

The “New” Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
April 30, 2022 --- Issue No. 65

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Publisher: Church of God, Bismarck, Darwin & Laura Lee, **Editor:** Laura Lee, **Assistant Editor:** Darwin Lee We do not necessarily agree with all contributors, or their works submitted and printed in this newsletter. It is up to you to get out your Bible and see whether these things are true. Iron sharpens Iron

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Articles

America's nervous breakdown: Devilry gets a smack-down (Copyright) by Curtis Dahlgren (Stephenson, Michigan)

"We're going insane, folks. We're literally being swept up by the insane and being told we have to join them in their insanity... When there are no objective facts, when everything is up for dispute, when things that are undeniably fact are not *permitted* to be, we have a problem." – Rush Limbaugh

RUSH IS NOT OUT ON A LIMB ALL ALONE. In the mouth of two or three witnesses, a thing is established: "**We are again engaged in a great civil war, a cultural war that's about to hijack your birthright to *think and say* what resides in your heart . . . I serve as a moving target for the media who've called me everything from 'ridiculous' and 'duped' to a 'brain-injured, senile, crazy old man.'**" – Charlton Heston (at Harvard Law, 1999)

"**I am concerned for the security of our great nation; not so much because of any threat from without, but because of insidious forces working from within.**" – Gen. Douglas MacArthur

"**An elective despotism is not the government we fought for.**" – Thomas Jefferson

"**Everywhere you look you see the cultural and societal degradation of America.**" – Michael Savage

Savage added that someone at the head of a national ticket needs to come right out and say so! Ever since the 1992 election, consultancy "experts" have told the Establishment candidates to do the opposite. The term "culture war" is the equivalent of "slavery" to the Whigs in 1852. They thought that the issue would go away if they didn't talk about it. The Whig party went out with a whimper, not a bang. The "shy" GOP still wins elections because the other party is so far out there. The Democrats have jumped the shark (and the Clintons have been right in the swim there for years). The following is an excerpt from "America's nervous breakdown; another legacy of the '60s" (CD, 2-21-2004):

"**For decades, the theory of deconstruction has enjoyed a vogue in academe. It originated in linguistics, where it posited the none-too-radical idea that language was a function of shared meaning... From linguistics, however, deconstruction passed into textual interpretation . . . If deconstruction had confined itself to English departments, it might have served as just another analytical tool. But deconstructionists were rabid partisans who realized their theory had grave implications not just for literature, but for the very notion of *reality* . . .**

"**When reality itself is a subjective construct, morality is also relative... [and] in the longer view, the Clinton scandal not only raised the issue of deconstruction; it was the latest and fiercest battle in what we might now recognize as a long cultural civil war . . .**" – L.A. *Times* (quoted in *Las Vegas Review-Journal* (Jan. 7, 1999)

"**We have now sunk to a depth at which restatement of the obvious is the first duty of intelligent men.**" – George Orwell

Like "thou shalt not bear false witness," etc. Full-time politicians will say, "We're into government, not culture." RINOs will say "Leave that to the theologians." However, one legacy of the 1960s is barometer shepherds who *also* put a finger to the wind to see which way it's blowing – to see what's the "HOT" issue du jour. In the first "nervous breakdown" column, I quoted a Senate speech by Zell Miller of Georgia:

"**The Old Testament prophet Amos was a sheep herder who lived back in the Judean hills, away from the cities of Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Compared to the intellectual urbanites like Isaiah and Jeremiah, he was just an unsophisticated country hick. But Amos had a unique grasp of political and social issues, and his poetic literary skill was among the best of all the prophets. That familiar quote of Martin Luther King, Jr. about 'Justice will rush down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream' are Amos' words... This blunt speaking moral conscience of his time warns... as if he were speaking to us today:**

"**The days will come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land. Not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the word of the Lord!"**

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We are beginning to see that famine. Christians shall soon be hated "of all nations" – including this one – judging by the trends of popular culture. The "way" was being prepared over one hundred years ago, as elaborated by Charles J. Sykes in "A Nation of Victims" in 1992:

"As the mainline churches fell into decline [in the late 1800s], there was an upsurge in spiritualism... and New Thought. . . By the time Freudianism first arrived here, Americans were already well-disposed to listen... Social Darwinism and the rise of an insatiable consumer society – a culture of expectations and entitlements – were the flotsam and jetsam of the triumph of science over faith...

