pentecost.

Definition of Between the Two Evenings:

Let us look into the Hebrew lexicon for the heart of the matter.

The Gesenius Hebrew Caldee Lexicon gives us this information:

"Ben ha arbayim" or "between the two

evenings" is used as marking the space of time during which the paschal lamb was slain. It is also used as marking the space of time during which the evening sacrifice was offered. The Samaritans' opinion was that it was between the time of sundown and deep twilight. However the Pharisees and the Rabbinitists considered the time when the sun began to descend to be called the first evening (the little evening) and the second evening to be the real sunset.

The Samaritans did not know what the expression meant and thereby were in error.

For some this will not be enough proof. So let us cover another proof. It is an interesting time puzzle.

The Time Puzzle of Elijah Opposing the False Prophets of Baal:

In chapter 18 of 1 Kings, verses 21 to 46 is the story of how Elijah confronted the prophets of Baal and put them to shame (and to death). Let's notice the time frame.

The prophets of Baal tried for three hours to get their false god to put fire on the altar.

"And they dressed [it] and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon" (1 Kings 18:26). As of noon the prophets of Baal were still unsuccessful in their requests.

"And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry 'aloud maybe he's sleeping'" (1 Kings 18:27). Elijah is beginning to have some fun, making fun of these false prophets. Notice noon is mentioned again. Notice it is okay to poke fun at false prophets!

"And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the [time] of the offering of the [evening] sacrifice, that [there was] neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded" (1 Kings 18:29). This is the key. Notice again the word "midday". They continued until the time of the evening sacrifice. The word "evening" is in brackets because it is not in the original Hebrew. However, the only other sacrifice would have been the morning sacrifice. Could this have been the time of the morning sacrifice? That would have been impossible because, as we have seen, noon or midday was already past. Therefore we know it is the time of the evening sacrifice.

Now when was the evening sacrifice?

"The one lamb you shall offer in the morning; and the other lamb you shall offer at even" (Exodus 29:39, KJV).

"You shall offer the lamb in the morning; and the second lamb you shall offer between the evenings" (Exodus 29:39, Interlinear Hebrew Greek English Bible). It is "at even" or "between the evenings". Once again it is "ben ha arbayim". This is the same expression that is used to indicate the time of

the killing of the Passover lamb!

So the time of the killing of the Passover is between the two evenings. And the time of the evening sacrifice is also between the two evenings. So let us now see how this time frame (and the following events) applies to the time when Elijah was confronting the prophets of Baal.

"And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the [time] of the offering of the [evening] sacrifice, that [there was] neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded" (I Kings 18:29). So the prophets of Baal continued until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice (based on the information from the lexicon that would be about 3 PM, by pattern the same time when Christ died on the cross, years later). So does this time frame fit or does the twilight theory fit?

"And it came to pass at [the time of] the offering of the [evening] sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that you [are] God in Israel, and [that] I [am] your servant, and [that] I have done all these things at thy word" (I Kings 18:36). So the prophets of Baal gave up and Elijah started his prayer to God at the time of the evening sacrifice.

After Elijah prayed, fire came down and consumed the sacrifice, the wood, the stones, the dust, and the water (I Kings 18:38). The people fell on their face and acknowledged God (I Kings 18:39). The prophets of Baal knew their game was at an end. Elijah and the real prophets of God chased the prophets of Baal to the brook Kishon and killed them there (I Kings 18:40). Elijah went to King Ahab and instructed him to go, eat and drink and he mentioned the sound of the abundance of rain (I Kings 18:41).

Just think. All of this is happening after the time of the evening sacrifice (between the two evenings). If between the two evenings meant twilight then it would have been very dark by the time Elijah had his conversation with King Ahab. However we will see it was not dark.

"So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees" (I Kings 18:42). So Elijah climbed to the top of a mountain. This took energy and time.

Think of all that had happened up to this time (all after the time of the evening sacrifice). Elijah prayed and fire came down from heaven. Most of the people acknowledged God. Elijah and the prophets of God chased the prophets of Baal to the river. There, they proceeded to kill them. Elijah went to King Ahab and had a conversation with him. Then Elijah climbed mount Carmel. A conservative estimate for

all this activity would be two hours, allowing twenty minutes for each activity. If we considered between the two evenings to mean between sunset and deep twilight then that would bring us at least one and one half-hours into the night. But as we will see that is not the case.

