

Book report:

1984 by George Orwell

by Nathaniel Burson (Big Sandy, Texas)

Have you ever asked yourself how the Devil feels about the plan of God? I mean, he is brilliant, clever, and has been around for a long time and has the Bible memorized. In fact, he was there when the Bible was written. So why does he hate it? What does he think of God's plan to save mankind? What is he afraid of?

And for that matter, what does he think of God, personally? If you were to ask Satan what God was like, *what would he tell you?* Granted, he might lie to you if it suited **(Continued on page 3)**

“A Glorious Church”

by Jeffrey Caldwell (Redwood City, California)

"That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish" (Ephesians 5:27, KJV).

"A glorious church" as the King James Version puts it, is the phrase that describes the church as the LORD desires it to be!

The NIV renders it "a radiant church" -- the Greek word for 'glorious' or 'radiant' was used four times in the NT; elsewhere in the NIV it is rendered "expensive" (Luke 7:25), "honored" (1 Corinthians 4:10), or "wonderful" (Luke 13:17).

Only in Luke 13:17 does it refer to **(Continued on page 6)**

Fresh Outlook on the Word Failure

by Doyle Carter (Tulsa, Oklahoma)

As I was looking through my home library, I discovered an eight volume set entitled "**The Laws of Success**" by Napoleon Hill published in 1939. This set has fourteen points on how to make your life a success based on the authors personal experiences. I wish to share the fourteenth point which covered the term "Failure." I, personally, found his point of view very refreshing.

In chapter one of volume eight which is entitled "Lesson Fourteen: Failure", the author informs us **(Continued on page 7)**

The Tribe of Judah in “The Latter Days”

by Steven M. Collins (Sioux Falls, South Dakota)

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Readers of this article will likely already be aware that modern Jews are, indeed, the Israelite tribe of Judah. They are a brother tribe (and natural ally) to the modern nations of the house of Israel found in Anglo-Saxon, Scandinavian and European nations. However, this article will demonstrate that one can also confirm that we are living in the biblical "latter days" by examining two prophecies which will be fulfilled in the tribe **(Continued on page 7)**

Should a Christian be in Court?

by Norman S. Edwards (Port Austin, Michigan)

Before we get into the details, let us first address the issues of why we are involved in court cases to begin with. Some brethren do not believe that we should be. I hope everyone will hear me out before deciding. I hope all who read this are striving to be in the First Resurrection, to live and reign with Christ for a thousand years (Rev 20:6). But during the past few years, I have come to see how little knowledge I have had about judgment—both from the Biblical perspective and the world's systems.

Judgment is the process of being fair as well as working with people so they can learn the lessons that **(Continued on page 7)**

Government As Parent

by Clyde Ferrell, Jr. (Mount Calm, Texas)

Under the doctrine of Prens Patrie, "Government As Parent", as a result of the manipulated bankruptcy of the United States of America in 1930, ALL the assets of the American people, their person, and of our country itself are held by the **Depository Trust Corporation** at 55 Water Street, NY, NY, secured by UCC Commercial Liens, which are then monetized as "debt money" by the **Federal Reserve**. It may interest you to know that under the umbrella of the **Depository Trust Corporation** lies the CEDE Corporation, the **Federal Reserve Corporation** and the **American Bar Association**, the legal arm of the **(Continued on page 12)**

A Warning from the Past

by Richard Markland (Lebanon, Ohio)

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Seventy years ago is a long time to many of the people reading this. Haunting similarities of a more civilized period of time are far more striking than we realize in regards to the times in which we are living today.

Numerous warnings were given seven decades ago by reporters who risked careers and family or friends who could see the handwriting on the wall. The vast majority of the people scoffed at such warnings. Desperate pleas were ridiculed and discarded. Many of the people were wealthy and **(Continued on page 12)**

HEAD and HEADSHIP: Men, Women and Marriage

by Dianne D. McDonnell (Arlington, Texas)

Many men view themselves as superior to women, and some base their ideas on misunderstood scriptural references. This concept is often known as "headship" even though that term does not appear in the Bible. In this article we will examine "headship" and establish God's true instructions for marriage.

In English "Head" has three meanings: 1) a person's literal head connected to the rest of the body 2) one in authority, one in charge, as in, "He is HEAD of the **(Continued on page 13)**

LETTERS section ---

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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.

Go To Your Brother... (04-06-07)
by Howard Bruce (Glendale, Arizona)
Continued from Issue #44, Page 19

Laura Lee writes:

to them such as calendars, Passover, Pentecost, divorce and remarriage, women speaking and any number of other doctrinal confusion that is out there, these are no reason to cut people off and never speak to them again. Our [newsletter](#) does allow space for all sides of these issues to be discussed in the [letters section](#). By seeing these different points being brought up, the idea is that everyone wins, because everyone can learn and express themselves. If you cut others off from you then how will anyone ever come to be of one mind with God, as the goal is and as it will be in the Kingdom of God. After all there is only one right way on anything and everything and that is God's way. God is not the author of doctrinal confusion, man is. God gave us a Bible, but many people are not reading it or studying it as they should be.

Are you saddened by the state of the Church of God? If your brother or sister came to you at one point because they had a problem that involved you, so you know about it, go to them and reconcile with them. If you have gotten mad at someone for any reason and just quit talking to them or cut them off for any reason go to them and tell them what the problem is, because they probably don't know what the problem is. There are many people who have cut me off in my life time and I don't have a clue why they did. The one's I suspected didn't want contact with me any longer I went to find out what I did to them only to be told to leave them alone or they wouldn't even speak one word to me. I cannot work out a problem with people who won't speak to me or tell me what I did to them to make them cut me off. There can be absolutely no reconciliation (renewal of friendship) with anyone if one of the parties is unwilling to reconcile (renew the friendship) and I have to tell you that if the party who is unwilling to reconcile (renew the friendship) does not change their heart on that matter, they will not be in the Kingdom, because only those who are willing to get along and work with all people will make it into the Kingdom and if you aren't doing that now, then it is not going to happen by fiat when Christ returns.

I have gone to people via Matthew 18:15-17 only to be told that it isn't necessary and we should just be friends and brethren by pretence. God doesn't want people who pretend to be His friends but really can't stand him and neither do I. If people do not learn to

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LETTERS SECTION CONTINUES
ON PAGE 14

**(“Book report: 1984...”
continued from page 1)**

him, but if you could get him to tell you what he REALLY thinks, what would he say? From Satan's point of view, **what is God like?**

If you've never considered it, take time to do so on your own before you continue reading. It's worth it. What DOES Satan think of God? And how could you go about finding out?

The Bible is relatively quiet on the subject – but Satan isn't. This is his world, you know. And if you read books, watch movies, and listen to tales and legends of ancient mythologies, you will see one common thread. A story as old as time. Well, almost.

Floating around our world, right under our very noses, are valuable nuggets of understanding. Understanding that explains both the far past and the distant future. As you probably know, anyone watching a given event or hearing a certain story will retell it a little differently. Ask any three people who witnessed a car crash, for example, and you'll get three distinct stories – despite each of them being completely honest, they viewed and interpreted the facts differently, based on their frame of reference.

But *how* each of these three people interpreted this accident will, with some study, show insights into the character of each of them. And this process, if your goal was to get to know these three people, would be very worthwhile to you. And so now I want to show you something I learned from George Orwell's book, “1984”. Maybe you've already read this **book** – but I doubt you noticed what I am about to show you, because I'm about to show you it's application to the plan of God.

This **book**, published in 1949, is set in a then-future world in the year 1984 – hence the title. The plot is centered around an early middle-aged citizen named Winston Smith. Normal, unexemplary Winston is about to embark on a journey through this future world that will change his life forever. As we open the **book** we find him about to take his first step on this strange journey, the step where all such journeys begin – Winston is about to think for himself.