"Freud himself set the tone for the assault on faith. He regarded religion in all its forms as an illusion and therefore recast it as a form of neurosis... an instance of mental disorder – of madness . . . 'By identifying the liberal personality as the antithesis of the authoritarian personality, [the intelligentsia] equated mental health with an approved political position!'"

Sykes was citing T.W. Adorno in the previous sentence ("The Authoritarian Personality," 1950). If you think we're going "insane," as Rush does, just be aware that the Plan has been a long time coming. A professor wrote "This Beats Working for a Living" in 1973 to anonymously spill the gambit of Academe:

"Too many professors pander to their audience and help the student believe what his feelings of inadequacy have led him to assert: that he is smart and educated, that youth equates with eternal wisdom, that age equates with obstinacy and wrongness, and that the past has no lessons for the present... they place self above all those things that history taught to be important . . .

"In short, their attitude of elitism leads them to believe they know better what is best for the country than do older or less educated yokels, and they intend to give it to the country whether it wants their solutions or not."

The "Plan" was to let the old people and their notions of Liberty die off; then replace them with a new breed of cat that doesn't mind a little "elective despotism" – in the words of Jefferson. Napoleon crowned himself emperor because he was tired of "gridlock." Benito's power grab was intended to "get things done." Hitler just wanted to build infrastructure and get the trains running on time (a little sarcasm there). Liberals may be winning the battles and losing the war though; the millennials are more pro-life than some earlier generations. The young are not as anti-God as the politically insane were counting on. Interest in ancestry is growing. Interest in useless college courses is waning. There may be a backlash against "the approved political positions." Atheists such as Dawkins and Harris thought that by now there would be so much social pressure against belief in God that it would be embarrassingly unthinkable. The church would be driven underground. That is not the case yet, so the Left turns unabashedly to censorship via lawsuit and intimidation. Anything "annoying" – *to them* – is considered harassment. Well, as George Orwell once said:

"If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they don't want to hear."

P.S. Happy birthday, Magna Carta. One of our Founding Fathers, Dr. Benjamin Rush, was once asked "are you a democrat or an aristocrat?" "I am neither," he said. "I am a Christocrat. I believe He, alone, who created and redeemed man is qualified to govern him."

President Monroe said, "While then [America] retains its sound and healthful state, everything will be safe. They will choose competent and faithful representatives... [but] **It is only when the people become ignorant and corrupt, when they degenerate into a populace, that they are incapable of exercising the sovereignty. Usurpation is then an easy attainment, and a usurper soon found. The people themselves become the willing instruments of their own debasement and ruin."**

PPS: The current Congress has deconstructed the obvious meaning of "infrastructure."

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George Washington's Answer for America's Descent into Chaos and Crime (Copyright) by Eddie Hyatt (Tulsa, Oklahoma)



Major American cities are descending into chaos with murders, thefts, assaults, and car jackings skyrocketing. This crime wave is a result, first of all, of a cultural rejection of God's moral law. Secondly, it is a result of outrageous, lawless policies that are being implemented by leftwing mayors and district attorneys.

These policies, which coddle criminals and demonize the police, are based on the "progressive" liberal philosophy that human nature is essentially good and it is evil institutions that are the cause of the problems. In this worldview, the criminals are by nature good people who are victims of an evil American system.

America's founders held no such utopian view of the natural goodness of humanity. They held the traditional Christian belief that mankind had been created a noble creature in the image and likeness of God, but that image had become corrupted by the entry of rebellion and sin into the world (Genesis 3).

This belief in the corruption of human nature was highlighted in a prayer recorded by George Washington in a prayer journal he kept in his twenties. The prayer, for a certain Monday morning, acknowledges the need for cleansing and transformation. It reads,

Wash away my sins in the immaculate blood of the Lamb and purge my heart by the Holy Spirit. Daily frame me more and more in the likeness of Thy Son, Jesus Christ (Hyatt, *America's Revival Heritage*, 72).

Other founders made clear their belief in the corruption of human nature. "Take mankind in general," said Alexander Hamilton, "they are vicious." James Madison added, "If men were angels no government would be necessary." The historian, Benjamin Hart, wrote, "A central assumption of America's founders was original sin, meaning the corruption of man's character" (Hyatt, *America's Revival Heritage*, 94).

