

## Old Bottles, Inc., AKA The End-Time Church of God

by Nathaniel Burson (Big Sandy, Texas)

**Mark 2:21-22** *No man also seweth a piece of new cloth on an old garment: else the new piece that filled it up taketh away from the old, and the rent is made worse. And no man putteth new wine into old bottles: else the new wine doth burst the bottles, and the wine is spilled, and the bottles will be marred: but NEW wine must be put into NEW bottles.*

So who is He talking about? Who are these prophetic "Old bottles" being spoken of? The Bible does tell you. But do you know? Can you prove it? **More importantly, can you prove it isn't YOU?**

**The most foundational principle of Bible study is that the Bible interprets the Bible. The CONTEXT tells you WHO and WHAT the parable means!**

**Mark 2:15-17**, *And it came to pass, that, as Jesus sat at meat in his house, many publicans and sinners sat also together with Jesus and his disciples: for there were many, and they followed him. And when the scribes and Pharisees saw him eat with publicans and sinners, they said unto his disciples, How is it that he eateth and drinketh with publicans and sinners? When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the*

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## Bumbling Bureaucrats Award

by Jeffrey Caldwell (Redwood City, California)

The December 2006 Reader's Digest article, "The Year in Outrages" under the subheading "Bumbling Bureaucrats Award" reports (p. 44) that "federal auditors found that one in ten companies that receive contracts from the U.S. General Services Administration owed back taxes--a total of \$1.4 billion."

### It notes:

"While the law requires a check into companies' ethical records, it doesn't require a look at their tax status. And even if it did, that information isn't easily available to government workers.

It's not like this is a new problem: Contractors have been exposed for delinquencies for years. But the system never seems to change."

If you get a chance, take a look at the whole article. The government of our nation is supporting a criminal sub-culture. Not that that is anything new!

### Justice is called for as a remedy.

"When justice is done, it brings joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers" says Solomon (Proverbs 21:15). When fair and honest people are happy with a verdict, and corrupt and dishonest people

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## Who is Willing to Speak Out?

by Richard Markland (Troy, Ohio) (c) 2006 By Richard Markland

For all the ministers and brethren who know America will continue to decline and eventually collapse, how can we comprehend the times ahead? How can we begin to imagine the greatest nation in the history of the world destroyed from within and without? It will be a far more humbling experience than we can even begin to realize.

Recently, I have been focusing on pride and arrogance because I believe without a doubt in my mind the reason America will collapse is because of the deadly duo that is infecting the country. How many ministers and brethren really see it?

Lying is far more pervasive than people realize. It is simply the American way. It is the driving force behind Washington and it cascades to the average American. Honesty is non-existent overall and many people are totally oblivious to how common the lack of truth is. Only when each one of us is a direct victim of its tentacles, will we see first hand just how corrupt the system is and how it is determined to run over anyone in its way.

I hear comment after comment about the president and our elected leaders. What is said verbally can take on a whole new meaning

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## Discipleship and Stewardship

A Cure for Doctrinal Chaos and Organizational Disunity -- Part #2

by B. L. Cocherell (San Jose, California)

### Knowledge and Understanding

You are not given perfect knowledge and understanding of the Father's laws, precepts, and principles and the mysteries that are hidden within the Bible at the instant you receive the holy spirit. You must be educated in the things of the spirit, and this educational process takes time and effort. This is one of the reasons that the apostle Paul instructed the evangelist Timothy to "*Earnestly study to show yourself approved to God a worker unashamed*" (2 Tim. 2:15 Para.). See also 1 Thes. 4:10-12; 2 Pet. 3:13-18.

One who is newly adopted into the Father's family is not

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## God and the Gays -- Chapter #4

by David Ben-Ariel (Toledo, Ohio)

### Chapter Four

### OF VICE AND MEN

Why do we do the things we do? Who hasn't asked themselves that question at one time or another? Must we remain creatures of habit? Is there "No Way Out?" Even the apostle Paul wrestled with this problem, but he came to the happy conclusion that we can overcome all in Christ (Rom. 7:14-25; Philip. 4:13). But Christ Himself said it wouldn't be easy, and Paul basically admitted that we'd have to go through hell before Heaven would be established on earth (Acts 14:22). Yet as Thomas Paine declared: "The harder the conflict the more glorious the Triumph." And indeed there is a war within, a dueling conflict of interests, a dual nature that demands constant attention (1 Pet. 2:11; Ga. 5:17). True Christians are even compared to soldiers that must learn how to effectively fight and

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## LETTERS SECTION

**Isaiah 58:1** Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

**Ezekiel 33:8-9** When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

**Ephesians 5:11** And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove (expose) them.

**1 Timothy 5:20** Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.

### **President Bush Make a U-Turn (1-10-04)** **by David Ben-Ariel (Toledo, Ohio)**

Dear President Bush:

You have lost your way! It's such a tragedy because you could've become a hero in our British-Israelite history, judged as a great leader with character and conviction, yet you've chosen to ignore your conscience (to the peril of all) and have become drunk with delusions of a peace without biblical foundation! Now you shamefully follow the March of Folly with such comrades as Neville Chamberlain instead of Winston Churchill! Your misguided roadmap hurls the Middle East down the Highway to Hell and invites EU road rage (to ditch America and drive their stake into the heart of Israel and occupy Jerusalem!) Fasten your seatbelt! EU turbulence is just ahead! (Isa. 28:18).

President Bush, Commander-in-Chief of Manasseh, leader of the "Lost Tribes" and head of Joseph: May you wholeheartedly repent of your accursed involvement with lying peace treaties (signed with blood) that will soon be littered (with many lives) along the way and encourage Israel to know President Ronald Reagan's "peace through strength" and Rabbi Meir Kahane's biblical solution to liberate the Arab-occupied territories, annex them and expel all who refuse to live in peace within the Promised Land of Israel (not Ishmael).

After all is said and done, and you kneel before our common Creator and face our Jewish Lord and Savior - as a professing Christian, you know the Holy Land is given to the Jews (as custodians for all 12 Tribes) and that the God of Israel cannot be mocked and doesn't renege on His promises. Why would you reward ungodly terrorists by erasing our forefather Israel's name off the map to supplant it with "Palestine" (Ps. 83)? Why would you dare to dismantle the Temple (Jerusalem) and dismember our Mother (Jewish homeland) to divide Israel's inheritance among those, whose illegitimate claims don't hold water? (Joel 3:2, Jer.

2:13). Who are you to tempt the Lord your God? Don't you know that the nations are soon to be judged for defiling the Holy Land with their unholy presence as "peacekeepers" and unnecessary meddling as mediators? Does God need the bloody UN to impose their will on His City or the German-Jesuits to stamp the Middle East with their Merovingian mark?

President Bush, descendant of King David through your royal lineage: May God bless you to keep the Faith, uphold Jerusalem and boldly support the Scriptures and prosper rather than vainly attempt to override them and miserably fail! May the God of your fathers bless you to make a u-turn and burn with His zeal (untouchable to hostile men or nations) and shine with the light of His Word, filled with His Spirit of joy (knowing God's anointing is upon you and that the faithful are praying for you!).

Sincerely,  
David Ben-Ariel

**Letter found on line at:**  
<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-01.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

### **Site Helps Me (9-17-06)** **by Lisa Burnett (Middletown, Ohio)**

Thank you for this wonderful site. It has been very helpful for me during a 'time of sadness'. My mother is very ill and the inspiration from this site helps me tremendously. Thank you, thank you and thank you again. Blessings.

**Letter found on line at:**  
<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-02.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

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**("God and the..." continued from page 1)**

become toughened in the process (2 Tim. 2:3; 1 Tim. 6:12). We're commanded to kill carnality, subdue sin, and force ourselves into line (Col. 3:5; Mat. 11:12). Of course, it's only through the power and Spirit of God that we're able to overcome, grow, and conquer all of those things that would love to tear us down (Ps. 60:12; Ephes. 6:10-17).

What is one man's strength is another man's weakness, but we must all struggle to attain God's Image through the process of conversion (Philip. 3:12). We're to become spiritually stronger by carrying our cross and bearing our burden; they're to make us and not break us. Although we're presently only too human, we're offered the opportunity to increasingly partake of the divine nature and holiness (2 Pet. 1:4), experiencing in advance the glory of God's Kingdom (Heb. 6:5); all contingent upon our response to God's lead, submission to His Will, and the exercising of His Spirit (Rom. 8:14).

Considering how transcendent true spirituality can be, why do we allow ourselves to lower our sights and settle for less (Rom. 8:6)? How damnable are such distractions that would disrupt our clear concepts of Christ and His Kingdom! Satan attempts to short-circuit God's Spirit, cause static on our wavelength to Heaven, and overload our minds to jam God's message (Ephes. 2:2).

We're to keep life's purpose uppermost in mind, putting all things in perspective, enjoying the light of this Vision (2 Tim. 1:7; Ephes. 1:17-19). Yet the god of this present world's system has blinded his subjects to their glorious potential (2 Cor. 4:4), led them astray by tinsel temptations, and enslaved them through deceitful sin.

**Adrenalin and Ego**

The Bible reveals that two of men's biggest problems are LUST and PRIDE (1 Jn. 2:16). They go hand in hand, and are like a dog chasing its tail: a vicious cycle. Why do we keep going out to the bars? Because it's an addiction. When you're all dressed up, and want to strut your stuff, where else is there to go? It's adrenalin and ego. They're partners for life - or death. They artificially energize us and bring us back for more.

Who doesn't like to cruise and be cruised? There's always that challenge of the chase, that anticipation of the evening. But what if the next time your catch includes some sexual disease? Are you ready and willing to exchange the cool clothes and hot look for a hospital robe? Those boots that are made for walkin' for slippers? That well-groomed hair for baldness? Go from Mr. Popular to poor pariah? It is a possibility. It is reality. But then we don't like to think about

such disturbing thoughts, and besides, it always happens to someone else, "the other guy." At least so far. Well? Another notch on the bedpost might be another foot in the grave. This is a serious subject and an uncomfortable one, but as far as promiscuity goes - you've got to stop it, before it stops you!

We're told that the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life (Rom. 6:23). Ultimately, the penalty for every sin unrepented of is death (Rev. 21:8), but some sins exact their penalty quicker than others. Is AIDS a plague sent from some angry God? Could He be upset with our stubborn ways (Mk. 3:5)? Is it possible God has simply taken away His protective shield (Isa. 5:5), and left us at the mercy of cause and effect (Jer. 2:19; 4:18)? God reveals that same-sex practices are self-destructive and contrary to what's natural (Rom. 1:26-28). He also explodes the myth that it's harmless and declares both minds and bodies become abused (Ps. 107:17). Does this stark fact justify "gay-bashing?" NO! We need to pray for those entangled in sin's web.

Nothing's so hypocritical as a straight couple (living together with children out of wedlock) getting interviewed as they watch the spectacle of a "Gay Pride" parade. Shaking their heads, they say: "We just think it's disgusting. Besides, the Bible says it wrong." Since when did they ever care about what the Bible has to say? It probably has a few things to say to them also! Everybody needs to get their act together and straighten up (Isa. 40:3). We could all use some "home-improvement" (1 Cor. 6:19-20). Whereas there are many sins - and sin is simply breaking God's code of conduct (1 Jn. 3:4) - this booklet's specifically dealing with homosexuality, although the principles contained within these pages pertain to all.

**Offensive Stereotypes**

What's so difficult for heterosexuals to comprehend is that being gay is as normal for homosexuals as being straight is for them. And that many homosexuals also can't understand the sexual attraction of straights. Both "sexes" are a mystery to each other! Gays are quite capable of appreciating a woman's mind, beauty or charm - but are generally repulsed at the thought of having sex with one! Many women adore their unique relationships with homosexuals because they know they're accepted for who they are without any ulterior motives. It's refreshing to be free of sexual harassment or pressure. Although there are other women who consider gay men a tremendous turn on, and are titillated by the challenge to be their first and "convert" them.

It's offensive to be thoughtlessly thrown in together, as if we all shared the same

sexual desires or fantasies, or to be stereotyped as drag-queens or pinko sissies! Homosexuals are individuals and as different from one another as heterosexuals are. We have our "Marlboro Men" as well as a "Minnie Mouse" or two, some who are promiscuous and others who remain monogamous or celebrate celibacy. And the idiotic idea that homosexuals will jump for anything that happens to be male is an insult. Don't flatter yourself. Homosexuals have their own tastes, preferences and standards (or lack of them) like everybody else. Should that be so surprising?

Homosexuals shouldn't be equated with rapists. Rarely would they force themselves upon anyone who wasn't a willing person or a consenting adult. However, as in the "straight" world, there are those ugly exceptions to the rule who don't know how to take no for an answer or keep their hands to themselves. This isn't an attempt to promote homosexuality (it doesn't need any) or enlist hungry recruits. It's an honest effort to dispel myths and help rid people of dangerous misconceptions. Only the truth can liberate us from lies and deliver us from deception. A new and improved understanding is essential for everybody's growth.

As for those who might forget that homosexuals are human - whom Christ also died for and seeks to save - they'd do well to remember that immature name-calling falls into the same category of those who could be held in contempt of court (Mat. 5:22).

Hate-words such as nigger, spic, kike or faggot aren't representative of God's Kingdom. But then again, neither is yelling bigot or such brand names as sexist, homophobe, and racist (1 Jn. 2:9). Condemning all Christians because of the words or actions of a few is foolish.

Sometimes we need to forcibly remind ourselves that everyone is potentially in God's image. We must hate the sin, but never the sinner. And we should hate the sin - not just because it upsets us or disturbs us personally - but because it's harming the sinner (whom we should love). This goes against the flow and demands that we rise above ourselves and our petty prejudices, but it's prayerfully possible (Mat. 5:45). And again, there are degrees of homosexuality. Some are "gay all the way" or bisexual (double trouble!), while others only experiment with it and decide it's not for them. There are also those who wish to God they were straight and could marry and have a family (often due to unbearable pressure or religious convictions).

Few homosexuals are mass murderers or child-molesters, contrary to exaggerated fears and bizarre movies of twisted individuals. Any "sex-offender" will be denied entrance into God's Kingdom (Rev. 21:27).

Perverts will find themselves prevented from spoiling Paradise. It's not just because of their physical acts, but because of their mind's spiritual miscarriage. It's their attitude, not just their selfish actions, that abort their royal birth.

Active homosexuals and practicing heterosexuals, must repent of their sexual sins and become practicing - not just professing - Christians! It's something that will have to be kept under control daily, even though it can be frustrating and frightening to forego such a personal part of our lives, but it's for a good cause: God's Kingdom (Isa. 56:4-5).

Remember, as stated before, God forbids any premarital or extramarital sex. He hasn't made an exception for homosexuals. There's no preferential treatment. Even if God did allow homosexuality - which He doesn't - that wouldn't excuse continued careless sex, but would require of homosexuals the same as heterosexuals: no illicit sex, a strictly monogamous relationship, and a sure commitment. God doesn't have a double-standard.