Despite great risks to himself, Winston addresses the story of his experiences “*to the future, or to the past, to a time when thought is free, when men are different from one another and do not live alone – to a time when truth exists and what is done cannot be undone; from the age of uniformity, from the age of solitude, from the age of Big Brother, from the age of double think – greetings!*”

This book contains a warning. A warning to mankind about the future. A warning... from Satan. This **book**, when you strip away the more esoteric trappings, tells a

story. ***It describes the future God has planned, and how He plans to make it happen – as understood by the Devil!***

You see, Winston lives in a future where freedom as we know it does not exist. Imagine what life would be like today had the **Communist fifth-columnists** of the 40s and 50s succeeded, and turned the entire world to Communism. Imagine further that as a result of that and the worldwide atomic war of the late 1950s, the world had been divided, not into the hundreds of bickering countries, but into three great power blocks.

And in this world of your imagination, imagine that truth, as a word, had almost no meaning. Imagine that what the Telescreen **TOLD** you was truth, and to question that, even in your mind, was to become an enemy of the state.

This is the world in which we find lonely, confused, and unfulfilled Winston. Big Brother, the benevolent leader of civilization, is of course, omnipresent and is always on the lookout for enemies of the party. In this world, the concept of a trial does not exist – at the whim of Big Brother, at the slightest suspicious act or sign of unorthodoxy (one of the most terrible epithets), people simply disappear. They never existed. Why? Because the party *says* they never existed. Just because *you* remember them, does not mean they existed. Who are you to be right when the **party** says they do not exist, and have never existed? As the party itself says “he who controls the past controls the present, and he who controls the present controls the future”.

According to the Telescreen, Winston's home country of Oceania is at war with Eurasia. It has always been at war with Eurasia. Likewise, it is allied with Eastasia, and according to the party, it has always been so. And yet Winston KNOWS that 4 years ago, Oceania had been allied with Eurasia AGAINST Eastasia! How could such a colossal lie be pulled off? Surely there must be some record of it? The *how* is, oddly enough, the easy part.

You see, Winston's duty for the party is to work in the Ministry of Truth. This is the division of the Oceanian government devoted to the alteration of history. “For example, it appeared from the Times of the 17th of March that Big Brother, in his speech of the previous day, had predicted that the South Indian front would remain quiet but that a Eurasian offensive would shortly be launched in North Africa. As it happened, the Eurasian Higher Command had launched its offensive in South India and left North Africa alone. It was therefore necessary to rewrite a paragraph of Big Brother's speech *in such a way as to make him predict the thing that had actually happened.*”

Once this rewrite took place, that paper would be recalled and replaced with the

corrected version. This way, if anyone was to mistakenly think that the telescreen had proved Big Brother wrong and attempt to verify it from the newspaper, they would find that the Telescreen had in fact been right all along. Truth is what the party SAYS is truth, in Winston's world. And Big Brother is never wrong.

This same thing happens hundreds of times a day. History is altered constantly to tell the story as Big Brother tells it, and books, magazines, recordings, all are changed, no, *corrected* by the Ministry of Truth for the good of the party.

But what about the people, you might ask. Surely THEY know they are being lied to? In Winston's world, the people are little more than machines. They have had all the humanity crushed out of them, all self-expression and free speech is gone. When anyone shows a sign of unorthodoxy or disagreement with the party they simply disappear. This process must, perforce, create a society of paperweights, people who never question anything, who never think for themselves.

In this society, there is no freedom of expression. Everything must be controlled by the state – fornication is outlawed, as is marriage not ordained by the state. Any sedition or freethinking, EVEN IN THOUGHT, is a crime. An errant word muttered in your sleep would bring the Thought Police to your door to carry you off to the Ministry of Love, where you would disappear, to be converted from your evil ways. Of course, there was no such thing as religion – nothing is permitted that could interfere with your single-minded obedience to Big Brother.

All of this is interesting, in a way, but as Winston said...“I understand HOW: I do not understand WHY.” The **why** is the fascinating part – and there hangs the tale.

Everyone who has ever truly contemplated how they will spend eternity has come to the same conclusion at some point. That conclusion is that there will come a day in the vastness of infinite time where you have seen all the nebulae in the universe, where you have helped thousands of little old ladies cross the street, where you have designed and created lizard people to live in the rings of Saturn, **and where you are simply bored.** Staring into the face of God for eternity notwithstanding, what will you DO with yourself to fill up your time, to keep life full and interesting, even exciting?

I know of few people who have seriously tried to answer this question. Most have shrugged it off and said “Oh well, I suppose God knows what He's doing – we'll sort it out when we get there.”

I can, at least, say that I *do* know that Man isn't the first being to ponder this question. I also know that the purpose of this book, **1984**, is to answer that question. This

book shows it is possible to stay excited and interested for all eternity. At least, it shows one being's answer. The answer is the first tenet of the future society: WAR IS PEACE.

In this future, each of the power blocks is economically independent, and does not need to fight a war. Indeed, none of them is interested in winning the war, although they have been fighting against each other in various configurations for at least 25 years. War is no longer fought over the arcane reasons of the past. War is fought as the key to a permanently stable society. A society that is stabilized, not by peace, but by unending war. A war that only affects a relative few on the far-distant fronts, fronts the location of which the average citizen could indicate only vaguely. This war is fought to create peace.

It is a fact that as long as mankind has plenty of food and creature comforts he will be free to look about himself in an effort to improve his situation. The society will be full of free radicals, men like **Jefferson** and **Lincoln**, **Nietzsche** and **Hitler**, **Tolstoy** and **Gandhi**, **Martin Luther** and **Galileo**. Men who are always chipping away at the foundations of society to affect change. These men would threaten the stability of the party, but a state of war keeps mankind from enjoying the comforts of peace and from having the free energy to create such men. And those few radicals who do question the party simply disappear, never having existed. It is therefore necessary that the product of the labor of mankind be continually destroyed in order to keep him in eternal poverty, and to prevent the creation of freethinkers.

"War, it will be seen, accomplishes the necessary destruction, but accomplishes it in a psychologically acceptable way. In principle it would be quite simple to waste the surplus labour of the world by building temples and pyramids, by digging holes and filling them up again, or even by producing vast quantities of goods and then setting fire to them. But this would provide *only the economic and not the emotional basis* for a hierarchical society. What is concerned here is not the morale of masses, whose attitude is unimportant so long as they are kept steadily at work, but the morale of the Party itself. Even the humblest Party member is expected to be competent, industrious, and even intelligent within narrow limits, but it is also necessary that he should be a credulous and ignorant fanatic whose prevailing moods are fear, hatred, adulation, and orgiastic triumph. *In other words it is necessary that he should have the mentality appropriate to a state of war. It does not matter whether the war is actually happening, and, since no decisive victory is possible, it does not matter whether the war is going well or badly. All that is needed is that a state of war should exist.*"

And there you have the recipe to a stable society. WAR IS PEACE. "But still," you may object, "surely those who are at the top of this society know the truth. They must know that a given item of news is not factual and perhaps even that the whole war is a farce." Such people, indeed, all party members who find evidence against the party, deal with such apparent problems with **DOUBLETHINK**.

"Doublethink means the power of holding two contradictory beliefs in one's mind simultaneously, and accepting both of them. The Party intellectual knows in which direction his memories must be altered; he therefore knows that he is playing tricks with reality; but by the exercise of doublethink he also satisfies himself that reality is not violated. The process has to be conscious, or it would not be carried out with sufficient precision, but it also has to be unconscious, or it would bring with it a feeling of falsity and hence of guilt."

How is this justified?

This concept of doublethink is a major part of the warning of this **book**. And having laid down the groundwork, I can finally tell you WHY all of this is important to you. This **book** is a grave warning to mankind, the saga of a man overcome by God. The tragedy of the evils of the plan of God. Be warned!