For this reason, the founders believed that humanity must either be governed from within by moral principles or controlled from without by laws designed to restrict their wicked behavior. This is what William Penn was referring to when he wrote, "Those who will not be governed by God, must be ruled by tyrants" (Hyatt, *America's Revival Heritage*, 26).

America's founders instituted a Constitutional Republic with a goal of freedom for its citizenry. They realized, however, that only a virtuous and moral people could be trusted with freedom. Otherwise, they would turn freedom into anarchy and use their freedom as an opportunity to pursue selfish ends, even to the hurt of others.

That is why George Washington, in his Farewell Address to the new nation, exhorted her citizens to cling to "religion" and "morality," which he called "indispensable" for a stable and prosperous nation. Thomas Jefferson agreed with Washington's address and made it required reading at the University of Virginia, which he founded. Jefferson also said,

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“Of all the systems of morality that have come under my observation, none appear so pure to me as that of Jesus” (Hyatt, *America’s Revival Heritage*, 85).

America’s founders implemented limited government because they expected the citizens to govern themselves from within according to the teachings of Jesus and the New Testament. John Adams made this clear when he said,

We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion . . . Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious [Christian] people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other (Hyatt, *America’s Revival Heritage*, 79).

The modern, liberal progressive has rejected both the moral law of God and human laws designed to restrict criminal behavior. It should be no surprise that this is resulting in a crime wave hitherto unknown in this nation.

The ultimate answer is a return to the nation’s founding principles of faith and freedom, and in that order. America must have a national awakening of faith and morality. It is not too far-fetched to expect such an Awakening, for as documented in my book, *America’s Revival Heritage*, such Awakenings have occurred more than once in our nation’s history and saved her from moral and political ruin.

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America’s Mental State is in Need of Major Changes

(Copyright) by Richard Markland (London, Ohio)

If ever there has been a period of time in America’s short history that defies the words that are required to describe what the nation has become, it is now. Never has there been a time in which the mental state of the nation’s leaders and the American people have every reason to be questioned.

Common sense has been replaced by total nonsense in the way far too many American’s reason and justify what they say and do. The mental state of the nation is alarming and equivalent to performing a dangerous balancing act on an emotional razor wire. How long until the nation completely loses it and suffers irreversible consequences for its irresponsible and reprehensible actions?

A Crisis on all Fronts

America is facing dangerous headwinds of its own making. The country is directionless when it comes to solving its problems. The nation’s leaders talk the talk, but trip over themselves when it comes to offering solutions. Answers to the nations’ problems are evasive because politicians in Washington are not directed by a moral code to guide them. The American people are split and fragmented when it comes to what must be done. Even though barely keeping our noses above the muck and we are sinking as a nation, there is a naïve mindset that America has always survived and will continue to do so come hell and high water.

Whether it is the treasonous and unconstitutional impeachment hearings of former President Donald Trump, massive political corruption, the slaughter of unborn children in America’s concentration camps called Planned Parenthood Clinics, the scourge of drugs, alcohol, sexual perversion and a host of other problems, the amount of hot air from talking about the nation’s sins is the true definition of global warming.

A Tragic Mental State

If America were honest with itself, it would not only see, but admit it is mentally ill. The country, however, is spiritually bankrupt and blind to its cancerous immoral condition. The bible graphically describes the nation’s true mental state, yet how many people are willing to believe what is stated?

Isaiah 11:5-6- “Why should you be stricken anymore. You will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick and the whole heart faint. (6) From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds and bruises and putrefying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up; neither mollified (reduced in intensity) with ointment.”

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For the bible to state, “...the whole head is sick,” and “...even unto the head there is no soundness in it...” it is another way in which God is saying America is mentally ill as a nation. The country is about to reap a whirlwind of consequences because it is not disturbed and shocked by what it has become.

Up is down and down is sideways because America is a nation without absolutes. What is considered right for one person is not necessarily right for others. People are no longer expected but required to accept the differences in others. It is an immoral rot eating away at the heart and soul of the nation and the bible warns against such an attitude.

Isaiah 5:20- “Woe unto them that call evil good and good evil, that put darkness for light and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.”

The word “Woe” in verse 20 is key. Since the bible is God’s mind in print, he is warning America of what the consequences will be for setting its own standards.