We have to overcome lust or it will overcome us. Without a doubt, sex is one of the greatest physical sensations. No wonder it's so popular - but it comes and it goes. Since we're here today and gone tomorrow - is sex (or a relationship) really worth giving up eternal life for? If we could only begin to grasp how transcendent, pure and glorious our spiritual experiences are destined to be - the rotting flesh can't compare! The divine delights are so far superior, utterly indescribable to mortal man, that it's mind-boggling! God is the joyous Fountain of Life with flowing Rivers of endless Pleasures (Ps. 16:11; 36:8)!

### **The Fire Within**

Everyone - gay or straight - has the "fire" within (1 Cor. 7:9). Some burn more than others, but it's still there. God understands proper sexual desire and simply commands that we develop His character to control and channel it. He knows our human need to love and be loved, to touch and feel, to give of ourselves totally in a reciprocal relationship. However, God requires that we find such fulfillment within the safe and secure boundaries of marriage, lest we careen out of control with unwanted children, abortion, devastating disease, scarred minds and abused bodies (Heb. 13:4). But it can be traumatic if you're NOT straight and marriage isn't an option! It's heartbreaking and gut-wrenching, initially, to realize God might want you to remain single, without a significant other (1 Cor. 7:24; Matt. 11:6). Although just being straight doesn't guarantee you'll ever marry, there's always that hope. Everything must be kept in Biblical focus or you'll lose

your mind and salvation! God PURPOSELY calls some who aren't attached (1 Cor. 12:18). Why? It's easier for them to be wedded to God's Work and married to Christ's Mission (1 Cor. 7:32,35; Matt. 19:12).

Therefore, if someone can see through the smokescreen of exploited emotions and desires, and decides to love and obey Christ through it all - rejecting sin's advances and turning down its many propositions - God will highly honor and respect their efforts. He promises to love and comfort them, and graciously grant them an even greater strength and peace of mind (Jn. 14:15-16, 27).

Dare to be different. Don't just follow the crowd - especially when they don't even know where they're going! The sooner you recognize the seriousness of sin, and act accordingly, the better (Ecc. 12:1). Youth is transient and one-night stands are vain. Wake up and smell the coffee!

Sin must become unthinkable (Jas. 1:14-15)! We can't afford to entertain any thoughts that would drag us both down and under, sweeping us away again (Mat. 5:28). We shouldn't risk going past the point of rescue. We should've learned our lesson by now and feel enough is enough! Haven't we graduated from the school of hard knocks? Therefore, we're sufficiently educated to reject the trial and error approach (1 Pet. 4:3). We know which "school of thought" is worthwhile and offers any sort of a future.

Understanding that we're living on borrowed time, that we've been given a new lease on life, and that we had been on death row (and yet received an unbelievable pardon from our Governor) - we must let go of the past and its corrosive influence (Philip. 3:13). We're to be dead to our old way of life and thinking (Ps. 146:4), and accept the resurrection that is in Christ (Rom. 6).

We're no longer to imbibe of alcohol excessively, but instead be imbued with God's Holy Spirit (Ephes. 5:18). Our new moderation is intended to magnify God's glory, revealing His influence in our lives (Philip. 4:5). And we're not to be surprised when our old friends and former acquaintances express shock or challenge our change (1 Pet. 4:4). It doesn't compute with their old way of thinking. They're relying on out-dated information and really don't know the new you!

Knowing how grave and deceitful sin can be (Heb. 3:13), we're not to offer it any occasion to oppress us (Ephes. 4:27), nor ever attempt to compromise or participate in the charade of a "peaceful coexistence" (Deut. 7:2). Therefore, aware of the inherent dangers, we're to avoid those people, places or things that would throw fuel on our fire (Prov. 1:10; 4:14-15; 2 Tim. 2:22). Don't set yourself up for a fall, or be fooled by selfish

flattery (Prov. 7:21), or seduced by lying eyes (Prov. 6:25). In short, beware of the "devil in blue jeans!"

God can break the grip and release us from whatever hold vice might have on us (Isa. 45:2; Ps. 107:16). We don't have to remain creatures of habit. We can become God's Sons and Daughters. There is a Way out: God has provided us with a marvelous Door of opportunity - but we must walk through it (Jn. 10:9). Instead of suffering paralysis (like prisoners of the past), let's look forward and go ahead, confident of our bright future (Mat. 13:43; Philip. 1:6).

**Read the entire article at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/a2006-034-03.htm>

**\*\*to be continued in Issue #38\*\***

### **("Discipleship and..." continued from page 1)**

expected to immediately know and understand everything contained within the Bible. Moreover, you are not expected to know everything about the Father and his Son during this lifetime. However, it is the Father's will that we grow in spiritual knowledge and understanding in order for us to fulfill the goals he has for us individually and collectively.

Did the early church study what is commonly called the New Testament today? The answer is no. They did not have these writings in the format in which we have them today. The early church studied the law and the prophets and the writings set forth prior to the advent of Christ, as well as the writings of the apostles as they were made available to them. See Acts 1:20, 7:42, 15:13-31, 24:14, 28:23; 2 Tim. 3:13-17.

You must diligently study the entire Bible if you are to have a depth of knowledge and understanding about the Sovereign Father and our Savior, the Father's plan of salvation for humanity, what it means to be a student of truth and the way of truth, what it means to be a steward in the Father's family, and how to gain his approval as a steward in his earthly family.

King Solomon, to whom God gave great knowledge and wisdom, gave the following advice to a righteous person:

- *"The heart of him that has understanding seeks knowledge: but the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness"* (Pro. 15:14 KJV).
- *"The heart of the righteous studies how to answer: but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things"* (Pro. 15:28 KJV).
- *"The heart of the prudent gets knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge"* (Pro. 18:15 KJV). See also Pro. 4:5-7, 16:16; Psa. 119:103-105.

Solomon's observations on this subject are worthy of careful consideration because of the current doctrinal chaos and lack of unity within the Father's family. Solomon also gave the following advice about trusting one's own intellect in spiritual matters: "*Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not rely on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and depart from evil*" (Pro. 3:5-7 Para.).

If we rely on our own intellect to provide knowledge and understanding into the Father's truth and way of truth and his hidden mysteries, we will fail miserably. The prophet Isaiah recorded this about the great difference between God's thoughts and ways and ours: "*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts*" (Isa. 55:8-9 Para.).

Even though we are of the new creation, our thoughts and ways are not always in harmony with our Heavenly Father's simply because we are still subject to the human perspective and thought process. Our Father's thoughts are from his perspective; therefore, his thoughts are so far above our own that we cannot begin to comprehend the difference until we begin to think like him.

How are we to overcome the obstacle of our human perspective and thought process in order to think like the Father, live in harmony with his ways, and fulfill our functions and responsibilities within his earthly family? In order to do this, we must diligently seek to be educated in his thoughts and his ways and practice them to the best of our ability (Heb. 5:14). Only then will we begin to know what and how he thinks, the greatness of his plan for us and humanity, and how to become a responsible and profitable steward in his family.

### **PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The apostle Peter gave this important instruction to those who are to learn and practice truth and the way of truth: "*Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.*" (1 Pet. 2:1-3 NIV).

Just as a mother's milk gives an infant certain protection from disease and sustains its rapid development during its first few months of life, pure spiritual nourishment helps a child of God grow in God's truth and way of truth. Moreover, pure spiritual milk not only nourishes and sustains you in the early stages of your spiritual development but also

helps you to grow into and maintain spiritual maturity.

### **Add These Things**

After the apostle Peter's greeting in his second letter, he said this about things that must be added to one's spiritual make-up: "*Diligently add to your faith virtue; to virtue knowledge; to knowledge temperance; to temperance patience; to patience godliness; to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that you shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ*" (2 Pet. 1:5-8).

You cannot add to what you do not already possess. You cannot come to understand the essence of these godly attributes if they are not clearly explained to you.

Of all of the causes of doctrinal chaos and lack of unity among the congregations and scattered members of the Father's earthly family during this age, the single most damaging is the lack of a clearly defined and structured educational system to guide a newly adopted son from spiritual infancy to spiritual maturity.

A major cause of a dysfunctional educational system within the scattered congregations of the elect is that many who lead the Father's children are not seeking to improve their spiritual knowledge, add to it, or perfect the basic truths that they currently understand. Because these spiritual leaders hesitate to venture into areas of study that are challenging or uncomfortable and do not attempt to broaden their knowledge of the things of God, most of those they teach and serve also stand still in their spiritual growth. They just hold on to what they have and do not add to or perfect their spiritual knowledge.

Going over and over the same basic knowledge that one has already learned does have its advantages. However, if this is all that is taught, it does little to expand one's knowledge of the Father's truth and way of truth and limits growth in the grace and the knowledge of the Father and his Son.

Regardless of whether or not one has the opportunity to be taught by a knowledgeable spirit-filled teacher within the Father's earthly family, each person is personally responsible to extend the boundaries of their spiritual education in order to grow in spiritual maturity and to equip themselves to fully carry out their personal responsibilities and functions within the Father's extended family.

In many of Paul's letters, he spoke of the necessity for a person to become educated in the things pertaining to one's calling. To the Colossians and Philipians he said the

following: "*For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that you might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That you might walk worthy of the Lord to all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God*" (Col. 1:9-10 KJV).

*And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; That you may approve things that are excellent; that you may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ*" (Phil. 1:8-9 KJV).

Notice that all of the godly qualities and knowledge that Peter and Paul mention must be learned, some of which take more effort to learn than others. The only way that a person can follow these instructions of Peter and Paul is to be a willing, dedicated, responsible, and teachable student of the Father's truth and way of truth. Notice also that some of the reasons for being educated in these things is to have the intellectual tools to help you live and perfect a righteous lifestyle and be able to perform good works.

### **THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE**

The fundamental issue that each person who is called to salvation during this age must come to grips with is whether or not to perform the Father's will in their life to the best of their ability and put forth a diligent effort to hold in check the old nature.

When all is said and done, the tests and trials of this life are over, and you stand before the Father and his Son to be judged for what you have done with the opportunity that you were given, the fundamental issue that will determine whether or not you are granted immortal life along with rewards and positions of authority in the Kingdom of God will be how you have performed the Father's will during your physical life.

What does knowing the Father's will and performing it have to do with discipleship and stewardship? It has everything to do with being a student of truth and a steward of your functions and responsibilities in the Father's earthly family, because you cannot adequately fulfill either without knowing the Father's will for your life.

### **THE FATHER'S WILL**

Jesus said that he came to do the will of his heavenly Father and to be an example of how to please him. If you want to know and understand the Father's will and how to please him, you must first look to the Father's teachings through Christ and the apostles: "*All who listen to my instructions and follow them are wise, like a man who builds his house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents, and the floods rise and the storm winds beat against his house, it won't*

collapse, for it is built on a rock. But those who hear my instructions and ignore them are foolish, like a man who builds his house on the sand. For when the rains and floods come, and storm winds beat against his house, it will fall with a mighty crash" (Matt. 7:24-27 LBP). See also 1 Jn. 2:5-6; Phil. 2:5; 1 Tim. 6:17-19; 2 Pet. 3:18.

"I, of myself can do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not my own will, but the will of the Father who has sent me" (Jn. 5:30 KJV Para.). See also Jn. 6:38.

The scriptures clearly show that the Father's will (i.e., his purpose) for his earthly children is no secret, and it can and must be known and understood if one is to grow toward spiritual maturity.

How do you determine and understand the Father's will well enough to be able to set the correct course throughout your life, and how do you gain the knowledge and understanding to make correct spiritual decisions?

Ancient Israel relied on the priests and the prophets to reveal the Creator God's will to them, but during this age, there is no central authority on earth governing and clearly and concisely teaching the Sovereign Father's truth to his family of king-priests who are scattered throughout the nations. Because of this current situation, you must rely on the written word of God and the guidance from the holy spirit to reveal the Father's will to you. See Jn. 14:26.

### Be Wise

The apostle Paul cautioned the Ephesians, "Do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is" (Eph. 5:17 Para.).

How important is it to know, understand, and do the Father's will in your life?

Knowing, understanding, and doing the Father's will is important to being a productive and beneficial member and citizen within the Father's earthly family and holy nation of king-priests.

The apostle Paul said to the Ephesians concerning doing the Father's will, "As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received" (Eph. 4:1 NIV). See also Col. 1:9-10; 1 Thes. 2:12; 2 Thes. 1:11; Rev. 3:4.

To know, understand, and do the Father's will is vitally important to your salvation; because, if you do not do what you know and understand to be the Father's will for your life, you are not truly a member of the Father's family in mind and spirit. Concerning his Father's will, Jesus said, "Whoever does the will of God, that person is my brother, and my sister, and mother" (Mk. 3:35 KJV).

The following warning of Jesus clearly

shows the result of not knowing, understanding, and doing the Father's will in your life to the best your ability: "Not everyone that says to me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven; but he that does the will of the Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in your name, and in your name cast out devils and in your name done many wonderful works? But, I will say to them, I never knew you: depart from me, you that work lawlessness" (Matt. 7:21-23 KJV Para.). See also Rom. 12:2.

These are people who sincerely thought they were living in obedience to God and were worthy of eternal life. However, the path that they chose is actually in opposition to God's way of life. Although these people have done great works, they have missed the mark and their efforts have been in vain, because they have been practicing lawlessness. They have either never been on the path of righteousness or they have veered off of it and onto a path that has led them away from God.

Because it is the Father's will that we live in harmony with his laws, it should be obvious that to avoid the violation of these laws you must first be educated in what is lawful and what is not. This is one of the reasons the educational system was instituted within the Father's earthly family and one of the reasons that you must be a perpetual student of truth.

Jesus said that only those who do the Father's will can be granted entry into his Father's heavenly realm, family, and kingdom. Therefore, it is essential to know what the Father's will is and how to perform it in regard to being a student of his truth and a steward of the functions and responsibilities that he has assigned you as a member of his earthly family.

You must be doing the Father's will to the extent of your understanding of his will; otherwise, you are a worker of lawlessness, which is rebellion against his will. Anyone in rebellion against God will have their life terminated in the Lake of Fire. This is the second death from which there is no return.

In the end of this age, there will be many of the Father's children who truly know the Father's will concerning their lives, but for some reason they will refuse to do what they know they should do. To these unfaithful servants Jesus gives the following warning: "And that servant, who knew his master's will, and did not prepare himself, and did not perform according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes" (Lk. 12:47 Para.).

These are individuals who talk the talk of righteousness, but do not walk the walk of a truly righteous person who is interested in learning truth and the way of truth in order to

practice it.

When the warnings in Matthew 7:21-23 and Luke 12:47 are viewed in the context of being a student of the Father's truth and way of truth, your stewardship, your functions and responsibilities within the Father's family, and the punishment of the six churches mentioned in the Book of Revelation, the seriousness of knowing, understanding, and performing the Father's will to the best of your ability should motivate you to action. See Revelation, chapters 2 and 3.

### GOD'S WILL CAN BE KNOWN

If we do not know the Father's will, we cannot be expected to do what he wants us to do; therefore, he gives us an understanding of his will. Moreover, it does not take much study into the Bible to know and understand what he wants us to do with our life here on earth.

Just as the ancient Israelites could come to know and understand the Creator God's will through the study of his written word, the Father's earthly children can also know and understand his will this way. Although the Sovereign Father has intentionally hidden much of his awesome purpose from most people, his will for his earthly children is made known to them if they make a diligent effort to search for it.