I can also tell you now what Satan thinks of God. Then you can put the pieces together and see what you come up with. Satan sees God the Father as a control freak. A dictator whose lust for power can only be satiated by more and ever more people crawling in smitten subservience to obey his ridiculous laws and whims.

Moreover, God isn't happy with simple obedience, but to even THINK an evil (Matthew 5:28, etc), is to commit a sin, which is punishable only by death. From the Devil's point of view, who does God think He is, anyway? What RIGHT does He have to deprive the people from FREEDOM. Freedom to think what they want, say what they want, DO what they want.

His laws, the Ten Commandments, prevent liberty, and freedom. You do not have the FREEDOM to commit adultery any more. You do not have the FREEDOM to serve any god you choose. You do not have the FREEDOM to work on Saturday. God is bent on depriving a helpless mankind of its inalienable right to be stupid. HOW DARE HE, says the Devil!

WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS to impose HIS morality and HIS rules on everyone else! We're all equal, and we all have the right to DO, THINK, and ACT as we want!

God the Father is **1984's** Big Brother. An (apparently) omnipotent, (apparently)

omnipresent, and (apparently) omniscient dictator, bent on controlling even the THOUGHTS of those, His subjects.

This is how Satan feels about the Father. But how does he feel about Christ? After all, they have different personalities. They aren't the same being. Does he feel differently about him? Fortunately, we do have a little bit in the Bible about this point.

Matthew 4:9 *And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.*

Satan offered Christ a seat at his side – well, in subservience to him, but still a part of his ruling body. Satan would not have done that if he didn't think that there was HOPE for Christ. A hope that Christ would, one day, see the evils of the Father's dictatorship.

Don't forget that Christ is Satan's father. He created him (John 1:3). And in many of the clearer versions of this story, the hero (Satan) is being killed by the evil arch-villain (The Father), and at the very last minute, the secondary villain (Christ) turns on the Father and saves the hero. Often dying in the process.

Satan knows that even though he is wise, beautiful, crafty and cunning, he isn't strong enough to defeat the Father. But with CHRIST on his side... someday... he might destroy the rules, the inhibitions put in place by God and FREE the galaxy for mankind forever!

It is a truism that a man is always the hero of his own story. Whether it is Winston in **1984**, Luke in **Star Wars**, Neo in the **Matrix**, or any of a hundred other movies I could name ranging from **Planet of the Apes** to the **Lone Ranger**. Or if you prefer classical mythology, **Gilgamesh**, **Siva**, the **Titans** and **Hercules** all tell the same story.

The common thread of all of these movies is that Luke is FREEING the galaxy from an evil emperor who wants to ENSLAVE a galaxy to HIS rules and HIS way of thinking. Or a Neo who is wanting to remove the DECEPTION and OPEN THE EYES of the world to the TRUE reality behind the **Matrix** (Compare this to Genesis 3).

This is how Satan perceives the plan of God. And most of these stories tell a tale where, in a final climactic battle, Luke (Satan) is dying and appeals to his father Darth Vader (Christ), who, in the end, sees that Luke was right all along and throws the Emperor down the Bottomless pit. But **1984** is different.

1984 is a warning. It isn't a rallying propaganda story, as most of the others are, telling of a future, glorious battle. It is instead a chilling warning not to trust God. Here we see that Big Brother is always right because Big Brother always changes the past to make sure that he predicted it correctly.

We see a Big Brother who calls things

the opposite of what they are. Hence, the Ministry of Truth is actually involved in altering history with lies. The Ministry of Peace is the War Department of Oceania. And the most feared of all, the Ministry of Love, is the place where Big Brother breaks the spirit of those terrified thought-criminals in his Hate.

Remember, Satan sees the love of God, which enforces His law, as hate. He sees the "perfect law of liberty" of God, as a harsh little box which confines him and prevents him from expressing himself. A box that destroys his freedom and his happiness. Never have I seen that expressed better than in this **book**.

Back to the plotline of the **book**, Winston begins to question the party, and to eventually begin to make tiny overt acts against it, which he gets away with. He makes friends of a young woman, Julia, and a member of the elite Inner Party called O'Brien, both of whom feel as he does. He hears of an underground brotherhood against the party. An underground so secret that none is even sure it exists, until O'Brien, whom he, for some unknown reason, had always felt he could trust, introduced him to it.

O'Brien, his friend, gave him a book of the brotherhood that explained many of the mysteries of the workings of the party, many of which I've already shown here. And then, as Winston was reading the book to Julia, they were CAUGHT. Instantly judged guilty of thought-crime they were separated and sent to the dreaded Ministry of Love.

After a few days of waiting in a cell, hungry and tired, who walks in the door but O'Brien, with a security guard. He had been a double-agent all along! His trusted friend had betrayed him! Not only that, but O'Brien personally "interrogated" and tortured him.

They demanded that he confess to various crimes, espionage, sabotage, etc, but that was just a formality. Mostly he was simply tortured for no reason, although he confessed to every crime imaginable, and implicated everyone he'd ever known of crimes against the state, anything to stop the torture. Then after an interminable amount of time, finally, little by little, O'Brien began to explain the "WHY" we alluded to earlier. And there, at last we find the most fascinating part of the plan of God as seen by the Devil!

As you may have guessed by now, O'Brien represents Christ in this story, who BETRAYED Winston (Satan) by convicting him of sin and siding with the Father over Christ's own SON. O'Brien, who directed all of this torture – Winston was to one day realize, though he did not then know it, that it was for his own good – O'Brien's purpose was to SAVE Winston from himself. During one of the half-conscious torture sessions, he whispered in his ear: 'Don't worry, Winston; you are in my keeping. For seven

years I have watched over you. Now the turning-point has come. *I shall save you, I shall make you perfect.*'

Later, after more pointless torture, after Winston had been degraded to a mere shadow of himself, O'Brien at last began the reconstruction. The SAVING of Winston. He began by saying "Whatever the Party holds to be the truth, is truth. It is impossible to see reality except by looking through the eyes of the Party. That is the fact that you have got to relearn, Winston. It needs an act of self-destruction, an effort of the will. You must humble yourself before you can become sane."

Again, doesn't that sound like a twisted version of a few different scriptures? And doesn't it scare you to worship a being like that? It SHOULD, if it were true!

"He paused for a few moments, as though to allow what he had been saying to sink in. 'Do you remember,' he went on, 'writing in your diary, "Freedom is the freedom to say that two plus two make four"?' 'Yes,' said Winston. O'Brien held up his left hand, its back towards Winston, with the thumb hidden and the four fingers extended. 'How many fingers am I holding up, Winston?' - 'Four.' - 'And if the party says that it is not four but five -- then how many?' - 'Four.'

"The word ended in a gasp of pain. The needle of the dial had shot up to fifty-five. The sweat had sprung out all over Winston's body. The air tore into his lungs and issued again in deep groans which even by clenching his teeth he could not stop. O'Brien watched him, the four fingers still extended. He drew back the lever. This time the pain was only slightly eased.

'How many fingers, Winston?' - 'Four.' The needle went up to sixty. 'How many fingers, Winston?' - 'Four! Four! What else can I say? Four!' The needle must have risen again, but he did not look at it. The heavy, stern face and the four fingers filled his vision. The fingers stood up before his eyes like pillars, enormous, blurry, and seeming to vibrate, but unmistakably four. 'How many fingers, Winston?' - 'Four! Stop it, stop it! How can you go on? Four! Four!' - 'How many fingers, Winston?' - 'Five! Five! Five!' - 'No, Winston, that is no use. You are lying. You still think there are four. How many fingers, please?' - 'Four! five! Four! Anything you like. Only stop it, stop the pain!' Abruptly he was sitting up with O'Brien's arm round his shoulders."