According to Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary the word “Woe” is defined as:

- 1 Deep suffering – To endure death, pain, or distress.
- 2 Misfortune – An event or series of events that cause unfortunate or distressing results.
- 3 Affliction – Persistent Pain
- 4 Grief -Disaster
- 5 Ruinous Trouble – To the point of collapse physically, morally, economically, and socially
- 6 Calamity – and extra ordinary grave event or series of events marked by great loss or lasting distress and affliction.
- 7 Suffering – To submit to or be forced to endure pain and death.

All seven definitions describe what is prophesied to happen to America in the near future.

Matthew 24:21- “For then shall be great tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor even shall be.”

America’s mental state is not a pleasant reality. Admitting and facing what the nation has become is a monumental task, if not impossible, for people who do not believe the nation won’t get through the difficulties it’s facing.

America Must Face What It Has Become if it is to Survive

The nation’s leaders and the American people do not have to face such a dire future if it recognizes major changes must take place within each person.

Joel 2:12-14- “Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn you even to me with your heart and with fasting and with weeping and mourning (13) And rend your heart and not your garments and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful: slow to anger and of great kindness and repents him of evil (14) who knows if he will return and repent (will change his mind) and leave a blessing behind him.”

Why Doesn’t She Just Leave?
Brenda Branson (Hanson, Kentucky) Copyright © 2004

The answer given in the 1920s to this question was that battered women were of low intelligence or mentally retarded. In the ’40s it was determined that women did not leave because they were masochistic.

By the ’70s the experts claimed that a woman stayed in an abusive situation because she was isolated from friends and neighbors, had few economic resources, and was terrorized into a state of “learned helplessness” by repeated abuse.

Experts spent time, energy, and government grants studying women and their problems, and by asking “*why do women stay*” they managed to blame the victims instead of doing anything to stop violent male behavior.

Few people will ask, “*What’s wrong with that man? Is he in jail? Is she getting adequate police protection? Are the children provided for? Does she need medical help, financial assistance, or legal aid? Does she have a place to stay?*” Instead of blaming the victim, why don’t we ask, “*Why hasn’t this violence been stopped? What can we do to*

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prevent it? Has the abuser been confronted and referred to a treatment program?”

Unfortunately, the first question that comes to mind is, *“Why doesn’t she just leave?”* When we ask that question first, we lose sight of the criminal and the crime and begin to place blame on the victim.

The fact is that many women do leave, and risk their lives doing so. However, those who choose to stay do so for the following reasons:

Confusion

One day he worships her and places her on a pedestal. The next day she doesn’t meet his expectations and falls from grace. It is a long fall, and she can’t understand why he has changed from a loving, generous husband into a maniacal bully who delights in punishing her. A day or two later, he places her back on the pedestal and turns on the charm. This emotional up-and-down strategy keeps her off-balance and in a state of confusion.

FEAR!

She has every reason to be afraid. He has threatened to take the children away from her if she leaves, and she knows he will do it. He will lie in court and testify that she is not a good mother. If he does not get custody, he will kidnap them. In extreme cases, he will kill her and the children. *“If I can’t have you and the kids, then I’ll make sure no one else will either.”*

She also fears the condescending and judgmental reactions of others who believe she is responsible for breaking up the family if she leaves. She may also fear offending God because she has been taught, He hates divorce, and she is unaware that God also hates violence, and has great compassion toward those who suffer abuse.

Self-blame

She may feel responsible for the breakup of the family, or for the abuser’s behavior. He has told her over and over that she is the reason he gets upset, and she believes the lie.

Shame and embarrassment

She doesn’t want to tell anyone because it is embarrassing to admit she has allowed herself to get into or stay in this situation. She is ashamed of making poor decisions and failing to make her marriage work.

Need to protect abuser

Some women feel guilty for betraying the abuser. She believes he needs extra love and care because he has been wounded in the past. She feels it is her responsibility to help him become whole.

Disassociation from the pain

The abuser convinces her that the violence wasn’t as bad as she claims, or that it didn’t happen at all. Sometimes he accuses her of hitting him, even though she is the one with the bruises. Her body feels the pain, and she knows she has been hurt, but her mind tells her it really wasn’t that bad—ignore it—he won’t do it again—he promised to change—or if “I” could just change.

She denies the reality that the man she loves is capable of seriously hurting or killing her.

Even though she knows he has hurt her in the past, she cannot believe he is truly an evil person because she would not choose to be with such a person, and she still really loves him.