The apostle Paul said the following about your ability to know and understand what the Father's will is for you: "See that you walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, you do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is" (Eph. 5:15-17 Para.) See also Col. 1:7-10.

"Therefore, don't you be conformed to this world: but you be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you can prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Rom. 12:2 KJV Para.). See also Dan. 12:4,10; Eph. 1:9-11; 1 Pet. 1:12; 1 Jn. 2:17.

Yes. The Father's will can be known and understood by those whom he has called to salvation, because knowing and understanding his will is a part of one's calling. Each person whom the Father has called to salvation during this age must know and prove what his will is for their life. Concerning God's will, King David said, "Teach me to do your will; for you are my God: Your spirit is good; lead me into the land of righteousness" (Psa. 143:10 KJV).

David understood that he had to be taught to do God's will, and that he had to be led by the Creator God--the teacher--in order to know how to be righteous.

In order to be mentally equipped to serve and please the Father, you must be a diligent student of his truth and way of truth so that you will know what he expects of you and

how to accomplish what is expected.

Because knowing and understanding the Father's will is vitally important to those he calls to salvation, he has provided two easily understood methods through which his children can receive help to gain this knowledge and understanding. These two methods are communicating with him and studying and meditating on his truth and way of truth that is contained in the Bible.

### **BUT HE THAT DOES NOT BELIEVE**

Mark records the following much overlooked and misunderstood warning given by Christ along with the instruction to proclaim the Gospel and enroll students in the truth and way of truth: *"You go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that has faith and is baptized shall be saved; but he that does not believe shall be damned"* (Mk. 16:15-16 Para).

Many view this warning as meant only for those who dismiss the good news message when they hear it. Although there is much truth to this viewpoint, there is a serious warning here for those who initially have faith in the message, accept the opportunity of salvation, receive the indwelling of the holy spirit, and then do not follow through with their commitment to the Father.

Being a member of the Father's family and a pupil of Christ is much more than just simple belief. True belief includes a lifetime commitment to fulfilling the functions and responsibilities of your calling. A major part of this commitment is becoming conversant with the Father's truth, his way of truth, and his rules of conduct for members of his family and then diligently performing your responsibility as a member of the Father's earthly family.

### **BEING A DEDICATED AND RESPONSIBLE STUDENT**

#### **Being a Follower of Christ**

Being a follower of Christ and a student of truth goes far beyond a profession of faith, asking forgiveness of your sins, being immersed in water, and receiving the holy spirit. These things are just the prerequisites to becoming a follower of Christ and a student of truth as a member of the Father's earthly family. Being a follower of Christ and a student of truth does not stop at baptism.

Receiving the indwelling of the holy spirit and being adopted into the Father's earthly family is only the beginning of a journey through life that will bring you to the point of spiritual perfection and being transformed into an immortal spirit-being in the Father's Heavenly Kingdom and Family.

Beyond the point of adoption into the Father's family is the ongoing process of spiritual growth and the fulfilling of your

functions and responsibilities within the Father's earthly family. See Rom. 12:1-2; 2 Tim. 2:15; 2 Pet. 3:17-18.

There seem to be at least three phases of being a student of truth that must operate concurrently throughout one's physical life.

- The first phase is the beginning of one's tenure as a student in which the Father's foundational laws, precepts, and principles are being learned and put into practice.
- The second phase is that of an apprentice student whose task is to put into practice and perfect what is being learned through practical application over time.
- The third phase seems to be that of a student teacher who is still learning, but is able to educate others in what they have learned.

### **Christ Pleased His Father**

Matthew records that, when Jesus was baptized, a voice from the sky said, *"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased"* (Matt. 3:17) and at the mount of transfiguration, a voice out of the cloud said, *"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; you listen to him"* (Matt. 17:5).

The apostle John records the following single most important reason that the Sovereign Father was pleased with his earthly son: While teaching in the temple treasury Jesus said, *"When you have lifted up the Son of man, then you shall know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father has taught me, I speak these things. And he that sent me is with me: the Father has not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him"* (Jn. 8:28-29 KJV).

Why was the Father pleased with his son? It was because his son lived in harmony with his laws, precepts, and principles and did the things that were expected of him as a son.

Clearly, it is impossible to please the Father unless you live in harmony with his truth and his way of truth and perform the functions and responsibilities that he has called you to perform. However, it is impossible for you to do what he expects if you do not know and understand his laws, precepts, and principles. This is the reason that one of the functions of the holy spirit is that of a teacher of truth (Jn. 14:25-26; 16:12-15). It is also the reason why one of the more important functions and responsibilities in the Father's earthly family is that of a teacher and an instructor in the Father's truth and way of truth (1 Cor. 12:28-29).

If we also want the Father to be pleased with us, we must also do the things that please him. We must not only learn his laws,

precepts, and principles but also perfect them in our life and perform the functions and responsibilities of our calling.

If you are serious about pleasing the Father and moving forward in your spiritual life, you must be a willing, dedicated, responsible, and teachable student of the Father's truth and way of truth. Being a willing, dedicated, and responsible student is much more than just acquiring knowledge for the sake of knowledge alone. Having perception and being aware of the meaning of a fact, an event, or a set of circumstances is something very different from understanding. Academic knowledge of the Bible is important, but understanding the meaning of this knowledge is much more important.

In his second letter to Timothy, Paul speaks of individuals who have a form of godliness but are far from being godly. Paul said that these individuals are continually acquiring knowledge but are never able to come to the knowledge of the truth (2 Tim. 3:1-10). The point is that knowledge for knowledge's sake alone is not profitable to one seeking to gain spiritual insight into the Father's mind-set.

In his letter to the elect at Rome, the apostle Paul urged them to present themselves as a living sacrifice acceptable to God, which was for them a logical act of worship. He also urged them not to copy the lifestyles of their time but to be transformed by the renovation of their mind in order for them to prove the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God (Rom. 12:1-2).

The only way that Paul's instructions to the elect at Rome can be followed is through putting forth the time and effort in thoughtful study of the Father's truth and way of truth and asking the Father to grant you understanding of his truth in order to serve him and be the kind of person he wants you to be.

**Read the entire article at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/a2006-036-01.htm>

**\*\*to be continued in Issue #38\*\***

**("Old Bottles, Inc., AKA...")**  
**continued from page 1)**

*physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*

At this point, the Pharisees interrupted Him with a question, which He answered and then, not to be deterred, continued the subject in **Mark 2:21**, quoted above.

In context then, the reason He gave this parable is that the Pharisees didn't like where Christ was putting His truth, by giving it to the trailer trash, so to speak, of the day.

New wine is new truth – the words that Christ was saying to them. This new truth wasn't received by the Pharisees. When they heard it, they either didn't understand it, or they tried to kill Him. They were the Old Bottles – the people who had **already decided** just how far they were going to go to please God, and had no intention of changing.

Of course the new bottles were the Publicans and sinners into whom He was, even then, putting new wine – for which the Old Bottles were condemning Him! Now read another version, which adds a little information, with this interpretation in mind and see how much sense it makes.

**Luke 5:36-39** *And he spake also a parable unto them; No man putteth a piece of a new garment upon an old; if otherwise, then both the new maketh a rent, and the piece that was taken out of the new agreeth not with the old. **And no man putteth new wine into old bottles; else the new wine will burst the bottles, and be spilled, and the bottles shall perish. But new wine must be put into new bottles; and both are preserved. No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, THE OLD IS BETTER.***

These Pharisees were **HAPPY with their level of righteousness! They were PLEASED with their way of living, and they felt assured of their salvation!**

**John 5:39** *Search the scriptures; for in them **ye think** ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.*

They thought they had everything they needed – they thought they had **EVERYTHING THEY NEEDED FOR SALVATION!** Now, if they had that “old wine”, why would they want new? The old is better! They didn't need to change or try anything new, for what they had already is good enough!

But Jesus Christ said it was NOT good enough! He said you could not put NEW TRUTH into these OLD BOTTLES, all of whom felt they had the answers already!

**Jeremiah 6:16** *Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, **where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.***

This was an end-time prophecy, written over 2600 years ago. And in it you see those SAME OLD BOTTLES! “Look for the good way, and WALK in it!”... but the Old bottles said “We will NOT walk in it!”

They didn't want NEW wine – because they said, the old is better! Now if this is an end-time prophecy, this group of people must be extant today. We'll call them “Old Bottles, Inc.”, since it is a group devoted to the

production of self-satisfied, complacent, old bottles who feel they have everything they need for salvation already!

**Revelation 3:17** *[Laodicea] Because 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:***

They don't desire new wine – why should they? The OLD is better, they say! But Christ says their old wine is not good enough! Is yours? Is your “old wine”, the understanding you've already had, and the righteousness that you now have, ENOUGH to please God?

Do you DESIRE new wine, or do you reject anything that doesn't start with the words, quote “the church always said...”?

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But were these Laodiceans, Pharisees, and Old Bottles, Inc members always this way? Were they always self-satisfied? Did they always love the old better? No! Allow me to explain how people become Old Bottles.

**Matthew 5:13** *YE ARE the salt of the earth: **but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall IT be salted? it is thenceforth good for NOTHING, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.***

Christ was speaking to a huge crowd of His disciples when He spoke those words. He said THEY, HIS FOLLOWERS, ARE THE SALT of the EARTH! Do you understand what that means? Ask yourself, what does salt do to food?

**Job 6:6** *Can that which is unsavoury be eaten **without salt?** or is there any taste in the white of an egg?*

Salt is used to add flavor to an otherwise bland, tasteless dish. So apply that thinking to the earth, and imagine what it would be like if there was no one in it who was following God at all. Imagine what it would “taste like” to God. Fortunately, we needn't imagine; it's already happened.

**Genesis 6:5-7** *And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. **And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth;...***

Without the “salt” of righteous men, making the earth palatable, God cannot stomach it! And He destroyed the whole earth for lack of salt! There just wasn't enough of Noah to go around!

Without the church of God, which began with many of those disciples whom He called the Salt of the Earth, God would have destroyed the earth long ago! But what

happens if those people, what happens if that SALT, becomes placid, loses it's zeal, and becomes inactive, inert, and dead?

**Luke 14:34** *Salt is good: **but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned?***

In other words – once SALT loses it's value, and once Old Bottles, Inc becomes just another social club of people warming seats hoping for a free ticket into the Kingdom of God, HOW CAN YOU RESTORE THEM?

A question that has been on the mind of practically everyone in the church of God in recent years, HOW CAN YOU FIX THE CHURCH? HOW Can you make that SALT PALATABLE AGAIN? HOW CAN YOU SALT, SALT?

GOD SAYS YOU CAN'T!

**Verse 35** *It is NEITHER FIT for the land, **NOR yet for the DUNGHILL; but men CAST IT OUT. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.***

This parable was sealed for the understanding of those who WANTED to know. You've just heard the interpretation of it. If you're a member of the Church of God, since this harshly condemns you and your church, you probably don't like it and have already rejected it.

If so, that is just ONE MORE PROOF that you are an Old Bottle, who says that the “Old wine is better!”, and one into whom I am commanded NOT to put new wine!

God says if you've once been the salt of the earth, and lose your zeal, and become a dead, lifeless old bottle, like I daresay the entire church of God today, you are not fit for land, you are not even fit for a SEPTIC TANK, the only thing that can be done with you is to throw you away!

**Hebrews 6:4-6** *For **IT IS IMPOSSIBLE** for those **who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, **if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.*****

The same story throughout the Bible; You cannot put new wine into old bottles. It is impossible to restore a lifeless Old Bottle to repentance again. You CANNOT SALT SALT!

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So what does this mean to us, in practical terms? How can this change your life, and what should you do? Well, if you're a card-carrying member of Old Bottles, Inc, A.K.A. The end-time church of God, there may already be nothing you can do.

But God is not a respecter of persons, so

if you, or anyone else, stops what you're doing, reexamines themselves, and starts acting like you should act, and start desiring new wine, when you perceive that the church has had your present understanding of what God wants for over 30 years; (YOU may have had it for 30 years!), And where has it gotten you?

God's active participation in the church as a whole, and you individually has diminished. Your life and righteousness has gotten more and more empty, pointless and worthless. You're probably convinced that the "end" is "just around the corner" in "3-5 years".

Which has been believed for at least 40 years, and has kept people on the edge of their seats, hoping that all they have to do to please God is come ONE MORE TIME to church, listen to ONE MORE EMPTY SERMON, and waste ONE MORE SABBATH talking about medical operations, pets, and sports, hoping God will come back and say "Well done, thou good and faithful servant!" If that's you, (and if you're in the church of God, in my experience, that almost HAS to be you to some extent) well... go ahead. Try it out. See how it works out for you.

If you're NOT a member of the church of God, and if you're NOT an old bottle, and if you ARE zealous, and alive, and INTERESTED in new truth, if you're always discussing and talking about the Bible and new questions and understanding you found... what does this mean to you?

It means that you shouldn't waste your time on Church people. Yes, I said waste. If God says you can't salt salt... and also...

**Matthew 7:6** Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, **neither cast ye your pearls before swine**, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

Then the only conclusion can be that you should not waste your time trying to resalt old salt. Instead, you should go, as Christ did, to the world – the publicans and sinners who never heard this truth before, and never had a chance to become complacent.

I ask you, which is more fair; to give the same bored Old Bottle another hour trying to argue a new idea into his stubborn, resilient head, or to give that hour to someone who NEVER HAD A CHANCE??

The Old Bottle HAD his chance. If he blew it – well, that's a shame, but how many chances does one person deserve, when **BILLIONS** never had any at all??

Our job, our commission, is to help the world as much as possible to see it's own evil and repent for it, and to generally make the world a better place. Our job is to SALT THE EARTH and make it palatable to God.

Now let's say for argument's sake, that we could take a complacent Old Bottle, and through much arguing, convince him of the

truth. What we just did is took a man, who already kept the ten commandments (more or less) – who already understood quite a bit about God, and already wasn't hurting his neighbor nor stealing from his employer (much)... and made him into a more Godly person. Undeniably, if possible, a good thing.

But now lets say we could use that same time to teach a new person – who is shoplifting from the local Wal-Mart on a regular basis – to stop that, and repent of it, and teach him the commandments. Now we've done much more for the world as a whole, a great deal more towards our commission of salting the earth, than we did with the Old Bottle.

And if we repeat this a thousand times in our lifetime... where was our time better spent... with the old bottle, or the new? Which helped the world? EVEN IF, as is most definitely NOT the case, it was as easy to convince a stubborn Old Bottle that his so-called righteousness was repugnant to God, as it is to convince a shoplifter that stealing is wrong.

But EVEN IF that was the case, in which case did we salt the earth better? Where was our time better spent? And, in light of the commands you've read today, WHERE ARE WE COMMANDED TO SPEND OUR TIME?

I think you know. And I close with one last scripture that shows WHY the church is a waste of the "salt's" precious time.

**Luke 7:41-43, 47** *There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most? Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged. ... Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little.*

Read the entire article at:  
<http://darwinlauralee.com/a2007-037-01.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

### ("Bumblng Bureaucrats..." continued from page 1)

are dismayed or terrified, then justice has been done. Crime must **not** "pay"!