This is what God wants to do to YOU! He wants to make you admit, through your suffering and pain, that HE IS RIGHT! That His laws are TRUTH, and nothing else is! And He will make you suffer all He has to, to make you admit that! Even to the point of making you deny what YOU KNOW to be true! This is the warning this **book** carries!

Well, in due time Winston admitted that he didn't really know how many fingers were being held up. And then O'Brien undertook to explain to him WHY this was happening.

'And why do you imagine that we bring people to this place?' - 'To make them confess.' - 'No, that is not the reason. Try again.' - 'To punish them.' - 'No!' exclaimed O'Brien. His voice had changed extraordinarily, and his face had suddenly become both stern and animated. 'No! Not merely to extract your confession, not to punish you. Shall I tell you why we have brought you here? **To cure you! To make you sane!** Will you understand, Winston, that no one whom we bring to this place ever leaves our hands uncured? We are not interested in those stupid crimes that you have committed. The Party is not interested in the overt act: the thought is all we care about. **We do not merely destroy our enemies, we change them.**'

What a chilling thought. We do not merely destroy our enemies... we change them. But it gets worse.

'You are thinking,' he said, 'that since we intend to destroy you utterly, so that nothing that you say or do can make the smallest difference -- in that case, why do we go to the trouble of interrogating you first? That is what you were thinking, was it not?' - 'Yes,' said Winston. O'Brien smiled slightly. 'You are a flaw in the pattern, Winston. You are a stain that must be wiped out.'

Winston was a flaw in the pattern. Neo was a glitch in the Matrix. Satan was a bug in God's plan, when he "caused" the fall of Adam. Is there not a connection there?

'Did I not tell you just now that we are different from the persecutors of the past? **We are not content with negative obedience, nor even with the most abject submission. When finally you surrender to us, it must be of your own free will. We do not destroy the heretic because he resists us: so long as he resists us we never destroy him. We convert him, we capture his inner mind, we reshape him. We burn all evil and all illusion out of him; we bring him over to our side, not in appearance, but genuinely, heart and soul. We make him one of ourselves before we kill him. It is intolerable to us that an erroneous thought should exist anywhere in the world, however secret and powerless it may be.**

'Do not imagine that you will save yourself, Winston, however completely you surrender to us. **No one who has once gone astray is ever spared.** And even if we chose to let you live out the natural term of your life, still you would never escape from us. What happens to you here is for ever. Understand that in advance. We shall crush you down to the point from which there is no coming back. Things will happen to you from

which you could not recover, if you lived a thousand years. **Never again will you be capable of ordinary human feeling.** Everything will be dead inside you. Never again will you be capable of love, or friendship, or joy of living, or laughter, or curiosity, or courage, or integrity. You will be hollow. **We shall squeeze you empty, and then we shall fill you with ourselves.'**

And there is the secret of the plan of God that God doesn't want you to know about! If you trust God, and obey His laws, THIS is the future He has planned for you! He wants to SQUEEZE you dry and then fill you with HIS personality! He wants to DESTROY your independence, and rob you of every shred of volition you possess!

After still more torture sessions, O'Brien admits that *"The Party seeks power entirely for its own sake. We are not interested in the good of others; we are interested solely in power. Not wealth or luxury or long life or happiness: only power, pure power."*

'How does one man assert his power over another, Winston?' Winston thought [for a moment]. *'By making him suffer,'* he said. *'Exactly. By making him suffer. Obedience is not enough. Unless he is suffering, how can you be sure that he is obeying your will and not his own? Power is in inflicting pain and humiliation. Power is in tearing human minds to pieces and putting them together again in new shapes of your own choosing.'*

These are the motives of God, as Satan sees them! God is creating beings in HIS image, after HIS likeness! This ultimate power is a goal in and of itself, and God does it, not out of any altruistic sentiment, but out of an insatiable lust for absolute power!

'But always -- do not forget this, Winston -- always there will be the intoxication of power, constantly increasing and constantly growing subtler. Always, at every moment, there will be the thrill of victory, the sensation of trampling on an enemy who is helpless. If you want a picture of the future, imagine a boot stamping on a human face -- for ever.'

This is what Satan thinks God intends to do with eternity! He thinks this because this is what he, himself would do with eternity, although even he may not yet know that. This is the only answer he has to the question I asked earlier... "How can we keep eternity interesting?"

"Goldstein [an enemy of the party and head of the fabled brotherhood] and his heresies will live for ever. Every day, at every moment, they will be defeated, discredited, ridiculed, spat upon and yet they will always survive. This drama that I have played out with you during seven years will be played out over and over again generation after generation, always in subtler

forms. Always we shall have the heretic here at our mercy, screaming with pain, broken up, contemptible -- and in the end utterly penitent, saved from himself, crawling to our feet of his own accord. That is the world that we are preparing, Winston. A world of victory after victory, triumph after triumph after triumph: an endless pressing, pressing, pressing upon the nerve of power.

That is how the Devil would spend eternity! An endless succession of **Star Trek** battles and victory after victory, always in the pursuit of ever more power and excitement! But it is NOT how God intends to spend it, despite what Satan thinks!

And after yet more torture of various fashions Winston continues to grow towards a conformist. He becomes orthodox. He admits that he had been wrong, and that 2 and 2 really do make five, if the party says so. He learns to actually believe this. His self is washed out and replaced with the conscience of the party. He ceases to be a man, and becomes little more than a simple-minded automaton. But that wasn't enough for the Party. They had to have EVERYTHING, and willingly!

And for that last act, as a result of an ultimate, unspeakable torture, Winston betrayed the last thing which he still held dear. Julia. The party finally destroyed that last shred of his self-esteem by getting him to wish, to TRULY wish his torture on her in his place.

And so we next find Winston, after considerable time had passed, in a small cafe where he spends the bulk of his time in a mindless stupor, idly staring at an enormous picture of Big Brother on the building across the street. And after all this time, he finally understood the truth. O'Brien had showed it to him. O'Brien, his friend.

"He gazed up at the enormous face. Forty years it had taken him to learn what kind of smile was hidden beneath the dark moustache. O cruel, needless misunderstanding! O stubborn, self-willed exile from the loving breast! Two gin-scented tears trickled down the sides of his nose. But it was all right, everything was all right, the struggle was finished. He had won the victory over himself. **He loved Big Brother.**"

This is the future that Satan fears! This is the future he is warning YOU about! THIS COULD BE YOU, **1984** screams! THIS IS WHAT YOU WILL BE LIKE, if you TRUST in God! Christ betrayed Lucifer, and HE WILL BETRAY YOU!

And as for God the Father, He only wants POWER, power for it's own sake, power to CONTROL and dominate the entire universe for all eternity! The power to remove every scrap of *you* from your body, and

transform you into a mindless drone! And at the end of this process, you will find yourself in a small cafe, a drooling imbecile, able only to think in an absent-minded sort of a way that YOU, TOO, LOVE BIG BROTHER!

This is the world that Satan believes God would create, as I said, because it's the world that Satan would create. So watch for movies and stories about a harsh, stern, unforgiving dictator who makes the masses obey his own twisted concepts of morality, who is challenged by a young hero who wants nothing more than to secure freedom for the people. Freedom from the oppression of the rule of God. And turn the movie upside down and see if it is not just a parable, told by the Devil, to explain his point of view and to warn you, or inspire you, or rally you to his cause to scream, with Winston, DOWN WITH BIG BROTHER!

I said before that nowhere have I seen this plan explained better than in **1984**. Well, I have never heard Satan's goal expressed more succinctly than by the words of Neo Anderson, in the end of **The Matrix**, when he called up the computers running the Matrix and said...