It’s easier to deny abuse than to face making hard choices and an uncertain future.

Most women face extreme financial, social, and emotional hardships when they leave, and often find limited or no help available to them. Weak criminal justice systems offer no hope and have failed victims again and again.

She is ignorant of the facts and consequences of domestic violence

She believes the cause of violence is within her instead of within the abuser. She believes it is a temporary problem based on outside circumstances (like stress at work). She believes that once the stress is relieved the beatings will stop, or “If I lose weight, he’ll love me more.”

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She believes children need a father-figure and doesn't want her kids to suffer from divorce.

Women who stay for this reason are not aware that children suffer much more long-lasting trauma by being in an abusive home than in a single-parent home.

She is blamed for causing or not leaving her predicament but abandoned when she actually leaves.

Doctors, therapists, and clergymen don't take the abuse seriously and send women back home. Some feel she got herself into this while others ask, "why doesn't she just leave?"

She lives on false hope.

She believes that if she tries a little harder or waits a little longer, things will change.

She may get killed!

A woman is at 75% greater risk of harm from her abuser when she leaves.

These are just a few of the reasons why women stay. The real question is, "What can we do to help?" and "How can we make the violence stop?" Let's stop blaming the victim and begin holding the abuser accountable!

Awaiting the Awakening (there is a prophecy)!

(Part 1)

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Put not your trust in princes." – God

REGARDING THE BIDEN EDICT ON VACCINATIONS: I'm just glad I don't have a job that's on the line (one good thing about being 79). The WWW is all abuzz today with the topic du jour. The "puppet's decrees." I just put an "I miss King George III" bumper sticker on my car yesterday. This country is being run by Committee you know. I don't know if it's the CPUSA or a Gang of Eight?

At any rate, we aren't just coming to a crossroads; we are in the middle of the intersection about to be T-boned. And jabbed or else? Perilous times. A time of testing. A time of choosing. Only God can save you now, or save the nation, or the whole developed world from the curses. The four horsemen are starting to lope. The first one is a *green* one. It represents people who worship the creation but the Creator not at all. They use "beasts" to kill. Maybe even bats. Or bombs or "left behind" American weapons now. Has the Left absolutely no shame at all at last, Joe?

I'm writing this off the cuff, but I want to make an exception to my rule and quote a scripture passage or two, chapter and verse:

"Look, you scoffers, despisers of the Truth, for I will do a work in your days, a deed you will never believe even if it were told you." – Acts 13⁴¹

Or as Peter said on the day of Pentecost: **"Hear what was spoken by the prophet Joel. In the last days it shall be, 'I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh. Your sons and daughters shall prophecy and your young men shall see visions. Your old men shall dream dreams, and on my servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit. I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth beneath . . . And whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved'."**

Are these the latter days or the LAST days? Personally, I saw visions as a young man, and have dreamed dreams as an old man. Prophecies have a way of having a prior and a latter fulfillment, but I am awaiting the **GREAT AWAKENING**.

AMERICA had a great awakening in the 1700s that prepared the way for Independence for us. A great awakening in the 1800s paved the way for the saving of the Union and the freeing of the slaves. We reached our apex in the 1940s when we saved the world from the axis powers. But after our boys had seen Paree, they brought home to the farm some bad habits and attitudes. During the 1950s, dueling crusades by Playboy and Billy Graham ended with a draw, like the Korean war. The extreme sexual revolution of the sixty's youth led to the "legalization" of abortion in 1973, and we lost the war

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in Vietnam. Now I'm writing this on the eve of 9-11, the 20th anniversary of the attack that was worse than Pearl Harbor. The aftershocks will probably be worse than World War II.

"As your faith is, so it shall be given." If we really believe, and pray for a Third Great Awakening, it could actually happen.

P.S. President Reagan said that if you contacted nine people and they contacted nine different people, and this continued for just 10 days, you could reach half of the population of the earth.

PPS: Seriously, think about that. Think what you can do to reach out and spread the word. Our mama bears are beginning to stand on their hind legs and speak out at school board meetings against the insanities of the Left. How about you?

Awaiting the Awakening (there is a prophecy)!

(Part 2)

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"The Lord shall become king over all the earth.... Then everyone who survives of all the nations that came against Jerusalem will go up from year to year to keep a time of thanksgiving (Living Bible; "Feast of Tabernacles," KJV and NIV).