In simple cases of stealing, the law of Moses calls for the thief "to pay back double" (Exodus 22:4 and elsewhere). "A thief must certainly make restitution, but if he has nothing, he must be sold to pay for his theft" (Exodus 22:3b).

The decisions of the law of Moses are quite binding; there is no incarceration in

prisons, but the final decision of the courts: "will always stand. You must do exactly what they say. After they have interpreted the law and reached a verdict, the sentence they impose must be fully executed; do not modify it in any way. Anyone arrogant enough to reject the verdict of the judge or of the priest who represents the LORD your God must be put to death. Such evil must be purged from Israel. Then everyone will hear about it and be afraid to act so arrogantly" (Deuteronomy 17:10-13 NLT).

We don't compel such respect for the law in this country that way -- nor are our laws and courts worthy of such respect -- which is why it is such a mess. Nevertheless, judges and lawmakers do well to keep in mind what the law of Moses says, since, for any decisions that are made, each will answer to the Judge who gave the law of Moses!

Read the entire article at:  
<http://darwinlauralee.com/a2007-037-02.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

### ("Who is Willing..." continued from page 1)

when it comes to putting thoughts into print. I believe without a doubt in my mind that a true warning, if one is going to be given, is the willingness to say what is wrong without fear of consequences. It is called freedom of speech, yet spiritual correctness has caused timidity and resignation by many churches of God who have the ability to speak out, but only feel comfortable with certain subjects.

For the churches who believe they have been given the "great commission" in Matthew 24:14, the timidity to speak out against the sins of the nation's leaders is glaring. Generalities are put in printed form when it comes to showing what the problems are. It has become a spiritual superstition to simply say what needs to be said. The Bible states we are not to be fearful (II Timothy 1:7), but fear has been gift wrapped under the deception of saying we are to show respect towards the office of our leaders and not to ruffle feathers has become the spiritually correct way of approaching the corruption in Washington.

Isaiah 58:1 says we are to "cry out". A trumpet makes a noise. Instead, generic generalities has become the status quo in preaching the gospel for some who believe it is their commission. I do believe that when the ministry and brethren are directly affected by events, than a powerful warning will be given. Until then, the soft sound of a violin will be heard, yet various churches of God will continue to convince themselves they are giving a strong warning message. It is a well

maintained comfort zone fully embraced. I believe I've heard it described as Laodacean.

Hello is anyone out there? Who will take a stand and simply say what needs to be said? I know there are a few, but they are in the minority.

**Read the entire article at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/a2007-037-03.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

### **("Mt. Zion Under Siege:..." continued from page 24)**

(David Bartholdy), Jannes and Jambres and Korah, to have any say in what belongs in the court of the Sanhedrin?

If Israel prostitutes itself and cedes this strategic part of Jerusalem to the Vatican, they will have sold out Jews and Christians, since Christians would have to obtain permission from the Catholic Church to hold services at the site. Why exalt the Roman Catholic Church to such a lofty position? Why fall for the attempt to trump King David at the site or supersede him by towering over his tomb, a Catholic Church over and above his dead body!

As Barry Chamish has duly noted, **the German-built Dormition Abbey on Mt. Zion (next to the yeshiva) is an exact replica of the German Church that crowned emperors: Charlemagne's Aachen Cathedral.** Can't we see what spirit is at work here and what plans are in store? **UN Resolution 181** demands Jerusalem become a separate, international city that will amount to a long-held Catholic dream of Jerusalem serving as the capital of their Crusader-Kingdom.

The German-Jesuit powers that be are busy reconstructing Europe into the final revival of the unholy Roman Empire of the German Nation that Daniel foresaw wreaking havoc on the Middle East and Jeremiah foresaw affecting the whole world (all of Jacob, the unprecedented Time of Jacob's Trouble).

What offer could convince the religious authorities to abandon claims to Mt. Zion? Would a trade-off work? Not of empty synagogues in Spain, but how about international guarantees of protection during the construction of the Third Temple on the Temple Mount? What if Israel were offered acceptance of full Israeli sovereignty over the Temple Mount, complete with the restoration of the sacrificial system and Temple worship?

Wouldn't the religious prefer such freedom of religion over secular Israeli sovereignty that continues to despise the Jewish heritage and dismantle the Jewish

homeland? Not that Israel couldn't immediately restore the Temple Mount to Jewish hands without worldly approval or international "peacekeeping" support, and that would be preferable but it's unlikely.

Will the Israeli authorities fall for Europe's BIG LIE of "peace and security" (and religious freedom and independence upon the Temple Mount) and enable them to station troops around Jerusalem in a clever and deceitful perversion of Bamidbar Rabbah 1, 3:

*If the nations of the world had only known how much they needed the Temple, they would have surrounded it with armed fortresses to protect it.*

Doesn't Zechariah warn of such Roman wolves in sheep's clothing? Must Jerusalem suffer a brutal betrayal and rape, with the violent eviction of Jews from half of the Holy City, all of it under brazen Gentile occupation? Doesn't Daniel warn of Europe's imminent wannabe divine emperor (promoted by the pagan pope) who would leave his designated place at Mt. Zion and seize and pollute the Temple with his unclean presence, slaughtering all who got in his way?

"Why will you die O House of Israel?" If only Israel and Judah would return and trust in God, none of this reliance on foreign promises (that will prove to be worthless, once again) would be necessary. At least during Jerusalem's 3 1/2 years of foreign occupation, captive Israel will be reassured by a Davidic messenger in the spirit of Elijah, like an angel of the LORD (Zech. 12:8), that our God will come and save us and cleanse the Temple and liberate Jerusalem.

**Item found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-15.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***



**1 Timothy 2:12 (11-26-06)**  
**by Jeffrey Caldwell (Redwood City, California)**

This Letter was received in regard to: **"Women CAN be Pastors and Leaders: Here's Why"** by Dianne D. McDonnell, which appeared in **Issue #36.**

**Jeffrey Caldwell writes:**

The article provides a thought-provoking

exposition of 1 Timothy 2:12, with significant contextual information I hadn't seen or considered before. More complete and precise bibliographic documentation of sources would be appreciated.

In referring to a key phrase for understanding the passage and her exposition of it, concluding the paragraph under the heading "Keep Those Women Silent!" we find: See "Let the women keep silent, What did Paul Mean?" -- which is apparently another article.

I do not know where it is -- a link to it there seems appropriate. I need to consider it to make a sounder determination of the merit of the exposition offered here.

**Laura Lee writes:**

We are sorry for our mistake. We generally catch and take out things like "See "Let the Women Keep Silent, What did Paul Mean?" when we have not yet printed it. There is an article by that title, but we have not read it yet ourselves. When we get to it, we will consider it for print at that time. For now we did pull our mistake from the newsletter before it went to print and we have changed our web copy of **Issue #36.** Thank you for letting us know of our error, it was appreciated.

Until we get to that article, you might study the following articles on the same subject. First read **"Junia, A Woman Apostle"** by Dianne D. McDonnell, from **Issue #7, "Paul and Women Teachers: Understanding 1 Timothy, Chapters 1 and 2"** by Dianne D. McDonnell, from **Issue #6, "A Church Without Women"** by Dianne D. McDonnell, from **Issue #5** and **"Let Your Women Keep Silence in the Churches:"** by Laura Lee, from **Issue #25 & Issue #26.**

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-03.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

**Jaded Emails (12-19-06)**  
**by Clifford Catton (Kingston, New York)**

**Clifford Catton writes:**

STOP sending me your jaded e-mails!! Remember John 3:13!! There is NO second chance in the resurrection, John 5:28-29; Rev. 20:11-15; Heb. 9:27.

**Laura Lee writes:**

If you are talking about our "outreach" email, I can remove your email address from that list, however I can't guarantee that it won't get back on there at a future time as we only keep a list of email addresses with no

names attached to them, which are collected from various sources.

As far as your statement about there being no second chance in the resurrection, **we don't teach that anyone gets a second chance and never have.** I also answered this same matter for you in the past. You can find my answer to you posted on our web site at: <http://darwinlauralee.com/I2006-034-01.htm> (Issue #34) My answer hasn't changed since I answered you a year ago.

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/I2007-037-04.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**Questions & Comments (12-1-06)  
by Nony George (Austria)**

**Nony George writes:**

Hi, not sure if I sent to correct email address but have a question for Dianne McDonnell regarding **"Women CAN be Pastors and Leaders: Here's Why"**.

A lot in the Church of God use the scripture that says ordained elders should be the husband of one wife only, etc. Hence they say that this proves only men are to be elders, etc. What answer can Ms. McDonnell give regarding this? Thank you!

**Dianne McDonnell writes:**

The scripture in question is 1 Timothy 3:12, "A deacon (minister, Strong's 1249) must be the husband of but **one** wife..." The verse is not saying that a minister must have a wife and therefore must be male. Remember that both Paul and Timothy were minus a wife. It is saying that a married man must only be the husband of ONE wife--- not two or three. Some of the Jewish priests were being added to Christianity and some of them had several wives! Paul's teacher, Gamaliel (Acts 5:34) is said to have had FIVE wives. Paul is setting the policy that a man entering ministry must NOT have multiple wives. Women, unlike men in that society, were not allowed to have more than one husband so women leaders were not impacted at all by this ruling.

**Nony George writes:**

Also, with regard to **"God and the Gays"** (David Ben-Ariel) - I knew a guy who was 'gay' and God called him. Years later we were delighted to hear an announcement that he was getting married - to a lovely lady. They have been so happy together! Thanks. God bless, Nony

**David Ben-Ariel writes:**

As mentioned within **God and the**

**Gays,"** there are *degrees* of homosexuality. Some are "gay all the way" and others are bisexual.

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/I2007-037-05.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**Giving (11-20-05)  
by Robert Goldman (Ione, California)**

BROTHERS AND SISTERS, we will tell you of the grace of God which has been granted the churches of Macedonia, and how, throughout continual ordeals of hardships. Their unflinching joy and their intense poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. I can testify that it was of their own accord that they made their gift, which was not merely as far as their resources would allow. But well beyond their resources; and they had kept imploring us most insistently for the privilege of a share in the fellowship of service to God's holy people-it was not some thing that we expected of them, but it began by their offering themselves to the Lord and to us at the prompting of the will of God.

In the end we urged Titus, since he had already made a beginning, also to bring this work of generosity to completion among you. More, as you are rich in everything faith, eloquence, understanding, concern for everything, and love for us too-then make sure that you excel in this work of generosity too. I am not saying this as an order, but testing the genuineness of your love against the concern of others.

You are well aware of the generosity which our Lord Yahsua the Messiah had, that, although he was rich, he became poor for your sake, so that you should become rich through his poverty. I will give you my considered opinion in this matter; this will be the right course for you as you were the first, a year ago, not only to take any action but also even to conceive the project. Now, then, complete the action as well, so that the fulfillment may-so far as your resources permit-be proportionate to your enthusiasm in the project.

As long as the enthusiasm is there, the basis on which it is acceptable is what someone has, not what someone does not have. It is not that you ought to relieve other people's needs and leave yourselves in hardship; but there should be a fair balance-your surplus at present may fill their deficit. So there may be a fair balance; as scripture says: no one who had collected more had too much, no one who collected less had too little. **(2 Corinthians 8:1-15)**

But remember: anyone who sows sparsely will reap sparsely as well-and

anyone who sows generously will reap generously as well. Each one should give as much as he has decided on his own initiative, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. God is perfectly able to enrich you with every grace, so that you always have enough for every conceivable need, and your resources overflow in all kinds of good work. As scripture says: to the needy he gave without stint, his uprightness stands firm for ever.

The one who so freely provides seed for the sower and food to eat will provide you with ample store of seed for sowing and making the harvest of your uprightness a bigger one: you will be rich enough in every way for every kind of generosity that makes people thank God for what you have done, for the help provided by this contribution not only satisfies the needs of God's holy people, but also overflows into wide spread thanksgiving to God; Because when you have proved your quality by this help, they will give glory to God for the obedience which you show in professing the gospel of our Messiah, as well as for the generosity of your fellowship towards them and towards all. At the same time, their prayer for you will express the affection they feel for you because of the unbounded grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his gift that is beyond all telling! (Corinthians 9:6-15) Keep in mind those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, since you too are in the body. (Hebrews 13:3)

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/I2007-037-06.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**World Tomorrow Radio Programs  
(12-14-06)  
by Gerald Kloss (Philadelphia,  
Pennsylvania)**

**Gerald Kloss writes:**

Hello Darwin & Laura,

Thanks for your on going good work and ministry.

Please continue to mail me your newsletter.

Also, I'd love to travel out to meet you sometime, do you host visitors? My visit would be during the summer months.

**Laura Lee writes:**

Anyone who comes in peace is welcome. We would love to have you come for a visit. If you let us know ahead of time, we can have our guest room ready for you. We also host Sabbath Services in our home every Saturday.

**Gerald Kloss writes:**

Also, let me know where can I get either cassettes or CD's of old World Tomorrow radio programs, either with Herbert W. Armstrong or Garner Ted Armstrong (I'd like at least 1). That's what got me into The Church. Thanks Gerald

**Laura Lee writes:**

Perhaps our readers can help you with this. If anyone can help us with this request from Gerald, please email us at: [darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:darwin-laura@earthlink.net) or write to us at: Darwin & Laura Lee, PO Box 2333, Bismarck, ND 58502

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-07.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**Send Newsletters (12-12-06)**

**by Nathan Koehl (Milwaukee, Wisconsin)**

**Nathan Koehl writes:**

Dear Darwin & Laura,

Greetings to you all in beautiful Dakota.

My dear and precious grandparents homesteaded in southern Dunn County.

Thank you for the letter postmarked 11-20, on 12-6, finally and **newsletter #33**.

Please mark envelope - First Class.

**Laura Lee writes:**

I'm sorry Nathan, but we will probably forget every time to mark your envelope "First Class".

**Nathan Koehl writes:**

Please send these back issues, **#31**, **#32**, **#34**, **#35** and **#36**. Thank You.

**Laura Lee writes:**

We will enclose back issues, **#31**, **#32**, **#34** and **#35** with this issue. You should have already received issue **#36**.

**Nathan Koehl writes:**

Miss - **Giving & Sharing newsletter by Richard Nickels** faithfully many years of giving and sharing. Sincerely, Nathan Koehl

P. S. -- Looking forward to receiving more Church of God Messenger newsletters. Thank you.

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-08.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**More on Animal ID (11-18-06)**

**by Donna Kurszewski (Linton, North Dakota)**

Hi Laura,

The National Animal ID push is getting more and more interesting. Officially, the USDA says they are not forcing MANDATORY participation. If the government decides there is a animal health emergency then NAIS becomes MANDATORY.

I have come to realize that this issue of animal id is a 'State's Rights' issue. Each state is being encouraged, bribed, and coerced by USDA into drawing up a state plan. Once all the states are on line then the nation is on line.

**Quote from libertyark.net:**

**State Issues**

"It is critical that everyone learn what is happening in their state. **NAIS is not a federal mandate**. The USDA has no statutory authority to implement NAIS. Each state is free to decide for itself whether or not to implement an animal identification system.

So find out if your state already has legislation or is implementing NAIS without legislation. If there is legislation, is the state agency working on regulations to implement it? If there isn't legislation, then how is it that your state is setting up its program? You, and your friends, have the capability to block and/or force the repeal of any laws. Tell your neighbors about this attack on our civil liberties." The idea for this originates with the UN global health plan. Surprised?