"I know you're out there. I can feel you now. I know that you're afraid... you're afraid of us. You're afraid of change. I don't know the future. I didn't come here to tell you how this is going to end. I came here to tell you how it's going to begin. I'm going to hang up this phone, and then I'm going to show these people what you don't want them to see. I'm going to show them a world without you. A world without rules and controls, without borders or boundaries. A world where anything is possible. Where we go from there is a choice I leave to you."

Article found on line at:
<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/a2008-045-01.htm>

*****THE END*****

("A Glorious..." continued from page 1)

something Christ was doing: "When he said this, all his opponents [the hypercritical hypocrites] were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the WONDERFUL things he was doing."

The word indicates worthiness and favor in the Lord's eyes; the light of his countenance shining upon her and being reflected. A related Greek word is rendered "glorified" by the NIV in 1 Thessalonians 1:10, 12, speaking of the Lord being "glorified in his holy people" with the prayer "that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you."

A "radiant" church enjoys favor in the eyes of the One who is Light; rich blessings from, the abundant approval of, and a special relationship with the One who says: "Let there be light!"

An example of the Levitical priesthood, which failed to keep Israel on the "glorious" or "radiant" track, is written down as a warning for us (1 Corinthians 10:11). They failed to continue to walk in peace and uprightness with the Lord Almighty by showing partiality in matters of the law (Malachi 2:1 - 9). They did stop listening to the Word, and failed to set their hearts to honor HIS name. They didn't remember to obey ALL of the Lord's commands (Numbers 15:37 - 41).

Christ is working for: "a radiant church ... holy and blameless" and we need to strive to cooperate WITH HIM as he seeks that goal.

"A" implies ONE church, a unified body in the Holy Spirit!

"Radiant" implies "the light of Your countenance" (Psalm 44:3) reflected in the face of "His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9)! It implies a people highly favored by the Lord (Proverbs 16:15), and intimately walking with God (2 Corinthians 3:7 - 8)! It bespeaks "a holy nation" praiseworthy for wisdom and understanding (Proverbs 10:1, Philippians 1:9 - 11).

"A radiant church" consists of "children of light"! (Ephesians 5:8, 1 Thessalonians 5:5). The "light of the world" as our Master says (Philippians 2:15, 2 Corinthians 4:6), a wise people (Ephesians 5:15 - 17)!

May we find the grace to cooperate increasingly fully with God's plan for us to be "a kingdom of priests and a holy nation" (Exodus 19:6), a people of whom it may be said: "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people" (Deuteronomy 4:6). This is what Christ works for, and we have a part to play in cooperating with him in this work! (Isaiah 61:1 - 7).

We are to strive to be "blameless and at peace with him" (2 Peter 3:14). God wants us to be "at peace WITH HIM", the only real peace that really counts. That peace is much more -- and not necessarily the same as -- merely being agreeing with each other: it is agreement WITH HIM, the Holy One!

Article found on line at:
<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/a2008-045-02.htm>

THE END**

("Fresh Outlook on..." continued from page 1)

that he will not use the negative term of the word as the world does, but he will express failure as "temporary defeat" which we can

learn from and overcome.

On page 1, the author wrote, "In the outset, let us distinguish between 'failure' and 'temporary defeat.' Let us see if that which is so often looked upon as 'failure' is not, in reality, but 'temporary defeat.' Moreover, let us see if this temporary defeat is not usually a blessing in disguise, for the reason that it brings us up with a jerk and redirects our energies along different and more desirable lines."

"In lesson nine of this course, we learn that strength grows out of resistance; and we shall learn, in this lesson, that sound character is usually the handiwork of reverses, and set backs, and temporary defeats, which the uninformed part of the world calls 'Failure.'"

Peter made a similar statement in 1 Peter 1:6-7, "Wherein, ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: that your trial of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ."

Also James stated in James 1:2-4, "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers [many] temptations; your faith worketh patience. But patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

To continue this idea in verse 12, it states, "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him."

In this view, when in a trial whether by our personal sins or just outside circumstances beyond our control, we should count it with joy, even though it may not seem like it at the time. It is only a temporary defeat or setback which we should overcome and endure with the help of God the Father and Jesus Christ.

If a trial is caused by our personal sins, then we should try to overcome it because by overcoming we can develop our character to be more like the character of God. Our personal sins are just setbacks that we must overcome to become a better Christian.

If it is outside circumstances, then we need to recognize that we have a God who can help us overcome these trials. He is the provider of all our needs and wants and has the power to bless us in time of need.

So next time we are facing a failure in our personal conduct or in a situation that seems difficult to overcome, I encourage you to try to view it as a temporary defeat or setback and not as a failure. Failure is only when there is no longer any hope to overcome and we do understand that with God all things are possible.

For as Paul wrote to the Romans in

Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things [whether good or bad] work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Article found on line at:
<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/a2008-045-03.htm>

THE END**

("The Tribe of..." continued from page 1)

of Judah in the latter days.

The first prophecy is in Genesis 49. This prophecy is for a prophetic period called "the latter days." While that is a subject worthy of a lengthy discussion, suffice it to say that I believe we are currently living in this prophetic period of time just prior to the Messianic Age. Jacob called together all his sons prior to his death and God gave him prophetic inspiration regarding the fates and circumstances of each tribe in the latter days. Concerning the descendants of Judah in the latter days, Jacob's prophecy in verses 8-9 included the following words: "Judah...thy hand shall be in the neck of his enemies...Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up?"

Readers surely realize that the Jews lived for many centuries (indeed, millennia) without a completely sovereign nation of their own. They were scattered among many nations in a very long Diaspora. However, after the Holocaust of World War II, the nation of Israel was born in 1948 after a partition of Palestine, which the British had governed as a UN Mandate Territory. The infant Israeli nation miraculously defeated several Arab armies, winning their independence and insuring their nationhood.

Jacob's prophecy foretells Judah will be a "lion's whelp" in the latter days. A whelp is another name for a young lion cub. Jacob prophesied that Judah would be a very young nation in the latter-day period of time. This perfectly describes the modern Israeli nation, which was "born" in the post World War II period and is still a "young nation" in the world. No nation which has existed for centuries could be the modern tribe of Judah! The divine prophecy requires that the tribe of Judah be found in a young nation in the latter-days.

The prophecy also mentions words like "prey," "couching as a lion," and "in the neck of thine enemies." A lion is, of course, a predatory animal which must kill prey animals to live. The Israelis have been required to fight several major wars against neighboring Arab nations to defend and preserve their independence. The modern Jewish state has had to "act like a lion" to survive in the

modern world. This also fulfills the prophecy of Jacob.

Genesis 49:9 foretold Judah would be "as an old lion" even though it was only a "whelp" (a young nation) in the latter-days. Is this a conflict? Not at all. It does not say Judah will be an old lion, but rather that it will be "as an old lion." I see this as meaning that even though Judah will be merely a "cub" nation (a young one) in the latter days, its fighting skills will be as well-developed as an old (fully mature) lion! The modern geopolitical circumstances of the Mideast have "roused up" in the Israelis the martial skills of the ancient kingdom of Judah which are discussed in the Bible. The Israeli nation fulfills this prophecy.

A second prophecy is in Zephaniah 2:1-7. Verse 1 states this prophecy is for "the day of the Lord," another common prophetic phrase indicating the end of this age just prior to the Messianic Age. Verse 7 prophesies: "And the coast shall be for the remnant of Judah; they shall feed thereupon: in the houses of Ashkelon shall they lie down in the evening: for the Lord their God shall visit them, and turn away [end] their captivity."

This prophecy states "the remnant of Judah" will dwell in "the coast" and in "Ashkelon" at the end of this age. Other ancient Philistine cities "of the seacoast" are mentioned in verse 5 so there is no question the "seacoast" where Judah will dwell is the Eastern Mediterranean seacoast of the area called Palestine. When you look at a map of where the modern Israeli nation began, its heart was in the coastal strip of land along the Mediterranean Sea when the British Mandate came to an end in 1948. The modern Israeli nation perfectly fulfills this prophecy about "Judah," and this prophecy unmistakably reveals that it is "the will of God" that the tribe of Judah possess the land on which their nation now dwells!