"And if ANY of the families of the earth do not go up to worship the Lord of hosts, to keep the Feast of Booths, there will be no rain upon them..." – Zechariah

"FOR BEHOLD, the Lord of Hosts is taking away from Jerusalem (modern descendants of the Hebrew people?) the stay and the staff; the mighty man and the warrior; the prophet, the prudent, and the ancient of days; the elder, the counsellor, and the eloquent orator; boys and babes shall rule over them; anarchy will torment the people; the youth will be insolent to the elder and the base against the honorable.

"A man shall take hold of his brother, saying 'Be thou our ruler, and this heap of ruins shall be under you.' But he will say:

"I have no remedy. You shall not make me the ruler of the people'..."

"As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, those who lead you cause you to err. What do you mean by crushing my people? says the Lord of Hosts...."

– Isaiah, combined KJV, NIV, RSV, and Living Bible

CONCLUSION: This prophecy can be applied to ANY country or continent, and while we may not be there yet, we're getting closer and closer with each passing week.

P.S. Last week's column was about the positive Awakening that could still be brought about by recognition of the current conditions.

PPS: If you don't like columns about prophecy coming to pass, you can stop reading now. Betcha I gotcha though. Just admit it and pass on the Word.

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Holy Days 2022

Passover – April 16, 2022 (Observed at Sunset the Evening Before)

Unleavened Bread – April 16-22, 2022

Pentecost – June 5, 2022

Trumpets - September 26, 2022
Atonement - October 5, 2022
Tabernacles - October 10-16, 2022
Last Great Day - October 17, 2022

False Doctrines – “Vain” Worship: Does Jesus Christ Really Know You? by Richard Frates (Easley, South Carolina)

Did Gentile believers in the early Christian church, at the time of the apostles, worship on Sunday or observe Christmas and Easter? Scripture demonstrates that Gentile believers observed the same scriptural doctrines as the Jewish believers. Paul taught Gentiles: "Follow my example as I follow the example of Christ" and he praised them for "holding to the teachings" 1 Corinthians 11:1-2. Christian churches today, are foreign to Jesus Christ and the early church. I fear that Matthew 7:21-23 will apply to most of them on the Day of Judgment, "I never knew you: depart from me, you that work iniquity." "Iniquity" is defined as: Lawless and Evil.

Gentile believers were observing the seventh day Sabbath not Sunday. And, they were following God's law of clean and unclean meats, that God requires for those he calls. The following scriptures confirm what should be obvious to those called by God. And that is: The original Gentile believers, were following the Jewish believers in Christ. 1 Thessalonians 1:6 "You became imitators (followers) of us and of the Lord." 1 Thessalonians 2:14 "For you brothers became imitators (followers) of God's Churches in Judea, which are in Christ Jesus." Gentiles being followers of the apostles and Jesus Christ - means - that they lived as Jesus Christ and the apostles lived. Gentile believers and converts to Judaism observed God's holy days and the Sabbath; none of them observed Sunday or Christmas as holy days. In Acts 13:14-48, Paul preached the gospel to both Gentiles and Jews on the Sabbath day; verse 46-48 but when the Jews rejected the gospel, Paul said, "we now turn to the Gentiles, this is what the Lord has commanded." "When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord". Gentile converts to Judaism and Christianity were keeping the seventh day Sabbath.

Gentiles and Jews eating together: Did the Gentile believers, in the early church, eat food that was different from what the Jewish believers ate? No, they were all eating together, food that God sanctified for all those he calls. Galatians 2:11-12 "When Peter came from Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was clearly in the wrong. Before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself." Acts 20:7-11 also confirms that Jew and Gentiles were eating together. "On the first day of the week we came together to break bread." 1 Thessalonians 4:1 "We instructed you how to live, in order to, please God, as in fact you are living." Scriptural Truth is obvious!

False Doctrines are easily refuted by scripture: The following 4 Scriptural Truths, expose false doctrines. Believe: Psalm 18:30 "The word of the Lord is flawless."