<http://libertyark.net/articles/hannes-040106.html>

The whole issue is being kept in a state of confusion. I believe it is meant to keep folks off guard. It becomes too difficult to follow for those of us who actually have work to do. Once all the pieces are in place, the power grabbers will impose their new world order policies on everybody in the world.

Here's a quote from a handout given to my husband November 6 in Dickinson, ND at the "Animal Identification Systems Summit" hosted by Senator Byron Dorgan & USDA guest J. Burton Eller, Jr. Mind you, this quote is over a year old and will no doubt be denied as current policy as other statements have been released since.

<http://www.businessofgovernment.org/pdf/s/WyldReport4.pdf> starts about page 50:

"The National Animal Identification System is to be a VOLUNTARY program—**for now**. While the secretary of agriculture, under the powers granted to the office by the

Animal Health Protection Act (AHPA), could institute such a system unilaterally, the USDA is committed to both public and industry input into the NAIS plan and to allowing for a phased-in implementation of the program. This is being done both to garner support for the program and to allow for any kinks to be worked out as the program is being implemented.

"Yet, the paradoxical situation is that for the national identification system to be effective there needs to be complete visibility across all premises and in all affected species. Thus, it is inevitable that the program be made MANDATORY in the U.S. Such an approach that begins on a voluntary basis, followed by mandatory participation, has been taken in other countries, such as Australia, Brazil, and Canada, where national animal ID frameworks are presently in place (USDA-APHIS, 2005f)"

I underlined the parts that I found interesting. Best regards.

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-09.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**Evidence of Innocence (5-6-05)**

**by P. F. Lazor (Delano, California)**

**P. F. Lazor writes:**

Dear Darwin and Laura,

Thanks for your newsletters continuing to me. Very edifying... Thanks also for rightly sticking up for Norm Edwards. I think he and Marleen are exceptionally fine people, to say the least. Their persecutors' drivel speaks for itself.

For a long time I've wanted to respond to your request for stories of present persecution. Besides not having a moment to even get adequate sleep or eat, under the heavy oppressor's hand that has NO LIMIT EACH MOMENT, I haven't responded for 2 reasons: I wasn't sure if it was limited to persecution in the church/from the COG church people; and also I don't want to feel like I'm complaining about my situation by relating a particular situation, or series of them, related to my oppressors.

But, alas, I've come to the point where I will send this. If it turns out that your request is to be limited to persecution from COG people, then you can discard this wholesale, but hope you might nonetheless get a chance to read it, to see what is going on here just for general knowledge (of why I need heavy prayer and spiritual warfare battling help).

If your invitation was not limited to

COG people doing the persecuting, then you may want to consider my story. What I'm enclosing is very extensive, and I know you must be very busy and maybe even inundated with things to read as it is. But my own time problem won't allow me to redo this at all, so here's what I suggest (several things, to cut down the time to invest in reading this enclosed document):

1) If it is all just too much to go thru, then I suggest just focusing only on one episode herein: Go to ATTACHMENT #7, in the exhibits section. Those 9 pages contain a consolidated situation wherein a Baptist minister in CDC (prison system) persecuted me with false reports solely because of my belief in using the names YAHWEH AND Yahshua (though I don't use them exclusively and never impose my use of them on others); and because I believe the law's of the Bible were not done away with ("nailed to the cross"). For the false report this "minister" wrote, I was denied parole for the past 5 years plus, and still, and it may turn into a life in prison status, based on that, unless prayer intervenes.

2) On the other hand, if you can afford to read the entire document, I think it would be a real SHOCK AWAKENER to what we have to deal with in here daily, not everyone, but those specially persecuted, as I've been for 21-22 nonstop years. Perhaps out of all this, you could distill something short enough to publish, IF you find it worthy, and if your criteria is not limited to excluding such.

3) Also, some of the documents have arrows highlighting the most pertinent text, and only those passages are of the greatest relevance where there are such pointers. And (4) Much of the bulk of the exhibits is comprised of letters about my credibility (as I know most people just can't conceive of these things in the USA); so again, those can be just skimmed if jammed for time. LET ME KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS ON THIS PLEASE. (And hope you'll keep this on file as a "safety copy" if the enemy here destroys all mine.

Love and blessings, and thanks,

**Laura Lee writes:**

We have a stack of letters here that are not yet answered from various people. Some of these letters may even be old as this one is, or even older. As we learn better and faster ways to handle these letters, it will get better and hopefully the letters will get answered quicker. Sometimes parts of a letter get separated from the rest of the content because we were reading or going over

it. Such is the case with this letter. The other part got separated from it, however I believe it was your document on proof of your innocence. It was quite long as I recall and we have saved it in hard copy. Due to it's length, we won't do anything further with it except to save the copy that was sent to us. There is a web site though which carries the information contained in the document you speak of above. The specific page to find the information on is:

<http://pflazor.bravehost.com/info/ProofHesNotGuilty.htm> and the opening page of the web site is:

<http://www.cedevices.com/pflazor.htm>  
We did print your story "Framed for Murder by Officers of the Law" in Issue #32 and Issue #33

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-10.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**Divorce (8-29-06)**

**by Everett Leisure (South Pasadena, California)**

This letter was sent to us in regard to the following articles: "**Who Is, or Is Not Free to Marry**" by Rhoda Foust (printed in Issue #11) and "**Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage**" by Laura Lee (printed in Issue #3)

**Everett Leisure writes:**

There is much truth in what you have both written, but there are also things that have been missed.

For instance the churches of God have never understood the primary definition of 'porneia' which the KJV translates fornication and NKJV translates 'sexual immorality'. Below is an excerpt from an article I wrote on this same subject that you address.

"Let's again focus on the Greek word 'porneia' and some similar words. It should be noted that 'porneuo' is a prostitute, as is 'porne'. A ' pornos' is a male prostitute. A 'porneion' is a house of prostitution, or brothel. 'Pornidion' are brothel-keepers. 'Ek-porneuo' means to go a whoring or prostitute yourself. 'Kataporneuo' means to make a prostitute. All these words probably derive from 'pernemai', which means to export for sale and usually applied to the "exporting of captives to foreign parts for sale as slaves" (Greek English Lexicon, Liddell & Scott). Greek prostitutes were commonly bought slaves.

Can a prostitute be what she/he is, a prostitute-house be what it is, a prostitute-

keeper be what he is, and yet prostitution does not primarily mean the business that a prostitute does under the direction of a prostitute-keeper in a prostitute-house? Even so the primary meaning of 'porneia' must be prostitution. This is reflected in both the Liddell & Scott and Arndt and Gingrich lexicons."

**Laura Lee writes:**

For a definition of "porneia" please read the following article, "**What is Fornication?**" by Laura Lee. The following is an excerpt from that article: "If you are a person who is not seeking after God and striving to do as God wants you to do, then you are committing fornication and adultery against your Husband Christ. As long as a person continues not to seek after God and His way, you are by default or intentionally seeking after Satan instead. Satan is a false god, so if you continue to follow Satan, you are choosing to commit idolatry, adultery, and fornication. If people marry and divorce within the confines of God's law as it is stated in the Bible, it is not sin." Fornication (porneia), is a lifestyle of sin, whether it be drunkenness, habitual stealing or some sort of a sexual sin.

**Everett Leisure writes:**

Your articles also reflect the church of God teaching that the binding in 1 Cor 7:15 is allowing the release of a marriage. Actually it is denying that any mate has become a slave of the other. Again another quote...

"The confusion in 1 Cor 7:15 comes from a single phrase. Let's look at two different translations of this phrase: 1). "in such a case the brother or sister is not bound" (RSV) 2). " the brother or the sister is not under servitude in such cases" (Young's Literal Translation)

The word translated 'bound' and 'servitude' here is the Greek word dedoulwtai a perfect tense verb form of doulow, which according to Thayer's Lexicon means, "to make a slave of, reduce to bondage". According to the Liddell and Scott Lexicon the word means "to make a slave of, enslave". These two obviously agree closely and clearly support Young's translation (servitude) over the RSV.

The RSV translation has caused confusion. Some might take it to indicate something is unbound or released. This is not the case. Paul is talking of not enslaving or not binding. He is not talking of releasing or unbinding at all. Many translations translate dedoulwtai as 'bondage'. This is the case in 2 Peter 2:19. "While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the slaves of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage" (2 Pe 2:19). Peter indicates here that a slave has been brought into bondage.

This is historically what bondage is, slavery.

According to Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary Copyright 1981 by G. & C. Merriam Co., bondage primary definition is; "The tenure or service of a villain, serf, or slave". Unfortunately, so much time has passed since slavery was common that we forget the primary historical meaning of the word 'bondage'. However it is evident that is the definition the translators are intending because that agrees with the primary definition of the underlying Greek word *doulou*, to enslave.

Note the translation from the Emphasized Bible of J. B. Rotherham, it accurately preserves the correct Greek verb form in the English. "The brother or the sister hath not come into bondage, in such cases" (1Cor 7:15b). The unbeliever leaving does not put the believer into bondage or slavery, i.e. does not enslave. A modern translation would read; 'the brother or sister has not become enslaved in such cases'. Again Paul is not indicating that anything is being unbound, but that bondage or slavery is not being imposed."

**Rhoda Foust writes:**

The person writing this reply seems to be grabbing at straws and overlooking reality of the scriptures. I find it hard to understand where he's coming from. So I will just go over the scripture he uses in 1 Cor. 7.

I agree that the word "bondage" means "servant, and or slave" as shown in Strong's Concordance. Let us take a closer look at the topic in question found in 1 Cor. 7:15. "If the unbeliever leaves let him depart". In modern language: If an unbeliever leaves, don't go against his will preventing his leaving. Why? Because "God has called believers to peace". It stands to reason that if a believer, husband or wife, holds onto the unbeliever against his will there will not be harmony or peace. There definitely will be conflicts and contention that will cause a very un-peaceful situation for the whole family.

On the other hand, if the unbeliever is "PLEASED to dwell" (vs. 12-13) with the believer, then the believer and the unbeliever are both obligated to honor the vows (commitment, contract, and or covenant) of their marriage. The believer is cautioned not to leave the unbeliever because of his or her unbelief, but if the believer does leave for whatever cause, he or she is not free to marry another person as long as the unbeliever is "pleased to dwell" with the believing spouse.

Now back to verse 15: "A brother or sister (the believer) is not under bondage" if the unbeliever leaves. The question is: under "bondage" (slavery) to what? Are we to believe that Paul advocates that the believer is to be a "slave" to the unbeliever? No, of

course not! God's way is one of love and peace, not slavery. So if the unbeliever leaves, what is the believer no longer controlled (in-slaved) by? Is it not the contract of marriage? A marriage cannot be peaceful if one spouse dominates the other. Marriage is a union where God intended they become as one. But being human we need a set of rules that demands we abide by our commitment. The bible sets forth these rules, and we agree to them when we make a commitment to a spouse. These rules are what bonds the marriage (thus the bondage).

I am aware that many want the role of dominate master over their spouse and put them in the role of "slave" or "bondage" but that is not what Paul is supporting. The contract is the dominate force that exists as long as both parties agree to the rules. If one abandons the other, the bondage is broken.

The one that is left is then free of the commitment contract. So we see that the "bondage" is not en-slavery to another human, but to the contract or covenant of marriage. It is clear to me that these scriptures frees a believer who is abandoned or divorced by an unbeliever, one who is not "Pleased to dwell" is free from the marriage contract and the unbeliever, and free to remarry.

**Everett Leisure writes:**

Because the WCG realized what a mess their D&R practice had caused they apparently were overly quick to latch on to anything that seemed to justify a more relaxed approach. Unfortunately in the process they jumped from one ditch to the other and missed God's real intent.

If you or anyone else is interested in an in depth re-examination of the subject click on the 'divorce' tab at <http://www.creators covenant.org>

It's good to see people investigating the word of God and sharing it.

**Laura Lee writes:**

I have been to Everett Leisure's Web Site and clicked on the "Divorce" tab. I read his article "[Divorce in the Bible](#)". I would not recommend it as a valid teaching on the subjects of marriage, divorce or remarriage. There were many flaws in what Everett Leisure wrote in this article, but to me the most major flaw was when he invalidates "The Law of Moses". Everett Leisure seems to believe that "The Law of Moses" and "The Law of God" are two separate and different things. There are many verses in the Bible which clearly show that "The Law of Moses" and "The Law of God" are the same law. Because Everett Leisure makes two sets of laws out of one, he now has license within his article to invalidate some things that Moses said and some things which Christ

said. So for those who read [Everett Leisure's article "Divorce in the Bible"](#) please take note that he is teaching a doctrine based on a false premise.

Malachi 4:4 -- Remember ye the **law of Moses my servant, which I (Christ) commanded unto him** in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-11.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

***More False Accusations (12-07-06)  
by Myra McQueen (Odessa, Texas)***

**Myra McQueen writes:**

I am still not able to get an email to you. Are you just avoiding me or what here? Christ was easy to entreat, even by His enemies. But like the rest of the leaders of the COGs, you seem to have gotten the same paranoia that infects them.

**Laura Lee writes:**

Dear Myra,

If you are going to make false accusations then this is not the place for you. I personally put your email address in our address books and I even received an email from you today, so I know that your emails are coming through. Do you think I sit at this computer all day long and answer letters as they come in? If I only had that much time, however I do not. We had a computer go out here (it got fried) and I have been working on that since yesterday on and off.

Now perhaps you can tell me politely why you believe we are not receiving your emails?

**(12-08-06)**

**Myra McQueen writes:**

Well Laura, or whomever, I am getting my emails back, especially those sent in response to your request for editing my article.

**Laura Lee writes:**

If you are getting the emails you send us back, then you are sending them to someone else's email address.

**Myra McQueen writes:**

I am also getting a message requesting that I subscribe to your email system or else I risk getting my messages lost in your spam protectors or whatever.

**Laura Lee writes:**

Send me a copy of what you are getting back so I can look at it and see what it is.

**Myra McQueen writes:**

I think this is ridiculous (pardon my French) that you put up this kind of shield, as if your subscribers are enemies, and you are a religious organization.

**Laura Lee writes:**

As I told you before, I put your email address in my email address books, and subscribed you to the lists you wanted to be on. I am receiving email from you just fine and none of your email is getting caught in our spam blockers since you subscribed to our email list. If you are getting the email back that you send to us then you are sending it to some other email address than ours.

There is no shield between us and our subscribers as long as they all use the email address they subscribed with.

**Myra McQueen writes:**

Aren't you looking for converts? not enemies.

**Laura Lee writes:**

We are not looking for converts. This is an interdependent/interactive email/web site, set up for the purpose of letting the people of God interact with each other. If enemies come from what we are doing here, so be it.

**Myra McQueen writes:**

This kind of paranoia is not acceptable in a church of God. We are all in the wilderness of the people and need to comfort one another, not defend ourselves against those whom we call brethren.

**Laura Lee writes:**

If brethren such as yourself want to make false accusations against us or other brethren, then we will defend ourselves. There is a time to comfort each other and there is a time to defend ourselves.