"And said to his servant, Go up now, look toward the sea. And he went up, and looked, and said, [There is] nothing. And he said, Go again seven times. And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold there arises a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand" (I Kings 18:43-44). You would not be able to see a tiny cloud like a man's hand if it was dark. In fact you wouldn't be able to see any clouds clearly except those passing in front of the moon.

"And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare [your chariot], and get you down that the rain stop you not. And it came to pass in the mean while, that the heaven was black with clouds" (I Kings 18:44-45). You could not see the heaven (the sky) black with clouds if it was night. The sky would already be black. If there were lots of clouds at night, the sky would be faintly gray with clouds if, indeed, the clouds were even observable.

Therefore "between the two evenings" cannot mean between sunset and deep twilight. It has to mean what it really means. It is the space of time between the first evening (the time when the sun begins to descend) and the second evening (the sunset). It is between noon and sundown.

The two proofs that have been covered may not be sufficient evidence for some. After all, there are convincing arguments on both sides of the question. One might say, "If only we had a historical record of when the High Priests actually performed the sacrifice of the Passover." Well, guess what? There is such a record!

When Did the High Priests Actually Sacrifice the Passover?

The Jews do not sacrifice the Passover lambs now because there is no temple. When they do build a new temple and start to sacrifice Passover lambs they will be performing an unnecessary activity because Christ (who most of the Jews reject) is our Passover (1 Corinthians 5:7). However before the sacrifice of Christ the ceremony was valid. Is it possible to know when the High Priests (in the old days) killed the Passover lambs?

Josephus gives us the following account: "So these high priests, upon coming to their feast which is called the Passover, when they slay their sacrifices, from the ninth hour to the eleventh a company not less than ten belong to every sacrifice."

So the High Priests killed the Passover lambs from the ninth hour (3 PM) until the eleventh hour (5 PM).

So the Passover lambs were killed on Nisan 14, between the two evenings, from 3 PM to 5 PM, according to the rule given in Exodus.

"Your lamb shall be without blemish you shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening" (Exodus 12:5-6). We have already covered the fact that the King James Version, at times, says "evening" or "even" when the correct rendering is "between the two evenings".

The people did not eat the lamb raw after it was killed. It was killed between 3 PM and 5 PM on Nisan 14. Then it had to be cooked! By the time it was fully cooked and preparations had been made for the Passover meal it would be well past sundown. It would be the beginning of Nisan 15! The Passover was killed (sacrificed) on Nisan 14 and the Passover was eaten on Nisan 15.

Does Christ's Sacrifice Follow the Same Time Pattern?

Does the death of Christ follow this same pattern? Christ our ultimate Passover was killed on Nisan 14 at the ninth hour (3 PM) (Matthew 27:46-50; Luke 23:44-46). The ultimate Passover Lamb was killed at the same time the Passover lambs were being killed. We know the following day, an annual Sabbath (the first day of unleavened bread), was very near. Joseph, a counselor, was very quick to put Jesus' body into the ground before sundown, which would begin Nisan 15 (Luke 23:50-55). Did Christ's disciples eat the Passover (now symbolized by the unleavened bread instead of the lamb) on Nisan 15 as Christ had rehearsed it with them before his death? Considering the unconverted attitude of Peter (Matthew 26:74-75, Mark 14:68-72) at the time, the answer is, "probably not." They may not have done a proper Passover until the following year.

Is There Any Other Proof?

"Your lamb shall be without blemish you shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening" (Exodus 12:5-6).

We find the following in the margin of the Companion Bible, which uses the King James Version:

"in the evening. Heb. between the two evenings, or, according to Lightfoot, between the decline of the sun (after noon) and its setting."

One Last Proof:

This last proof is the easiest of all. If you have an electronic Bible or a computer Bible

in the King James Version, search for the word "afternoon". How many hits show up? Only one! Do you think that only one time in the entire Bible the afternoon is mentioned? No. Not by any stretch of the imagination can we conclude that the afternoon is spoken of only once. By way of comparison, morning is spoken of 214 times and evening 59 times. (Evening is also spoken of as "even".) So what happened to the afternoon? Is there an idiom that means "afternoon"? Yes, there is. It is "between the two evenings" translated in the King James as:

- ↵ "in the evening" (Exodus 12:6), re: Passover.
- ↵ "at even" (Exodus 16:12), re: Eating Quail.
- ↵ "at even" (Exodus 29:39), re Daily Evening Sacrifice.
- ↵ "at even" (Exodus 29:41), re: Daily Evening Sacrifice.
- ↵ "at even" (Exodus 30:8), re: Lighting the Lamps.
- ↵ "at even" (Leviticus 23:5), re: Passover.
- ↵ "at even" (Numbers 9:3), re: Passover.
- ↵ "at even" (Numbers 9:5), re: Passover.
- ↵ "at even" (Numbers 9:11), re: Passover.
- ↵ "at even" (Numbers 28:4), re: Daily Evening Sacrifice.
- ↵ "at even" (Numbers 28:8), re: Daily Evening Sacrifice.