1. God's word is truth. John 17:17 "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth." John 15:26 "The Spirit of - Truth - proceeds from the Father.
2. Scripture does not contradict scripture; God's Truth does not change. John 10:35 Jesus Christ said, "Scripture cannot be broken." If in your mind, you accept contradictions in scripture, you have been deceived into accepting false doctrine.
3. God Does not change: Malachi 3:6 "I the Lord do not change. So, you descendants of Jacob are not destroyed." Truth is Truth and Truth never changes. If you believe God's word, teaches different doctrines for believing Jews and believing Gentiles you have been deceived into accepting false doctrine.
4. Walk as Christ walked; walk in his footsteps. 1 John 2:6 "Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did." That simply means, imitate the life of Jesus Christ. Philippians 2:5 "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. 1 Corinthians 2:16 "We have the mind of Christ".

Would Jesus Christ - have a "mind" - to eat pork, shellfish, or catfish or to consider the first day of the week holy instead of the seventh day? No, he lived as he instructed us "man shall live by every word of God." Christians today are called by God John 6:44; Just as Israel was called By God.

The “New” Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
April 30, 2022 --- Issue No. 65

Galatians 3:26 “You are the children of God by faith in Jesus Christ.” Deuteronomy 14:1-4 “You are the children of the Lord your God. You are a people holy to the Lord your God. Out of all the people on the face of the earth the Lord has chosen you to be his treasured possession. Do not eat any detestable things” Deuteronomy 14:1-4 records what believers with “the mind of Christ” should eat.

Do most Christians today have the “mind of Christ”? No, if they did, they would observe the same customs and laws Christ followed. Most are deceived by false doctrines and traditions of men. Matthew 15:9 “In vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrine the commandments of men.”

Church leaders falsely teach, 1 Timothy 4:4 “For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving.” They deliberately ignore verse 5, “For it is - sanctified - by the word of God - and prayer.” Where is, it sanctified or set apart, by God’s word? Leviticus 11:1-24 and Deuteronomy 14:3-18. “These are the animals you may eat: the ox, sheep, goat, deer, gazelle, roe deer, wild goat, ibex, antelope, and mountain sheep. You may eat any animal that has a split hoof divided in two and chews the cud.” “Of all the creatures living in the waters, you may eat any that have fins and scales.” “You may eat any clean bird. But these are the ones you may not eat”; a long list follows in verses 12-18.

The Gentiles believers were eating the foods ordained by God, and they were keeping God’s Sabbath and holy days. That is why Paul wrote in Colossians 2:16 “Do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink or, with regard to a religious festival, new moon celebration or Sabbath Day”. This admonition was given because they were being persecuted for obeying the word of God. My own relatives look down on me and consider me strange because I keep the Sabbath instead of Sunday and I do not eat pork, catfish, or shell fish; foods that they really love.

Some preachers use Acts 10:9-15 to teach false doctrine as justification for eating what God judged as unclean for believers. Peter saw a vision of wild animals and creeping things of the earth and heard God say, “Rise Peter kill and eat” In the vision, Peter heard God say: “Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.” The meaning of the vision is in Acts 10:28. Peter said, “God has shown me that I should not call any man impure or unclean.” God was teaching Peter that: salvation by faith was not just for Jews but for the Gentiles also. And “God does not charge.”

Matthew 15:11-20 is also used to teach rebellion against God’s word. “What goes into a man’s mouth does not make him unclean, but what comes out of his mouth, that is what makes him unclean.” Verse 20 “Eating with unwashed hands does not make a man unclean.” The subject is unwashed hands not unclean foods. In verse 19 Christ said that “false testimony” also makes a man unclean. Those who claim that this verse means, God changed his mind and contradicts himself are bearing false testimony against God; for “God does not change”. And Christ said, “man shall live by every word of God before the New Testament was written.” We know that - the world - does not live by God’s word. The command “live by every word of God” is for those called out of the world.

In Isaiah 65:3-4 God declares his disgust with Jews who practice Idolatry and eat unclean food. “A people who continually provoke me to my face” “Who eat the flesh of pigs and whose pots hold broth of unclean meat.” Did Jesus Christ change his mind and have the New Testament apostles say things that contradict his word in Isaiah? Or do you believe that God mistakenly inspired Isaiah to write this? God’s word declares: Proverbs 30:5-6 “Every word of God is flawless”. Christians are the “temple of God’s Holy Spirit”; do not put anything in that temple that cannot be shared with Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 “Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit – Jesus Christ - lives in you? If anyone destroys, or defiles, God’s temple God will destroy him; for God’s temple is sacred and you are that temple.”