**Myra McQueen writes:**

I have no hard feelings. But the main reason that I bring this up, is due to the fact that the COGs are getting more and more defensive. We have nothing to hide. We have the truth-right? Then let's act like it, and stop defending those who practice subversion. Thanks-Myra

**Laura Lee writes:**

The church of God doesn't have all the truth, or they would get along much better than they do. Many in the church of God hide their sin from other brethren and then get mad when they get caught and exposed. And as long as brethren such as yourself continue to write accusatory letters making

false accusations against other brethren such as us or others as you have done in this letter, then brethren will and should find it necessary to defend themselves.

If you are having problems getting email through to us even though you are subscribed to our list, then tell me what email address you are trying to send stuff to and send me a copy of the emails you are getting sent back to you so I can see what is going on. Make sure you aren't getting all bent out of shape over our auto responders which are meant to acknowledge to you that we have received your email. Send this information to: [darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:darwin-laura@earthlink.net)

**(12-10-06)**

**Myra McQueen writes:**

(Myra's response was to send an email that did not pertain to the problem at hand [email not printed in this material], that being that she is accusing us of not letting her email come through. I asked her to send me copies of the emails she claims are being sent back to her so that I can look at them and see what the problem is. She did not send me those or any other proof of her accusations in regard to this matter. Laura Lee)

**Laura Lee writes:**

Stick to the subject. Where is the proof that your emails are not coming to us? I need to see those emails you say didn't go through in order to see what the problem is. Other wise do the right thing and apologize for your false accusations against us.

**(12-10-06)**

**Myra McQueen writes:**

You need to apologize to me for the indiscretions of the past mess you managed to get me into as a result of your heretical and shameful idolatry of Norman Edwards and his corrupt crew. I am not giving out false accusations. I know where I am in Christ, and I have faith in Him. You like Shimei need to figure out that you are on the wrong team.

**Laura Lee writes:**

I did not get you into any mess. As I recall you were pretending to be several other people all at one time and you suffered the consequences for that. See "**Intentional Deceptive Practices and Lying**" from **Issue #10** and "**Taking It to the Church**" by Norman Edwards from **Servant's News**

The person who does the wrong thing and/or the person who commits the sin is the one who apologizes and repents for the wrong action or sin. The person who catches you in your wrong or in your sin and exposes you for what you are doing is not guilty of your wrong doing or your sin.

Guilty people are usually very angry

when they get caught in sin or some other type of wrong doing. However in most cases they don't seem to be at all sorry for what they have done, only very angry because they were caught.

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-12.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

**The Next 4 Letters Go Together.**

***Why Ask Such a Question? (12-7-06)***

***by Linda Moers (Hockley, Texas)***

**(12-7-06)**

**Lisa Burnett writes:**

Please pray that myself, children and husband will be healthy during this holiday season, despite his injury. God, if there is a "Santa", please visit my girls this year. They just lost their grandmother, their dad got hurt and we're not having a Christmas this year. Please provide us with food today and everyday, we're so very tired of being without. With all of the current, negative events in our daughters lives, please, please, please don't allow them to go without on Christmas morning. They are wonderful girls and deserve at least one gift and food to put in their mouths to fill their belly's. Please God, answer our prayers. And to the other readers, please pray for us too. We would love to receive cards/letters/notes in the mail. It allows us to believe that someone cares. Thank you so very much for reading and taking the time to pray for us. God bless each of you. Thank you God!

Lisa Burnett  
2316 Erie Avenue  
Middletown, OH 45042  
(513) 217-6544

\*\*The phone and internet service will be disconnected soon. I apologize, this may inconvenience anyone that would like to contact us via phone or e-mail. Thank You!\*\*

**Linda Moers writes:**

Why do you post requests such as these?

**Laura Lee writes:**

First of all I will explain how these lists work one more time. This "Prayer Requests & Updates" list is unmoderated. Unmoderated means that prayer requests are sent to the whole list the minute anyone on this list pushes their send button. **These prayer requests are not seen by us first before they go out. We receive them the**

**same time everyone else does.**

When people subscribe to our email lists, we do not ask them what religion they are or whether they keep the Saturday Sabbath or some other day. Most of you on this list are Saturday Sabbath keepers and should witness to others. When a person sends such an email prayer request, use the opportunity to witness to them, not to be mad at us or make them feel bad. I do not know what Lisa's background is, but it is possible that she subscribed to this list not knowing we are Saturday Sabbath Keepers or that we do not keep Christmas. Please people cut her some mercy.

When receiving such a prayer request focus not on Christmas, but on how these people just lost their Grandmother, how the husband is injured, and how they have no money for food. And remember that many of you on this list at one time kept Christmas until God called you. Maybe Lisa ended up on this list because she or someone she knows is being called or maybe not.

**Note for Lisa Burnett:** Lisa most people on this list are Saturday Sabbath Keepers who keep God's Holy Days according to Lev. 23. We consider Christmas to be a pagan holiday which is promoted by Satan to most of the world as a counterfeit of God's Holy Days. There is no place in the Bible where we are ever told to keep Christmas. We follow Christ and Christ was never in Christmas. It would be our prayer that you would come to see Christmas as the Pagan Day that it is and stop celebrating it, but that is between you and God. You are perfectly welcome to stay on this list as long as you like, but please understand also and have mercy for those on this list who do not wish to even hear the word Christmas. Laura Lee

**(12-8-06)**

**Linda Moers writes:**

I'm sorry but I don't remember you explaining this **before**. I understand what unmoderated means. I simply asked a question. I am a little surprised at your response when you know nothing about me or my intentions in asking this question. Chill out! Linda Moers Houston, Texas

**Laura Lee writes:**

Dear Linda,

We have sent you and the rest of those on our email lists one to several emails explaining or telling you that some of our email lists are unmoderated. Some of these emails have been sent to you with the subject "Information Email" and some have been sent to you when a problem arises on this or other of our lists. We are responsible to send you the information, but you are responsible to read it when you receive it or you won't have a clue what is going on.

Please look at the wording of your question, it reads: **"Why do you post requests such as these?"** We can tell from the wording of the question what your intent was. You asked the question less than 15 minutes after Lisa Burnett's prayer request was posted, the very wording of the question shows you were upset with her prayer request. You are asking us why we would even post a prayer request like this? So now I ask you, what kind of a prayer request was this that you did not like it? Lisa's mother recently died, her husband was injured and they haven't much food. Since others request we pray for them for similar things and you never asked such a question before, it is not hard to see that you are upset that Lisa's prayer request was also riddled with Christmas requests.

You were surprised about my response to your question, well I was very surprised that a compassionate person who cared about other people would even ask such a question and I am not sure how your background applies here. Perhaps you will explain that comment to me so I might understand.

Here is the bottom line, your question hurt another person, a woman named Lisa Burnett. Your question was cutting to the core for a person who was only reaching out to others for help. In my opinion you owe Lisa Burnett a heartfelt public apology. And no I won't chill out when you needlessly hurt another person with such a question which sends the message to Lisa and everyone on the Prayer Requests & Updates list that we only take certain prayer requests or we only pray for certain people.

We sincerely hope you will do the right thing and give Lisa and everyone on the "Prayer Requests & Updates" list an apology. You were out of line.

**(12-11-06)**

**Linda Moers writes:**

You have got to be kidding. I don't owe anyone an apology. I was not out of line in asking a question. I would never intentionally hurt or offend anyone but **you are right on the line with your accusations.**

**Laura Lee writes:**

No one accused you of intentionally hurting or offending another person. What was said was that you did hurt/offend another person, whether intentional or not it doesn't matter. You were out of line in asking such a question on an unmoderated prayer list. If you are going to ask questions, ask them on our private email not on a public list.

**Linda Moers writes:**

**I wasn't upset with the prayer request** but I am upset with you and your judgment of me and the fact that you took the liberty to

wax eloquent on what you feel my intentions were.

**Laura Lee writes:**

More than one person understood the intent of the question. No one is judging you personally, what is being judged is the question that you asked. Again, look at how you worded your question. The intent of the question is really clear and if you were not upset with the prayer request, then why even ask this particular question?

**Linda Moers writes:**

Again, you have never met me and don't know me or my intentions.

**Laura Lee writes:**

I don't have to personally meet you to understand the intention shown in the question you asked.

**Linda Moers writes:**

Where is the love and consideration on your end? Who do you think you are sending me such a scathing email and correcting me according to what you feel my "intentions" were.

**Laura Lee writes:**

Correction and compassion for others are both done out of love for the other person. Again the question you asked showed clear intent and I wasn't the only one who saw it as implying that we should not send out the kind of prayer requests that mention Christmas in them.

**Linda Moers writes:**

I feel sorry for anyone who has lost a family member and know quite well what it is like to have your husband not working.

**Laura Lee writes:**

I am sure you do, but that is not what your question focused on.

**Linda Moers writes:**

I'm not going to go any further in trying to explain myself because for starters, I don't have to. There are a lot of things I can think of to say but in the spirit of a peaceful reply to you I will restrain my words.

**Laura Lee writes:**

Explaining yourself would certainly help us to understand why you would ask such a question in the first place.

**Linda Moers writes:**

I'll be happy to send you my phone number if you want to pursue this discussion further because you are way off base on this one.

**Laura Lee writes:**

I am sure that if you really want us to understand your question, you wouldn't have a problem doing it via email. However if you want to do it via telephone my phone number is: (701) 258-7172 and the entire telephone call will be recorded. The bottom line here is still that whether intentional or not, the question you asked hurt another person, because the intent written into the question itself was very clear to more than one person. In my opinion you do owe Lisa Burnett and this entire list an apology.

**(12-11-06)**

**Linda Moers writes:**

I don't appreciate the way you broke down my email into this context. Looks like you enjoyed this a little too much. Anyway, everyone out there have a good day! I have nothing else to say on this subject.

**Laura Lee writes:**

I was hoping that you would understand what I was trying to say to you better if I broke it down. I have noticed that you were totally unable to explain why you asked the question in the first place. In no way have I enjoyed this email exchange with you. I think it is most disgusting when you can hurt another person whether intentionally or unintentionally and then not apologize for it when someone brings it to your attention.

**(12-11-06)**

**Linda Moers writes:**

I'm sorry, I didn't notice until I went to delete this email that you said if I called you our entire conversation would be recorded. My goodness that sounds rather paranoid. I would be interested in knowing why you would feel recording a conversation would be necessary. I must admit I did get a chuckle out of that one!

**Laura Lee writes:**

There is nothing wrong with recording a telephone conversation with a person for a **witness** as to what exactly was said. That way neither of us could embellish on the phone conversation later as there would be an exact record. It isn't paranoid or funny. It is the wise thing to do considering your attitude in regard to this entire matter.

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-13.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

**Others Should Have an "Open" Heart (12-7-06)**

**by Lisa Burnett (Middletown, Ohio)**

**(12-7-06)**

**Lisa Burnett writes:**

I am a Christian and didn't realize your website was not.

**Laura Lee writes:**

Dear Lisa,

**Our Web Site is Christian.** As I said earlier, Christmas is Pagan. Look it up for yourself. There is no place in the Bible anywhere where we are told to keep Christmas, if you can find it in there please send me the scriptures. **Christians are those who follow Christ.** The Bible is a book about Christ and how he wants us to live. We keep the 7th day Sabbath because Christ tells us to in the Bible. The Catholic Church changed the 7th Day Sabbath to Sunday and that is also well documented in their own writings if you take the time to look it up. Please don't believe me, but go look it up for yourself. Do the research. A true Christian also reads their Bible and knows what it says, so if you know where Christmas is in there please show me the scriptures.

You can answer this back at [darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:darwin-laura@earthlink.net) if you want and I will unsubscribe you tomorrow if that is still what you want me to do. We hope well for you and that your situation changes for the better very soon. We are also sorry for the loss of your Mother.

**(12-8-06)**

**Lisa Burnett writes:**

I am so very sorry for the uproar I have caused... and **it was all very innocent.** Yes, please unsubscribe me. I tried to do it myself last night, but apparently it didn't work. On the other hand, others should have an **"open" heart regardless...** Thank You!

**Laura Lee writes:**

Lisa,

I knew right away that you didn't understand that we were Sabbath Keepers and that we don't celebrate Christmas. We don't want you to have any hard feelings towards any of us and we are sorry that you felt some were unkind to you. They should have just ignored the Christmas part and prayed for your needs. Again, we hope that things get better for you and your family and if you change your mind, you can subscribe to our list later. I will unsubscribe you now.

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-14.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

**Show Love to Others (12-8-06)**

**by Sandy Kile (Palisade, Minnesota)**

**(12-8-06)**

**Sandy Kile wrote:**

Dear Lisa (Burnett) & family,

So sorry to hear about all your troubles. Please forgive some of the brethren for not appreciating your situation, and having their priorities out of whack! Sometimes people have so much, they don't understand it (or have forgotten what it's like) when other people don't, but I've been there, and I hear you loud and clear, Lisa.

Unfortunately, I can't do much to help, but hopefully others will come to their senses, and pitch in. We all used to keep Christmas, like Laura Lee said, but the fact that we don't now and you do should not enter into the consideration of whether you need something or not, in my opinion. I suggest some participants of this list re-read: "Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it [fed or clothed or took care of in some way] not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me," (Mat. 25:45).

What I can do, Lisa, is wish you well, pray about your situation, and invite you, if you like, to write to let us know how you're doing. There are people who care about you, (I am just one), and most of all Yehovah (God) cares, and will judge us all someday by how we treat others now. Love, Sandy

**(12-11-06)**

**Linda Moers wrote:**

"There you go judging again. Unbelievable. You don't know me Sandy or anything about me, how dare you!"

**Laura Lee wrote:**

Dear Linda,

You need to stop with the anger. If you felt judged by what Sandy wrote to the entire prayer request list, then perhaps you are guilty of what her email says. I read Sandy's letter and thought it was really good and appropriate considering the question you asked. Read Nathaniel Burson's article: **"How Dare You Judge Me!** from **Issue #31.**

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-15.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

**List Not Handled Properly? (12-18-06)**

**by Laura Lee (Bismarck, North Dakota)**

(Response to a non Sabbath Keepers prayer request.) **"Why do you post requests such as these?" Linda Moers**

(I want to unsubscribe from your prayer list) **"because your prayer list is not what I consider to be properly handled". Donald Moffett**

We gave both Linda Moers and Donald Moffett plenty of opportunity to explain what they meant by the question/statement they have made, but to date neither one have wanted to explain their question/statement. If these are innocent comments on their part they should not be that hard to explain.

I believe that the exchange with Linda Moers has been covered, so I won't go into that again. Donald Moffett does not consider our prayer request list to be properly handled and we did ask him why he felt this way and to date he has not responded, so I will cover some things in the way of possibly building a bridge across the gap here.