The above 11 accounts are, in the Hebrew, "ben ha arbayim", between the two evenings. All of these events described took place at about 3 PM in the afternoon. Reading the King James, one would get the impression that the events took place after sundown, in the evening. By the same token, reading the King James, one would get the impression that there is an eternally torturing hell waiting for evil people at the end of their life.

We have covered the following:

- ↵ The definition of "between the two evenings" from the Hebrew.
- ↵ Time puzzle of Elijah.
- ↵ Actual time of the Passover sacrifices from Josephus.
- ↵ Parallel in time with the ultimate Passover sacrifice, Christ.
- ↵ Definition of "between the two evenings" from the Companion Bible.
- ↵ Logical requirement that an idiom must represent the word "afternoon."
- ↵ Six proofs have been presented here. There are many others.

Putting the information together, we can see the time frame:

1. Obtain the lamb on the tenth of Nisan (Exodus 12:3).
2. Kill the lamb on the fourteenth of Nisan (Exodus 12:6). Remember "evening" in the King James comes from "between the 2 evenings", an idiom for afternoon. The lambs were killed between 3 PM and 5 PM.
3. Eat the flesh of the lamb that night

(Exodus 12:8). The Hebrew day ends at sundown so this is a new day, the feast day, the first day of unleavened bread.

For the Christian:

1. Christians do not obtain a lamb.
2. Christians do not kill a lamb.
3. Christians do not eat a lamb; they eat the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, symbolic of Christ our Passover (1 Corinthians 5:7-8). If they ate a day or two earlier (or even before sundown) there would be no need to eat unleavened bread.

There is one scripture in the entirety of the Bible that would tend to make an argument for the Nisan 14 consumption of the Passover.

"For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread" (1 Corinthians 11:23). The following verses describe the rehearsal of the consumption of the Passover. The argument is made that this was not a rehearsal at all but the time the Passover consumption is to take place. The idea projected is that Christ was not only showing his disciples what to do but also when to do it. To back this up, the word "same" is emphasized. But the word "same" is not in the original Greek.

Finally, should we be friends if we observe consumption of Passover on a different day? Absolutely! We are not robots. We are disciples because we love each other (John 13:35). Our love should never be predicated on date setting.

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Bullinger Publications Trust, The Companion Bible, London, England: Marshall, Morgan and Scott, 1974, page 88, marginal reference of Exodus 12:6.

Green, Jay, The Interlinear Hebrew-Greek-English Bible, London, England, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981.

Josephus, Flavius, Antiquities of The Jews, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Kregel Publications, 1981, first paragraph of page 588.

Tregelles, Samuel Prideaux, LL.D., Gesenius' Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon to The Old Testament, Grand Rapids, MI., 1979, page 652.

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THE END**

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pm! Before the ad was removed at 10:30 pm on the 29th due to high demand, an amazing **1,130** people had submitted requests for the Ten Commandments calendar!

In only *seven* days a total of **1,315**

calendar requests came in not only from the U.S. and Canada, but also from countries such as: Algeria, **China**, Croatia, Ghana, **Iceland**, India, Kenya, New Zealand, **Pakistan, Poland**, Sri Lanka and Venezuela.

The free calendar, however, was not the only COG-related study material promoted on BibleStudy.org's very popular [Free Offer Page](#).

A book given away by another church of God member was also listed on the Free Offer page and attracted **524** orders from Nov. 29th to Dec. 3rd. Listed as well was a study DVD offered by the *Church of God, Worldwide Ministries*. From Nov. 29th to Dec. 1st the group was inundated with **651** requests from around the world.

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THE END**

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into the past. Christ died for 3 days and 3 nights (Matthew 12:38-40) but the Father has never died. Before the earthly ministry of Christ they (the Father and the Word) were together before the world was (John 17:5). This is a more difficult concept for the human mind to grasp. Eternally into the future is much easier to think about than eternally into the past. Jehovah (YHVH) is Jesus. And Jehovah (YHVH) is the Father.