Genesis 9:1-4 – These scriptures seem to contradict Leviticus and Deuteronomy. But, as our Lord said, “scripture cannot be broken” or scripture does not contradict scripture. So, the words “everything will be food for you applies to the world, and not to those God has called out of the world.” John 15:19 “You do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world.”

Jesus Christ said, “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him John 6:44”. If you believe in the Son of God, you have been called by the Father. The children of Israel were called, out of Egypt, by God; today we are individually called, out of the world, by God. Keep this in mind “many are called but few are chosen.”

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Luke 4:16 “As his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath Day, and stood up to read.” Why do most churches today observe Sunday instead of the Sabbath Day? Answer, Tradition: Mark 7:8 “You have let go of the command of God and are holding on to the traditions of men.” Most pastors today teach that Christ was resurrected on Sunday. And that is justification for disobeying Exodus 20:8 “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.” Most of them know that Jesus Christ, was not resurrected on Sunday.

Christ said he would be in the tomb “three days and three nights” Matthew 12:40 and 27:63. And he was put in the tomb in the evening just before sunset, Matthew 27:57; so, he would have been resurrected just before sunset; NOT Sunday morning. The tomb was empty Sunday morning because, he was resurrected on, Saturday the seventh day of the week. For God’s word says, sunset is the beginning of a new day, Leviticus 23:32. The annual Sabbath, first day of Passover, Leviticus 23:7, that year was on Thursday, Christ was in the tomb Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Thursday was a “special Sabbath” a “High Day”, John 19:31, just before sunset on Saturday he was resurrected; exactly three day and night, as he said.

Mark 16:9 “When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week” is false, not true, because it contradicts scripture; John 10:35 “scripture cannot be broken”. Margin notes, regarding this verse: “The earliest manuscripts and some other ancient witnesses do not have Mark 16:9-20 NIV. Verses “9-20 are not included in two of the best and oldest Greek manuscripts of Mark” The Everyday Bible. The Good News Bible and the RSV have the same warnings regarding verses 9-20.

Pastors deceitfully use Acts 20:7 to justify rejecting God’s Law. “On the first day of the week we came together to break bread.” This scripture does not say they came together to observe a holy day, but to break bread, because Paul “intended to leave the next day”. Paul was their senior pastor and Apostle. They most likely, would not see Paul again for many months or years. Does what Paul did overrule what God did? Genesis 2:2-3 “On the seventh day God rested from all his work. “God blessed the Seventh Day and made it holy.”

Heathen Jews: Some deceivers use Galatians to ridicule and disregard observing God’s law. Galatians 4:9-10 “Now that you know God – how is it that you are turning - back - to those weak and miserable principles? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again? They falsely claim Paul is referring to God’s law. Paul would never refer to God’s word as “miserable principles”. The word “again” is obviously referring to what they worshiped before hearing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Paul is telling them not to go back to observing Astrology. Verse 10 “You are observing special days, months, seasons and years”. Christians today especially women will ask someone what sign they are? Or tell you that you seem like a: then they will name one of the 12 signs of the Zodiac, because they think that, you fit the personality description given for that month. I have been asked that in church and my answer is: I do not follow Astrology, and neither should you. Years in Astrology are named after animal like “year of the rat or year of the pig. Idolatry, the false religion of Astrology is what the Galatians were going back to.

The Jew did not care, whether or not, they observed Astrology, as long as they could convince them that being circumcised was necessary to be righteous and saved; and draw the Galatians away from Paul. Jews had a history of observing Astrology. Ezekiel 8:10-11 “I saw portrayed all over the walls all kinds of crawling things and detestable animals. 2 Kings 23:4-5 King Josiah desecrated the high places where they “burned incense to Baal, to the Sun and Moon, to the constellations and to all the starry host.” The winter observance of the birth of the sun, called Christmas, came from stargazers; the shortest day of the year is just before December 25th.

After reading this, some misguided preachers will proclaim by the works of the law no one will be justified. That is true because we are Justified by faith in what our heavenly Father has done for us: Saved from sin and death, by the sacrifice of his Son, Christ Jesus. Our works will not justify us, but our works will identify us in this way: Are we walking with and sanctified in Christ? Romans 8:3-4 “Christ became our “sin offering” “in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature, but according to the Spirit.” Isaiah 66:2 “This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word.” Is that you?

Have a Great Sabbath and Thank You!