In years past our prayer request list used to be totally controlled by us and we took all addresses off of prayer requests before they were sent out. We also sent the prayer requests to people without asking them if they even wanted them. Some people complained about receiving prayer requests, one guy, Robert Thiel even compared our prayer requests and outreach email to **"porn spam"** and some people complained about not having addresses posted to send cards to. So then we tried to rectify some of this problem by having people sign up. We started a list with "Cool Lists" and then people complained that they had to give their birth date to get on the list. Birthdates were not required by us, but they were required by "Cool Lists". Hardly no one signed up for this list. Not having learned our lesson we created a list through "Bravenet" for which even fewer people signed up. Still through it all we received many complaints not from the sick but from those who were praying as to why don't we send out addresses. After a short time we took our list back and handled it manually. At some point in all of this **Rosemary Halley** started sending her prayer requests to us. It took us hours to get these ready to send out as many times the list was so long. She sent them to us and then she complained that we were sending card packets to those on her list (18 months after the fact). What she didn't want us to send was our newsletter and Norman Edwards tract **"When Will God Heal"**. These are

people who want God to answer their prayers, but they don't want to hear about God or the Bible. What is wrong with this picture? Eventually Rosemary Halley parted ways with us of her own free will even though she certainly could have sent her prayer requests here without addresses then we wouldn't be able to send our card packets, which is something we have done for people on our prayer list ever since 2001 when we started which was long before **Rosemary Halley** started sending to us. So the point of all this is, is just what is the proper way to handle a prayer request list?

With a change to a new Web Site server in 2005/2006 came the ability for us to set up mailing lists. So we did. We explained the Prayer Requests & Updates one many times, telling everyone on that list that it was unmoderated so be careful what you say on it because it will go out to everyone. As usual, many people do not listen to what is said or pointed out to them. So then when something is sent that people don't like, then we receive more complaints. This complaint stuff is not new among the Israelites, Moses put up with it all the time he wandered in the wilderness and I would say he was a saint to put up with it. You show me an Israelite and I will show you a complainer. The bottom line here is I don't believe that we can handle a prayer request list that will meet the specifications for all people. People will always find something to complain about, just because they are people and they have different views.

With an unmoderated prayer request list comes the freedom for those on the list to decide whether they will include an address or not. Another advantage is that your prayer request goes out right away, you no longer have to wait a day or two or a week perhaps before we would have time to send it out. The disadvantage is that people such as Linda Moers can do a lot of damage before being stopped. Linda Moers is now moderated, meaning that all her prayer requests etc. will have to be approved by us before they go out. We don't like to moderate people, but for the good of all on our list and to stop the problem which arises we will moderate trouble makers on these lists. If you have questions such as the one that set off a tremendous amount of email we had to handle, then please be a Christian and ask us privately so you don't needlessly offend others on our list or cause people to unsubscribe.

Recently we were sent a Web Link to post on our site, which we will, but I found an interesting thing on their site which I will now complain about. Go to: <http://www.afg-cog.org/> and click on "Prayer Requests" and the following will hit you right between the eyes: **"Please only send cards or**

**condolences not religious materials! They are asking for prayers and loving arms to hold them in their hour of need, not sermons. PLEASE DON'T ASK FOR PRAYER FOR THOSE OUTSIDE OF THE 7TH DAY KEEPING COMMUNITY."** When I inquired about this message, I was told the message was at the request of Rosemary Halley.

In my opinion, those who might be dying or seriously ill are truly in need of God as well as prayer and loving arms. So if someone can send them something that helps them to see God in some way that will get them a miracle of healing I am all for it, it's too bad many believe this to be the wrong thing to do when a person most needs God.

The other part is totally unbiblical. We know we are to pray for our leaders, and they are many times very corrupt and in no way Sabbath Keepers. We also know we are to pray for our enemies. Are our enemies our brethren? Or are they people who are non Sabbath Keepers?

Next time you receive a prayer request from a non-Sabbath Keeper apply the following rules of love. For now skip the pagan parts of the prayer request and look only at the needs of the person. Pray first for those needs. Next pray that God might open up that persons mind to truly see what the word of God tells them to do. Next become a friend to that person so that when opportunities present themselves you can be a true Sabbath Keeping witness to that person.

I truly hope I do not see so much future outpouring of **non love** on our prayer line again in the future as I have seen in the last few weeks. Many of you were just like Lisa Burnett until someone took you in and showed you the true face of God. When you forget where you came from you no longer have the ability to witness for God.

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-16.htm>

**\*THE END OF FOUR LETTERS\***

**Disfellowshipped in 1985 (10-16-06)**

**by George E. Padgett (England)**

Dear Darwin and Laura,

Having read your letter in **"The Journal"** about brethren being disfellowshipped, I would like to offer my advice.

Today God's Church is a shambles of disunity, hatred, apostasy; neglect caused from wrong teaching, erroneous teaching, in Ambassador College.

What you see before you now is the tail

wagging the dog. From the very first meeting I had with a minister in the 1960's, I could tell immediately these people were trained to eliminate the past ways from their minds totally, to the extent that when they had to come face to face with the real world again, they could not adapt properly. In the years at college they were unwittingly protected to the extent they were fearful, unable to properly converse, and unable to face the facts of the real world!

When a minister came to visit, his whole approach was one of not wanting to face reality, but one of forcing what you would say, 'square pegs in round holes'; a pretence that we have a new truth that will be forced upon you and accepted, or you are no good to the church.

In reality, the ministry of the WCG were, and still are, unable to ever believe they have done wrong, regardless of their behaviour and actions.

The teaching of Herbert Armstrong produced shameless, feckless, arrogant, petulant ministers, simply because the brethren, believe it or not, have always faced the problems of the world better than the ministry; and continue to do so.

Why is there so much division, etc. amongst God's people when there is prophesied to be a big falling away, if God's ministers know the truth?

Why has the ministry always forgotten, ignored, disregarded, the fact that God the Father does the calling?

What is a fact is that Jesus Christ is knocking for admission, but is being kept out by Ambassador College - trained ministers!

Another fact is that Jesus Christ is now working with individuals who obey, trust, and believe Him, as opposed to those who feel good and safe belonging to a church or group; where the minister will just simply leave the flock to look after himself. It has happened once, it will happen again.

I was called by God in 1968. After being turned off by two ministers who visited me, I spent over seven years extensively studying the bible. I went to church in 1976, and I found it nothing like the "different from the world" atmosphere. I have always found that the WCG was professing to be so different from the world, but in reality it wasn't even a few steps behind, but was right along with the very ways of the world.

Pretence always surfaces for what it is; a sham. As time went on reality kicked in, and more and more people saw the effects of pretentious, insincere leadership. God's word was replaced by man's.

I dated a single lady in the church, and I was warned about it. Apparently I did not seek the minister's approval!! I continued to do what I knew was my legal entitlement to do, and I had no intention of being shackled

by an obscene form of dominance and control.

After a Sabbath service I was asked to go into a private room with the assistant pastor and local elder. I was told that the minister had given permission for me to be kicked out of the church, there and then. The reason? I was ignoring the minister! My reply to this was that he must tell me himself face to face.

The following Wednesday was a bible study given by the minister. I intended confronting the minister about his accusation. After bible study finished he dashed out, and I followed him. I asked him to stop and talk, but he kept walking. Out in the car park he got angry, and said he had passed a message to the elder to pass on to me. I asked why he could not tell me himself, and he got into his car and drove away.

The elder did not approach me that night or the following Sabbath, so when we came to vacate the premises I walked up to the elder's car as he was about to leave. I said to him, 'Don't you have a message to pass on to me?' He said, 'Be at my home tomorrow morning.'

The minister had deceitfully conspired with the elder to remove me from church by saying I had refused to attend a meeting they were not going to inform me about. In the presence of the assistant pastor, minister, and local elder, I told the minister he was deceitful. I was disfellowshipped.

For the next six years I wrote letters and had occasional meetings; always three against one. At one meeting the minister deliberately wound me up, then said, 'I bet you are seething, aren't you?'

Not long after being disfellowshipped, when I wrote my first letter to the minister, he conspired with the church accountant, Francis Bergin, to accuse me of not tithing. I asked Bergin why he was falsely accusing me and he ordered me to photocopy my receipts. I did this and sent them off and asked for an apology. No reply.

After six years of being messed about I wrote to Pasadena for their intervention. After nine months without a reply I wrote back to Pasadena to tell them I was returning to church. Needless to say they replied straight away, but it was too late. I also wrote to the minister, traveled by train about 100 miles, and put it through his letterbox.

I did return to church on the stated day, and the minister stayed away. I did expect to be told to leave, but I had proved a point. The minister was removed from that church and sent elsewhere.

I requested a meeting with the new minister, and, together with the elder, we met in the foyer of a local hotel. Immediately he asked me how long I had been out of the church. When I told him, he said I would

have to pay a certain amount for each year; also stating it was new church policy. I asked for a copy of the policy and he said I would have to take his word for it.

I told this minister I did not believe him, then he said that even if I paid it there was no guarantee I would get back to church. He then looked around at the hotel walls and ceiling, got up and walked to reception. Effectively he was finished with me. I got up, told the elder I was disgusted with their behaviour over the years, then I walked away.

Before I met this last minister I phoned a man I knew from the church who readily agreed to meet me and talk. The first thing he asked me was, why was I put out of the church. After all those years nobody had been told the reason.

I was disfellowshipped in November 1985. The minister was David Magowan, who is now in charge over here of COGIC.

I am an ordinary person living in a council flat: I do not have a car nor a computer. I write to brethren who state their address via a P. O. Box number. I receive no replies. I often wonder, when I read **The Journal**," if people are genuine about what they say, or is it just something to say.

When we see the sad and bad situation with Gerald Flurry's church, it ought to be a wake-up call for the PCG members because it is so obvious that once again, following on from the WCG, it is a case of following man and not God. We read the condemnation of Flurry's laws at the same time we read that he is an avid follower of Herbert Armstrong. Yet, nobody seems to condemn HWA for that very same false teaching.

Do we have someone who can unite the church? No. The ministry has lost its way. We have instead men showing their photographs and speaking very little substance.

God always works with a person until that person dies. This does not in any way signify that person was correct. God put it into the mind of HWA to choose Joseph Tkach, for a very good reason!

You asked for a brief summary, but if I had done that, the real seriousness and truth would be omitted.

I have not covered everything that related to our church, the ministers, and other brethren, but you need to know true facts.

Since 1985 I have not been to a F. O. T. I am, in the words of the assistant minister, a non person who will have to take his chance in the tribulation. Not so, the roles are reversed. Love and best wishes,

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/l2007-037-17.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

**QUESTIONS SECTION** ==

[newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net)

**KIDS KORNER** ==

[newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net)

**Stan & Jan Berenstain**

Sent by Jeana Anderson (Casa, Arkansas)

The other day, while reading my morning paper, I became saddened by what I saw. Stan Berenstain had passed away last Saturday at the age of 82. No, Mr. Berenstain was not a close family friend or relative of mine, but I would bet that his name rings a bell with many of you. Stan Berenstain and his wife, Jan, were co-authors of the popular children's series The Berenstain Bears.

Perhaps not all of you had the same experience growing up as I had, but as a child I recall that not a night went by when I did not get my bedtime story. Most of these nights I chose for my mom or dad to read a Berenstain Bears book. Though I was not a cub, nor did my family live in a split-level tree "down a sunny dirt road deep in Bear Country," I could really relate to the Berenstain's. Just like the Berenstain Bears, my family had a father, mother and older brother. Also just like Papa, Mama, Brother and Sister, we were not perfect and so sometimes we had to learn our lessons too.

Though I loved to read their tales time and time again, looking back I can see why my parents were always more than happy to oblige with my book requests. Each Berenstain Bears book was an entertaining story, but more importantly, each one had a good lesson for both young and old alike. At the end of each book you could always expect to find Papa Bear with the moral of the story and life for the Berenstain's went on happily ever after.

While these books about a happy little family of bears do not reflect all aspects of contemporary society (the books do not contain families with only a mama bear, step-brother and step-sister bears, or families with two papa bears), they still have good messages for children. I remember reading books by the Berenstain's that emphasized the importance of sharing, doing your chores, not judging someone before you get to know them, cleaning your room, hard work, going to bed on time, and having good manners. In addition, the books eased some of my concerns about traumatic childhood events such as visits to the doctor and dentist, as well as a trip to the mall to see Santa Bear.

By now we should all be practicing ideals on our own without having to look to illustrated bears for an example. Nevertheless, we cannot undermine the fact that these books were a great way to teach us how to become the caring, compassionate, responsible and hardworking young adults we are today. As children we are easily influenced by the things we hear and see. Today many people argue that with all the violence on television and in video games, children are becoming overexposed to adult themes and growing up too fast. These people feel that society would be better off if it reverted back to some of its more traditional values. They stress that, just as Papa and Mama Berenstain were always there to teach Brother and Sister a lesson, parents should take an active role in their children's lives.

The death of a man who could instill these essential values in children is truly a great loss. Through the Berenstain Bears, Stan and Jan Berenstain were able to solve everyday family situations and teach children basic "do's" and "don'ts." These lessons transcend decades and generations, which helps explain why the Berenstain Bears remain a popular series for children throughout the world after 42 years. Today you can find the Berenstain Bears on television, on stage at your local theaters and you can even email Papa, Mama, Brother and Sister Berenstain via the [official Berenstain Bears website](#).

Upon his death, many people have expressed their sympathies to the Berenstain family and have shared their gratitude for the books that had influenced so many of us growing up. While many thanked Berenstain for wonderful childhood memories and the joy they got from reading his books, others reflected on what they had learned from his books. One Arizona woman wrote, "The Berenstain Bears books taught manners, morals and about family. Something the world could use a little more of. Wouldn't it be great if we all thought like Stan & Jan?"

How very true that is. The world would be a much better place if we could all take the most basic lessons we learned as children to heart as adults.

Molly Acker is a senior communication studies and humanistic studies double major at Saint Mary's. She can be contacted at [acke6758@saintmarys.edu](mailto:acke6758@saintmarys.edu)

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/k2007-037-01.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

THE MESSAGE BOARD (ADS & INFO) --

newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net

SABBATH SCHEDULE--BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

- December 16, 2006----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #152 & Lesson #153
December 23, 2006----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
December 30, 2006----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #154 & Lesson #155
January 6, 2007----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
January 13, 2007----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #156 & Lesson #157
January 20, 2007----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
January 26, 2007----Bible Study
January 27, 2007----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #158 & Lesson #159
February 3, 2007----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
February 10, 2007----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #160 & Lesson #161
February 17, 2007----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
February 24, 2007----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #162 & Lesson #163
March 3, 2007----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
March 9, 2007----Bible Study
March 10, 2007----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #164 & Lesson #165

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.

SABBATH SERVICES

Every Saturday at 2:00 PM at 320 N. Griffin St., Bismarck, North Dakota (701) 258-7172
Front Door Open at 1:00 PM for Fellowship

BIBLE STUDY

Every 6 weeks on Friday at 8:00 PM at 320 N. Griffin St., Bismarck, North Dakota (701) 258-7172
Front Door Open at 6:30 PM for Fellowship and Pot Luck Meal (Bring Food)

PRAYER REQUESTS & UPDATES --

PrayerRequestsAndUpdates@darwinlauralee.com

December 2007

- Andy----Unemployed, Needs Job
Burnett, Lisa----Husband Injured & Food
Groat, Forrest & Doris----Death in Family
Markland, Richard----Sentencing 1-2-07
Savannah, Joyce E.----Son on Drugs

Ariel

"If you send us a copy of the information on King David and his relationship to the English Royal Family, plus a verification that such information has been validated and by whom, we will see to it that it gets to Buckingham Palace and that your name will accompany it."