Answered by:

Wily Elder

North Miami, Florida

Find Wily Elder's Web Site on our Links Page at: <http://darwinlauralee.150m.com>
Darwin & Laura Lee

Editor's Note:

For a related article on this subject, please see the article "Was Christ GOD Before His Human Birth?" by Nathaniel Burson. Find it in this newsletter in the articles section. Laura Lee

THE END**

IF YOU FIND BIBLICAL ERRORS IN ANY OF THESE ARTICLES, PLEASE EMAIL US WITH THE DETAILS.

OR SEND US THE DETAILS VIA SNAIL MAIL.

ALL CONTACT INFORMATION IS ON PAGE #2.

Laura Lee (Editor)

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Jan--Lymph Nodes are Swollen
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Un-Named Man--Lump on Testicle
Victims--Hurricane Rita
Victims & Helpers--Hurricane Katrina

PRAYER REQUESTS & UPDATES

prayer-requests-darwin-laura@earthlink.net

Adams, Patsy--Died 9-23-05
Alvis, Luke--Heart Transplant
Bryant, Lyna Jane--Lymph Node Cancer
Burry, Bill & Helen--Wheelchair & Cancer
Caughfield, Pauline--Swollen Ulva
Chumbley, Ronald--Colon & Liver Cancer
Cryer, Lia--Colon Cancer
Davis, Tammy--Hurricane Katrina
Dennis, Maxine--Terminal Pancreatic Cancer
Engle, Gabrielle--Food Poisoning
Finney, Krista--Losing Weight
Franco, Joseph--Personal Problems
Frey, Cindy--Eardrum Problem
Goodwin, Jay--Died 9-23-05
Hamilton, Jaunita--Infection & Cancer
Hart, Larry--Stroke
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Hendrickson, Wendy--Hermangioma
Hinton, Wayne--Radiation Treatments
Holmes, Eugene--Colon & Pancreas Cancer
Howard, Elizabeth--Growth on Tongue
Johnson, Bob--Back Surgery
Kerry, Jeff--Hurricane Katrina
Luce, Joseph--Premature Baby
Marlowe, Barbara--Health Testing
Marshall, Regina--Hurricane Katrina
Meek, Lucille--Hurricane Rita
Politte, Kenny--Leg Pain
Ross, Jim--Stage 4 Osteosarcoma Cancer
Savannah, Joyce--Health & Job
Smith, Doug--Died 9-23-05
Strahan, Kerry--Pituitary Malignancy
Sullivan, Christy--Possible Leukemia
Thom, Shelley--Spiritual Problems
Venezia, Norma--Neck Cancer
Wernecke, Katie--Cancer
Wiedemann, Rainer--Operation on Cornea
Williams, Kathryn--Copperhead Bite
Williams, Sue--Selection of Court Members
White, Sarah--Allergy to Medication
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Hubert, M. R.--2005 Feast
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Kramer, Ted--Cancer Tumor has Shrunk
Kurka, Bob--Colon Cancer
Lane, Lois--Died 10-12-05
Lewis, Bob--Died
Marlowe, Barbara--Mini Stroke
Melikidse, Nathan--Hepatitis C
Meliti, Matthew--Reconstructive Surgery
Mullen, Carmel--Colon & Liver Cancer
Roberts, Wayne--Bronchial Infection
Ross, Jim--Stage 4 Osteosarcoma Cancer
Sloan, Mike--Parole Hearing
Smith, Donald--Stroke
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Washington, Ron--Blood Clot in Lungs
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Austin, Speedy--Stroke
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Davidson, Pete--Surgery
De Soto, Robert--Cancer
Engle, Gabriele--Financial Problems
Fredde, Heather--Ovarian Cyst
Garcia, Richard--Infection
Gray, Sarah--Mammogram
Hendrickson, Wendy--Hermangioma
Hinton, Mike--Stroke
Hugus, Bob--Very Sick
Hugus, Helen--Alzheimer's
Jones, Jami--Paraplegic & Back Problems
Jordan, Theresa--Auto Accident
Kramer, Ted--Pneumonia
Krumrie, Edna--Cancer
Lucas, Sandra--Colon & Liver Cancer
Marlowe, Barbara--Medical Testing
Marsh, Kendra--Chest Pain
Meliti, Matthew--Surgery Recovery
Mellow, Mary--Eye Problems
Moran, James--Chest Pains
Prettyman, Mildren--Died 10-25-05
Qualls, Rene--Heart Problems
Rich, Tommy--Cancer Surgery
Ross, Jim--Stage 4 Osteosarcoma Cancer
Rowe, Mary--Financial Problems
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Austin, Rose--Died 10-9-05
De Jong, Rolf--Islamabad Earthquake
Frey, Cindy--Ear Surgery
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