Zephaniah 2:7 also foretells that the "remnant of Judah" will dwell again in their ancient homeland when the God of Israel "turns away [ends] their captivity." This can be applied two ways and either one fulfills the prophecy. One can take the long historical view and see that the founding of the Jewish state in 1948 "ended the captivity" [the Diaspora] which began in ancient times. Also, it has a very appropriate fulfillment in the modern era. The Jews of Europe were in a terrible "captivity" in Europe during the Nazi era of World War II. The people of Judah again established a nation in "the seacoast" in their old homeland after the horrible Nazi captivity was ended. Many captive and oppressed Jews came from death-camps and forced labor-camps in Europe to help found the Israeli nation.

So, in conclusion, biblical prophecy reveals beyond any shadow of doubt that in

the latter days, the tribe of Judah will be a young nation exhibiting military prowess, and that it will be located along the Eastern Mediterranean seacoast and the city of Ashkelon will be within its borders. The modern city of Ashkelon is within Israeli territory. The prophecies are clear: the modern Israelis (and also, modern Jews in other nations who provided the settlers for the Israeli nation) are the tribe of Judah! They are the brother tribe of the nations of the modern house of Israel.

As a historical footnote, if the modern Jewish state had adopted the name "Judah" instead of "Israel" in 1948, there would be less confusion on this subject. The Jewish state took the name "Israel" after "Eretz Israel" [the land of Israel], but its population base was actually the tribe of Judah.

There is much more evidence on this subject supporting the above conclusions, but this should be enough to provide convincing proof on this subject. Those who teach that the Israelis/Jews are not the tribe of Judah either do not understand the prophetic scriptures or they are blind to the obvious messages they contain. Inspired scriptural prophecies unquestionably confirm the Israelis/Jews are modern Judah.

Article found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/a2008-045-04.htm>

*****THE END*******

("Should a Christian...") continued from page 1)

they need to learn to reach their full potential in Christ. "For whom the LORD loves He chastens..." (Heb 12:6).

I believe that God has caused us to become involved in these court cases so that we can learn the tough lessons that are necessary to be kings and priests (Rev 5:10). I hope to live these things, and write about them, so that all of you can learn as well.

God does promise believers that they are likely to be brought before Judicial authorities: Luke 12:11 "Now when they bring you to the synagogues and magistrates and authorities, do not worry about how or what you should answer, or what you should say. 12 "For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say."

He tells us that we do not need to worry about what we will say, but that we should rely on the Holy Spirit. This sounds easy until you have to do it. There is a great tendency to be overwhelmed by the papers and procedures of things, and just to do what the judges and other court personnel tell you. I have been advised by other believers to "just leave God out of it".

One of the things almost all of the court personnel tell me is "you need to be

represented by an attorney". Yet the scripture does not say that the Holy Spirit will inspire your attorney. The Spirit will speak through believers. Even as I write this, I realize that I should be using the above scripture as one of the reasons why a non-attorney church trustee should be able to represent the interests of the church.

JESUS' EXAMPLES OF JUDGMENT

As we go on reading in Luke 12, we find a scripture that is frequently misunderstood and misused. Luke 12:13 Then one from the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." 14 But He said to him, "Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you?"

This has been so often repeated as a proof to avoid participation in civil government that many people believe it without thinking about it. I did for years. But the scripture raises no issues about civil government at all. To the contrary, it teaches lessons about using civil government properly.

Jesus knew that the Torah taught: Deut 16:18 "You shall appoint judges and officers in all your gates, which the LORD your God gives you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with just judgment."

Jesus was not one of the judges or officers appointed to hear such cases. The man in the crowd should have taken the case to the judges "in his gates". If he believed their decision was wrong, he should have taken it to a higher human judge, and ultimately God. (At that time, Jesus was recognized as a "teacher", not as God.)

Jesus upheld a very important legal principle here: a case should only be tried once in the proper jurisdiction, and then go only to the proper appeals courts. The USA largely follows the Biblical model in this. Deut 16:18 mentions "your gates" and "your tribes", which roughly correspond to our local courts, and state appellate courts, and then Deut 16:9 talks about a single central court for the very hardest of cases, corresponding to our nation's supreme court.

Long-time church members might consider: do you know of a story where church-members had a dispute, and one party kept going to minister after minister, until they finally found someone who agreed with him? Do you know of people who wanted to either marry or divorce under questionable circumstances and who continued to look for a minister until they found one who would agree to do it?

The verses immediately following Luke 12:14 warn about greed. If Jesus is continuing the same subject, it is likely that the man who wanted the inheritance divided was already wealthy—either through his own efforts or by marrying a woman with property (Num 36:1-9). It is possible that his brother

was poor and would be impoverished if he had to divide his inheritance. The judges may have already ruled against dividing the inheritance, but the man wanted to keep trying to maximize his gains.

BELIEVERS TO SETTLE AMONG THEMSELVES IF POSSIBLE

We must realize that Matthew 5:15 and 18:15 instruct believers to settle disputes among themselves without going to court if possible. When that does not work, they can go to an individual or the church to help, rather than a court (Matt 18:16-17, 1Cor 6). The big requirement for these forms of dispute resolution is that both people must submit themselves to the judgment process.

When the man in the crowd called to Jesus, he did not say "my brother and I are here, please hear our case and decide it", but he appeared to be asking for an "ex parte" (one sided) order against his brother. In general, the legal systems of today do not allow this, but would insist on both parties being able to present their case.

Again, I ask long time church members: How many times do you remember when two people had a disagreement and one went without the other to a minister or deacon and obtained a decision in his/her favor without both sides being heard? Some may say, "The minister has the wisdom to discern the truth from one side of the story". But, Solomon, the wisest of all said, "The first one to plead his cause seems right, until his neighbor comes and examines him" (Prov 18:17). Jesus had the Holy Spirit without measure, even more discerning than Solomon, but he set the example of not judging an issue when both parties are not requesting a judgment and when he had no legal responsibility to judge it.

There are times when Jesus did gently judge an issue brought to him by believers: Luke 10:38 Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. 39 And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. 40 But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me." 41 And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. 42 "But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

Jesus gave a judgment on this dispute when both parties were there and both wanted his decision. We should be willing to do this for disputes between believers in our congregations, today. But if the parties are not willing to submit to any church judgment, or if the people in the church group are not

willing to go to the effort of conducting a fair hearing, then the civil courts are the only means of solving the matter.

While Matthew 18:17 indicates that a person should be regarded as an unbeliever for not hearing the church, there are so many congregations today that people simply leave one and join another.

Whether we have a dispute with a believer who will not settle among the brethren, or whether a dispute with an unbeliever or against some branch of our government, the courts of this land are the biblically mandated way to solve it. There are times to "turn the other cheek" (Matt 5:39) or "accept wrong" (1Cor 6:7), but there are also times to stand up for what is right and "obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

WHAT ABOUT CORRUPT COURTS?

But the courts of today are corrupt! I have said that, and you have probably said that. And it is true. And it was true in both the Old and the New Testament. That is why the Bible is filled with admonitions for judges to do that which is right and just.

The Bible teaches the avoidance of this worlds courts if possible, but it nowhere tells believers that they must not go. But the Bible does tell us how to deal with corrupt courts! We go to them, and if they are unjust, we ask God to do justice for us. The judges need to realize that they, whether they believe in God or not, are sitting in the place of these biblically mandated offices and that they will be judged for what they do.

Paul did explain this to Felix: Acts 24:25 Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, "Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you."