Item found on line at:

http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-01.htm

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

Phoenix Hosts Celebrate Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary
Sent by Howard Bruce (Glendale, Arizona)

Howard and Dorothy Bruce recently celebrated their Golden Fiftieth Wedding

Anniversary. Howard and Dorothy met at a skating rink; Howard says they were not good skaters, so they held hands to keep from falling. (Dorothy, says that she "fell for him" literally!) That started their love affair that has been going on now for over fifty years. They married June 21, 1947 in Dallas, Oregon. They were blessed with three beautiful children Linda, Darlene and Bill. The family came into the W.C.G. In Salem, Oregon in the fall of 1964. Howard and Dorothy attended their first Feast of Tabernacles in Squaw Valley, California in 1965 and were baptized by Carlton Smith in 1966. All three of their children were also later baptized into God's Church. Howard graduated from Spokesman Club and later became president of the Graduate's Club in Salem. They attended the 1979 Feast with the C.G.I. At Squaw Valley and are presently Hosts of the C.G.I. Church group in Phoenix, Arizona.

The Anniversary party was celebrated at the beautiful home of Scott and granddaughter Jamie Fishburn of Phoenix, Arizona. Mrs. Linda King, daughter of the Bruces, did a beautiful job of organizing the celebration party. Daughters and granddaughters alike helped with the preparations. Husband Charlie King barbecued the steaks and asked an inspiring

Princess Diana, a Dream, and King David's Dynasty Beyond Babylon ^ | 11-25-06 | David Ben-

blessing over a delicious dinner, mentioning the example Howard and Dorothy had set in their marriage. The Anniversary celebration beginning on the Sabbath made it even more special. It was a festive occasion attended by many friends and relatives, including great grand children. Everywhere I looked I saw strikingly pretty "Bruce" women and all of these attractive offspring resembled Dorothy! The highlight of the evening was at the cutting of the Anniversary cake. Instead of stuffing the cake into his sweetheart's face as lesser men would have done, Howard tenderly placed the cake in her mouth, then lovingly took her into his arms, gently swayed her back and softly kissed her just like they used to do in all of those romantic movies! Clark Gable would have been proud of you Howard! *You are a true lover and role model for us all!*

Jeanette and I feel honored to have been invited to this celebration of our dear friends. It is an evening we will always fondly remember. Thank you Howard and Dorothy for allowing us to share a little of your joy. May God's blessing continue to shine upon your marriage. You are a wonderful couple! Phill and Jeanette Dunagan

Item found on line at:  
<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-02.htm>  
\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**Evangelical atheist gets front page billing in Newsweek for: "An Atheist's Case Against Faith" by Jeffrey Caldwell (Redwood City, California)**

Today I received the November 13, 2006 issue of *Newsweek*. The cover photograph is a cross wrapped in the American flag, and the headline is "The Politics of Jesus". A cover-listed feature article is billed: "Why Religion and Politics Don't Mix" by Sam Harris.

Sam Harris is an aggressively proselytizing atheist and, inside, his article is: "An Atheist's Case Against Faith", pages 42-43. Harris is the author of the NY Times bestsellers [Letter to a Christian Nation](#) and [The End of Faith](#).

He writes very persuasively, especially for those who believe what they've been taught in our public education system under the sway of secular humanism. I suggest you make it a point to consider what he says! It may be "coming at you"!

Sam Harris characterizes the expectation of the return of Jesus within 50

years, which, he says, 44 percent of Americans believe, as "faith-based nihilism" which "provides its adherents with absolutely no incentive to build a sustainable civilization--economically, environmentally or geopolitically."

The article begins by mocking the Biblical doctrine of a recent Creation and much of it is taken up making a case against Christian beliefs in the sacredness of conceived children impeding embryonic stem cell research by influencing government policies.

He concludes: "We are living in a world in which millions of Christians hope soon to be raptured into the stratosphere by Jesus so they can safely enjoy a sacred genocide that will inaugurate the end of human history. In a world brimming with increasingly destructive technology, our infatuation with religious myths now poses a tremendous danger. And it is not a danger for which more religious faith is a remedy."

American Christianity hasn't taken the most constructive course in anticipating the soon-coming judgment of God. There is no justification in it for feeling or doing nothing about the betterment of the world at hand, and "the rapture" is indeed a comforting superstitious myth.

Item found on line at:  
<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-03.htm>  
\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**New Service through Cell Phones Sent by Dixon Cartwright (Big Sandy, Texas)**

*The Journal Offers Amazing New Service through Cell Phones*  
<http://www.thejournal.org/issues/issue114/get-holy-day-dates-clean-foods-list-anywhere.html>

FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. -- In a hurry and need to look up the date and weekday of a Holy Day? Have you ever been unsure which fish on a restaurant menu is biblically clean to eat? *The Journal's* Web site at [www.thejournal.org](http://www.thejournal.org) now offers a convenient way to access important Church of God information when and where it's needed, reported Web-site manager Alan Ruth.

*The Journal's* site has Web pages, accessible through Web-enabled cell phones and other mobile devices (PDAs, etc.), that: \* List Holy Day dates and the weekdays they fall on for years 2007 to 2015.

- \* List biblically clean fish.
- \* List biblically clean land animals and birds.
- \* List groups offering a live connection to their Sabbath services.

Church members can view these materials by typing in [thejournal.org](http://thejournal.org) (or [thejournal.org/mobile/](http://thejournal.org/mobile/)) in their cell phone's Web browser. This new section is simple to use, easy to read on a cell's screen and downloads fast.

[TheJournal.org](http://TheJournal.org) is only the second known Church of God-related site providing a service to visitors using 21st-century mobile technology, according to Alan.

In 2006 *The Journal: News of the Churches of God* at [www.thejournal.org](http://www.thejournal.org) will attract more than **365,000 visitors**, which is a **60% increase** in its popularity compared to the previous year. For information about site advertising, please visit [www.thejournal.org/ads/adrates.html](http://www.thejournal.org/ads/adrates.html).

Item found on line at:  
<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-04.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**Struggle by Jacques Gauvin (Canada)**

I just posted a new article on my website entitled 'Struggle'. I also added a couple of poems recently.

[www.jacquesgauvin.com](http://www.jacquesgauvin.com)

Item found on line at:  
<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-05.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**American Concentration Camp Presentation by Richard Markland (Troy, Ohio)**

The enclosed link is a must see video for anyone who has [high speed internet](#). It's a 90 minute presentation on the history of concentration camps and how America has a massive program for the establishment of concentration camps in the US. It's well documented and provable. It does have religious content at the beginning and end because it is produced by the "[Power of Prophecy](#)" ministry. It is the best video I have ever watched on this subject.

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-3020455577813028878>

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-06.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

## Quoted on Popular Commentary Web Site

by Alan Ruth  
(Farmington Hills, Michigan)

FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich.-- *The American Thinker* Internet E-zine recently used one of [BibleStudy.org's](http://www.biblestudy.org) answers to visitor questions in a commentary on the sixth commandment, reports Webmaster Alan Ruth.

The E-zine in early October published a commentary entitled "*The Sixth Commandment and PC*" discussing whether the sixth commandment allows for protecting one's home against criminals and defending one's country against terrorists. Readers of the article are provided a link back to [BibleStudy.org](http://www.biblestudy.org).

The American Thinker Web site is one of the busiest on the Internet and states it is "devoted to the thoughtful exploration of issues of importance to Americans".

The commentary is located at [www.americanthinker.com/comments.php?comments\\_id=6309](http://www.americanthinker.com/comments.php?comments_id=6309).

[BibleStudy.org](http://www.biblestudy.org) is one of the largest and most popular Internet Web sites preaching the gospel to the entire world. The site attracts more than two million visitors each year who request six million of its Bible study articles and study materials.

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-07.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

## Herbert W. Armstrong Was Ahead of His Time!

by David Ben-Ariel  
(Toledo, Ohio)

[News-and-Society: Religion] Was Herbert W. Armstrong right or wrong? What about all his predictions? Did he teach the plain truth

of the Bible?

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-08.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

## Cancer Doctor Info for Richard Nickels

Sent by Howard Bruce  
(Glendale, Arizona)

Hi Howard,

This is the doctor that my Cousin and Neighbor both went to and their cancer was cured. Dr. Steve Fijerstad (I'm not sure of the spelling of the last name, but I think it is correct.) He's in Litchfield, MN.

Office Number 320-693-2541

My Cousin Dave says he is not in the office on Mondays, but can be reached the rest of the week.

My cousin David about 4 or 5 years ago was diagnosed with cancer all throughout his body and was not given much time to live. After going through the natural-herbal treatment with this doctor, all the cancer was gone and has never returned.

If you could forward this on to Mr. Nickels, this doctor could possibly help him too. I will keep him in my prayers. Dan Krantz

Editors Note:

As most people know, [Richard Nickels](#) died on June 4, 2006. We received this letter on September 16, 2006, although my understanding is that at some point it was passed on to Richard Nickels while he was yet alive. We print this letter here for anyone who would want the information it contains. Laura Lee

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-09.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

## Poems

by Jacques Gauvin  
(Canada)

I just added a humorous poem to my website called 'Ode To A Hangglider' for your pleasure. Other recent entries are 'Life Too' and 'Legs'. **Warning!** they are not all funny. <http://www.jacquesgauvin.com/POEMS/Poetry.htm>

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-10.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

I have written the following poem because the grieving process is different for everyone. No two people grieve the same. It is a long journey and no one can do it for you. What I have written is not just about me, but for everyone who has to move on after the loss of a loved one. I realize that not everyone will understand what I say, but a day is coming when you will.

## A Hidden Pain

by Richard Markland (Troy, Ohio)  
(c) 2006 By Richard Markland

Deep within my eyes there is a pain you do not see.  
Each teardrop carries a message you are not able to read.  
You are not able to hear the echo deep within my soul.  
You do not feel the erratic beating of my fragmented heart.  
You do not see the open wound of loneliness that I feel.  
You do not see the memories left behind on the journey I travel.  
You are not able to walk with me on a pathway called healing.  
It is a place God has created for only me.  
Someday you will understand what I am saying.  
A loved one will be taken and you will understand.

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-11.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

## **Audience Increases by 1 Billion**

by Alan Ruth  
(Farmington Hills, Michigan)

FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich.-- God has graciously opened another door for [BibleStudy.org](http://BibleStudy.org) to play a greater role in reaching the world with His word, according to Webmaster Alan Ruth.

The Web site now has study materials designed specifically to be accessed and viewed by the more than one **BILLION** cell phones and other mobile devices now in existence!

Few people are aware that there are three times more cell phones in the world than personal computers. In the United States alone there are about 220 million wireless subscribers (CTIA-*The Wireless Association*, Sept. 2006). For many, their cell phone is their one and ONLY access to the Internet. This mobile audience is projected to continue its rapid growth (e.g. in 2005 one of China's mobile service providers added 42 Million subscribers) for the foreseeable future.

The site's new mobile-based content can be reached by typing in [biblestudy.org](http://biblestudy.org) (or [biblestudy.org/mobile/](http://biblestudy.org/mobile/)) in a cell phone's Web-connected browser.

[BibleStudy.org's](http://BibleStudy.org) independent ministry is a leader in promoting 21st century tools and techniques to preach the gospel. Milestones in the site's implementation and advancement of new ideas (with year started) include:

- \* Providing any Web site the ability to offer their visitors a different daily COG-related Bible study message via audio feed (2000).
- \* Complementing, then eliminating, distribution of cassette-based audio messages with CDs playable on any common, affordable CD player (2000).
- \* Using MP3 formatted audio messages to provide several hours of Bible-based studies on a single CD (2000).
- \* Creation of Web-based Bible Question and Answer service staffed by more than 10 mature church of God members (2002).
- \* Creation of Web-based Baptism Referral Service utilizing COG members around the world (2004).

[BibleStudy.org](http://BibleStudy.org) is one of the most visited Christian Web sites preaching the gospel. In 2006 it will attract 2.1 million visitors and experience a 50% increase in its popularity over the previous year.

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-12.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

## **Germany Behind the Mask: Monster or Marshmallow?**

by David Ben-Ariel  
(Toledo, Ohio)

"So long as we wear the mask, we remain hidden and continue to conceal the situation from ourselves."

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-13.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

## **Christians Cause Confusion Over Christmas!**

Sent by David Ben-Ariel  
(Toledo, Ohio)

The confusion in this country, first and foremost, is the fault of Protestants keeping a Roman Catholic hollow day, the "mass of Christ," having failed to completely come out of BABYLON.

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/i2007-037-14.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

## **Mt. Zion Under Siege: Who Will Be King of the Mountain?**

by David Ben-Ariel  
(Toledo, Ohio)

The Vatican has its evil eye on Jerusalem! What better place to start their siege against the Holy City than Mt. Zion? Watch for them to fortify their position and launch an all-out attack to undermine Israeli sovereignty, enlisting Jewish traitors and the international community.

It is only a matter of time before the

Vatican exercises their evil influences to enforce **UN Resolution 181**. Will Israel make the most of this grace period, return to God and secure the Jewish homeland or fall prostrate before the Roman EU?

The Vatican's illegitimate claims to Mt. Zion stem from the extorted belief that Jesus' "Last Supper" was held in the Upper Room of the traditional site of King David's Tomb. I am a Christian and trust Jesus held such a meal in Jerusalem, but there is no way to prove it was at such a site and since the bloody Roman Catholic Church states it to be so, I highly doubt it.

Regardless, the alleged "Upper Room" would not be a holy site in light of the New Testament and is never mentioned again after the fact, but the Temple Mount stands alone as "the most holy place." Isn't that what the Vatican is really after? Haven't they coveted the crown of Jerusalem, and its crown jewel - the Temple Mount - since the Crusades? The leopard has not changed its spots!

Some might contend that there isn't sufficient proof that King David (my forefather) is actually buried on Mt. Zion. However, it is a Jewish belief, it is the Jewish homeland, and it isn't necessary for Jews to prove anything to the world, as it is honestly none of their business.

If Israel were wise, they would immediately cut off all negotiations, unequivocally state Jerusalem is not for sale, and threaten any Jew who persists in such an error and grievous sin with expulsion from the Jewish community. It's that serious! Israeli sovereignty is at stake!

Rabbi Avraham Goldstein is leader of the Diaspora Yeshiva (Yeshiva Toras Yisrael) that has been blessed since 1966 to utilize David's Tomb and the building complex on Mt. Zion for religious classes and services. Goldstein is also Chief Rabbi of the Old City of Jerusalem, and in agreement with all 14 rabbis in the Old City, is convinced that the Vatican's true intent is to ultimately evict the yeshiva and completely empty the complex of Jews.

"Jerusalem is in danger," the rabbi warned his American audience, as reported by The Jewish Voice and Opinion, exposing the disturbing fact that the European Union has joined dark forces with the Palestinian Authority to put undue pressure upon Israel to disengage from half the Holy City and cede the Eastern half to the Muslim Arabs.

How can Israel live with half a heart? Why permit occult designs to forge Jerusalem's future? Why sanction secular politicians to handle such holy issues? Why trust an unholy trinity composed of "Jewish Catholic Knights" (Gary Krupp and David Rosen) and the poisonous Vatican plant

**Continued on page 10**