There are many places where the Eternal promises to hear the cause of the needy and those who are afflicted in judgment—and to take action on their behalf. Please read all the scriptures below, especially the last one from the New Testament:

Ex 22:21 "You shall neither mistreat a stranger nor oppress him, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. 22 You shall not afflict any widow or fatherless child. 23 If you afflict them in any way, and they cry at all to Me, I will surely hear their cry; 24 and My wrath will become hot, and I will kill you with the sword; your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless.

Ex 22:26 "If you ever take your neighbor's garment as a pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down. 27 "For that is his only covering, it is his garment for his skin. What will he sleep in? And it will be that when he cries to Me, I will hear, for I am gracious.

Deut 24:15 "Each day you shall give him

his wages, and not let the sun go down on it, for he is poor and has set his heart on it; lest he cry out against you to the LORD, and it be sin to you.

Job 34:27 Because they turned back from Him, And would not consider any of His ways, 28 So that they caused the cry of the poor to come to Him; For He hears the cry of the afflicted. 29 When He gives quietness, who then can make trouble? And when He hides His face, who then can see Him, Whether it is against a nation or a man alone?

Pslm 10:17 LORD, You have heard the desire of the humble; You will prepare their heart; You will cause Your ear to hear, 18 To do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, That the man of the earth may oppress no more.

Pslm 140:12 I know that the LORD will maintain The cause of the afflicted, And justice for the poor.

Pslm 146:7 Who executes justice for the oppressed, Who gives food to the hungry. The LORD gives freedom to the prisoners. 8 The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; The LORD raises those who are bowed down; The LORD loves the righteous. 9 The LORD watches over the strangers; He relieves the fatherless and widow; But the way of the wicked He turns upside down.

Prov 22:22 Do not exploit the poor because they are poor and do not crush the needy in court, 23 for the LORD will take up their case and will plunder those who plunder them (NIV).

Luke 18:7 "And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? 8 "I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

FAITH IN GOD DURING COURT SITUATIONS

Will he find faith in us? Do we have faith that God will really be there with us in court situations? Or, do we believe that God will primarily protect us "during the tribulation" and "in the Millennium"? Too often, I think we believers see our protection from God as a kind of a group thing—that some big event will happen which we will see as "the great tribulation" and then there will be sudden and obvious protection from God. We need to grow in faith that God will protect us and that we will be able to call upon him in vital day-to-day situations that will affect us—sometimes only us.

I included a summary of these concepts in a response to a motion that went before the court. A copy of that paragraph follows: "Defendants [which are myself and the church trust] believe that self-representation is a very important issue and that precedents for it will be set primarily by in propria

persona litigants, not by attorneys. The Michigan constitution was established by God-fearing men as its preamble states: "We, the people of the State of Michigan, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of freedom, and earnestly desiring to secure these blessings undiminished to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution."

The Bible commands the establishment of systems of just judgment at the local and tribal (state) levels (Deuteronomy 16:16-18) and commands the people to use them (Deuteronomy 17:8-9). It is our purpose to operate within the system to encourage legal principles that are also biblical principles. If injustice is done, God himself promises to uphold those oppressed in judgment (Exodus 22:20-24) and everyone will ultimately be judged by the way they judge others (Matthew 7:2; 12:36-37).

Self-representation is practiced in numerous places in the scriptures and was an important issue to the framers of the Constitution of Michigan (Article 1, Sec. 13).

ON TO THE COURT OF APPEALS

On January 8, 2007, our motion in court to allow our church trust to be represented without an attorney was denied. No Michigan law or case law was stated by either the opposing attorney or the judge as the reason for this. The opposing attorney simply said this was "basic law". The judge asked if I had found a specific case where a trustee represented a trust in court. I told them I had not, but nor had I found any case where a trustee was prohibited from doing so. Had I raised the issue that the burden of proof is on the other side to prove that I cannot do it, he might have granted our motion. But this may have been the Holy Spirit, as promised, giving me the words that I needed. It would be far better to establish this precedent at the Appellate Court level than in the Circuit Court that was hearing this motion.

I did more research and concluded that the basis of these arguments was solid. I filed a request for Leave to Appeal with the Michigan Court of Appeals on January 26, and have already received confirmation that it has been assigned case number 275819. I will file a more detailed brief, later.

The appeals court has authority to decide the case from what they have already seen, but it is more likely that they will ask for the brief and answer with a written opinion, or just decline to hear the case at all.

If they decline, I can either ask the Michigan Supreme Court to hear it (which can also decline), or wait until our case is over, at which time the Appeals Court must hear the matter.

THIS CASE IS IMPORTANT TO CHURCHES THAT TAKE ACTION

While this case may seem academic and unimportant, I think it is very important for the future. We continue to receive requests from churches that want to get out from under their corporations and 501(c)(3) status that essentially makes them subservient to the government.

I realize that many of you have read our [Servants' News articles](#) about this in the past, but for those of you who don't remember, the 1954 laws allowing churches to receive a tax-exempt letter from the IRS as long as they, do not significantly influence legislation, do not influence campaigns for public office and do not carry on propaganda.

These laws sat un-enforced for years with some activist churches almost exclusively responsible for the election of certain candidates and the passing of certain laws. Now, the IRS has a whole department that receives complaints against churches that violate these first two points, and warns them or removes their tax exempt status.

This writer does not yet know of cases where the issue of carrying on propaganda has been raised, but it will have more impact than the other two. "Propaganda" in this law does not mean a disinformation campaign of lies and deceptions, but simply the propagation of any message. The USA Supreme Court confirmed this definition in [Meese v Keene, 481 U.S. 465 \(1987\)](#). Whenever they choose, the IRS can tell 501(c)(3) churches that they must stop proclaiming the gospel or any significant message.

The churches that are attempting to shed their 501(c)(3) and corporate status are doing this so they can speak out on the important issues of the day. The world certainly needs to hear biblical messages from as many sources as possible. But there will certainly be opposition to the churches and individuals that do this. How will that opposition come?

We must not forget the simple and obvious lessons from Jesus and the apostles being in court. Were they there because they did so much wrong? No! They were there because they were falsely accused of doing much wrong. Evil leaders in non-Christian societies frequently just kill or imprison those who oppose them. That is not acceptable in Christian societies, so the evil leaders there usually falsely accuse those who oppose them and have the "justice system" do their dirty work for them. They hope that most of the people will go on thinking that their leaders are good.

As these churches drop their corporate and 501(c)(3) status, and speak out where others are silent, they can expect to be accused and sued in court by various government and other entities. If church groups must hire attorneys to defend frivolous cases, they can lose all they have paying their attorney's fees. One lawyer told

us that the court could appoint some attorney to represent our trust, and then even if we won the case, we could still be required to sell the campus to pay the attorney's fees imposed on us.

The ability to defend oneself and the property used by one's church is utterly essential to continuing to preach and proclaim the gospel. We are glad to have a small part in being able to defend this.

LOSING OUR FREEDOM TO OBEY GOD

Month by month, and day by day, one can see our freedoms slipping away and moving closer to the time described in the book of Revelation.

Recent news items have shown that the President of the USA (which is a nice way of saying any agency he authorizes) is asserting the right to open anyone's mail and tap anyone's telephone. The President has claimed the need to hold prisoners in Guantanamo Bay without charges for indefinite (forever) periods of time, and to torture them to get information. All that is required is for them to be designated an "illegal combatant" or a "terrorist". No court or trial determines that a person indeed is an "illegal combatant" or a "terrorist". You could be one! This is a violation of the [Geneva Convention](#) our country has signed and a step backward from the [Magna Carta of 1215 AD!](#)

Does our President claim that these things are necessary to fight terrorism? Yes. Does the Bible teach that the way to protect oneself from enemies is to put lots of restrictions on your own people? No! Serious enemies are wise enough to use coded language in the phone calls and mail, because they expect that our government will try to intercept their communications. Radical Moslems are ready to die for their cause—they do not give up fighting because they might be captured and held in Guantanamo bay.

The money spent on the Iraq war would be far more than enough to develop all the alternate energy we need and to completely secure our own borders. Does the Bible teach that we should not have people living among us that serve other Gods? Yes! (Deut 13:1-18; 17:1-7).

But instead of attempting to secure our country from Islamic influence, in March of 2005 our President signed an agreement to gradually turn over the security of our borders to an international organization which has no elected officials: the [Security and Prosperity Partnership Of North America](#). It has a website at [www.spp.gov](#) which claims that it is not removing the sovereignty of the USA, but never explains how they will have the authority or funding to implement all of the things that they say they are going to do unless the USA, Canada and

Mexico turn it over to them.

Another related project is titled **North America's Super Corridor Coalition**, Inc.—an organization planning a collection of super-highways from Mexico through the USA to Canada. It has a web site: www.nascocorridor.com.

Again, it is a corporation and contains no members elected by the people. One of the features of the highway is that it will be "secure". While that is not defined on their web site, it almost certainly means that one will need government identification in order to use it—a record will be made when you get on and where you get off.

SECTION 666

This brings to mind another piece of legislation that has existed for about 10 years and is just now beginning to be enforced. United States Code Title 42, Section 666 is part of the laws attempting to make absent parents pay child support, but contains a provision, Section 666(13)(c), insisting that states require a Social Security Number for "any applicant for a professional license, driver's license, occupational license, recreational license, or marriage license".

You can read the law yourself, here: caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/scripts/ts_search.pl?title=42&sec=666. The theory is that any person could some day owe child support, so the government must keep track of everybody.

Many people still have their original social security cards which contain the phrase "Not to be used for identification purposes". But without that number, can a person buy or sell or work?

Lawrence D. Lewis, of Idaho, tried to apply for a driver's license without giving that number and was denied. He was once assigned a social security number but stopped using it because he..."...believes the number issued to him by the federal government is either the precursor to, or actually is, the biblical "mark of the beast."

The above quote was from his appellate brief, available at www.isc.idaho.gov/opinions/lewis8.pdf

Mr. Lewis was denied his request for a religious exemption by the appeals court and the Idaho Supreme Court as well. His attorneys are now working on an appeal to the United States Supreme Court. More information is available at: <http://www.christianliberty.org/art/religiou%20slaw-666.html>

I do not claim to have any prophetic revelation that this section 666 is the Mark of the Beast spoken of in Revelation. However, I cannot prove that Mr. Lewis is wrong. The nice thing about Mr. Lewis is that he is not just talking, but doing.

There is another law in progress that will

require everyone to have a national identity card by 2008. It is important to realize that our nation was once a place where one could have religious freedom as long as it did not affect others. It is rapidly losing that freedom.

The state of Michigan has recently passed a law requiring all farm animals to be marked with an RFID chip within the next few years (explained at: www.michigan.gov/mda/0,1607,7-125-1568-86002--,00.html). Electronic devices can read these RFID chips from a long distance away. People will need to notify the government before they move their animals anywhere—even 4-H shows. The government will know if they do it without permission. It is part of the **National Animal Information System (NAIS)**, a program intended to extend nation-wide. While RFID chips for people are not law yet, it would be very easy to someday extend this "mark for the beasts" to people. Such things have already been proposed for "good purposes", such as finding kidnapped children. But with the electronics in place to locate the animals, strict control of people could be instantly achieved. Some proponents have recommended that the chips be installed in the hand or forehead. Indeed, the scripture would seem to be fulfilled.

Rev 13:16 He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, 17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.

We have a tendency to see a prophecy as pointing to some great and obviously recognized event—and at that time each Christian will have to decide to follow God or follow the Beast. But we need to realize that when Ancient Israel and Judah fell, and when the church was persecuted historically, it was done a piece at a time—here a little, there a little.

Evil leaders do not usually attack everyone all at once, they do it here a little, then there a little, so that not everyone rebels at once. We are loosing our freedoms and are pushed to obey evil practices a little at a time—a little in one area, a little in another area. Some states are worse, some are better. Sometimes, too many freedoms are taken away at once, so some are given back. But the tendency is always to take them away, not to give them back.

I do not intend to have RFID chips installed in any of the animals here at PABC. I certainly do not intend to accept an RFID chip for myself. I belong to my Father in heaven, not the state. If that means going to court over the issue, to tell the officials that I

trust in God and not in their systems, I plan to do it.

MAN IS UNRELIABLE, GOD IS GOOD

I do not agree with most "conspiracy theorists", but do agree both the Bible and publicly available information show that there are some conspiracies. Most of the information here is documented by the websites of the governments and organizations that we are telling you about. It can be very saddening to read and think about all the evils of our world today.

However, this sadness is a good thing. We need to realize that God wants us to be sad about the evils we see: Ezk 9:2 And suddenly six men came from the direction of the upper gate, which faces north, each with his battle-ax in his hand. One man among them was clothed with linen and had a writer's inkhorn at his side. They went in and stood beside the bronze altar. 3 Now the glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the cherub, where it had been, to the threshold of the temple. And He called to the man clothed with linen, who had the writer's inkhorn at his side; 4 and the LORD said to him, "Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it." 5 To the others He said in my hearing, "Go after him through the city and kill; do not let your eye spare, nor have any pity."

But we must realize that Christ has overcome all of these evils, and that we can ask for and receive hope in him. Rom 15:12 And again, Isaiah says: "There shall be a root of Jesse; And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, In Him the Gentiles shall hope." 13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. 14 Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

We look forward to the day when "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" (Rev 11:15).

End Notes as Written by the Author:

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Article found on line at:

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THE END**

("Government As..." continued from page 1)

banking interests. (The name on the building at 55 Water Street is?... "Tower of Power"....?)

Now I know that many folks out there will say what in the world is he writing about? Hey! I'm writing about our American system of government that has been deceiving us for the last 74 years. You know that tax you pay called Income Tax? That money goes right into the pocket of the **Federal Reserve** and it's agents. Did you know that the **Federal Reserve** is a privately owned company and the money it receives does not go to our government to help benefit our people?

The **independent Treasury Act of 1921** suspended the Treasury Department of the United States government. This means that our Congress turned the Treasury Dept. over to this private corporation. Here is a list of the players who are playing you and me as collateral inventory, human resource utilities and slaves to pay the notes our great American leaders continually pile higher and higher. These families and banks own you and me.

Rothschild Bank Of London
Rothschild Bank Of Berlin
Warburg Bank of Hamburg
Warburg Bank of Amsterdam
Lazard Brothers of Paris
Israel Moses Seif Banks of Italy
Chase Manhattan Bank of New York
Goldman, Sachs of New York
Lehman Brothers of New York
Kuhn Loeb Bank of New York

The **Federal Reserve** is at the root of most of our present laws. Basically, the **Federal Reserve** is the "STATE" of the United States. Folks, we have banks on

every corner in this country and they control what? OUR MONEY. Hello! Am I missing something here?

I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies... If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around (the banks)will deprive the people of all property until their children wake up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered.....The issuing power should be taken from the banks and restored to the people, to whom it properly belongs. You know who said this? Thomas Jefferson. Has this happened in our country? You better believe it.

Who owns your house and your business? Who controls our educational system? Do we have taxation without representation? You know how we the people approve of fraudulent tax laws that We didn't approve? We approve of them by paying them. Did you have a say so in a tax law that gives an independent school district the authority to have a sheriff seize your property, and auction it off, because due to circumstances beyond your control, you failed to pay taxes on it. How did this happen?

In 1935 Pres. Roosevelt created The Federal Register Act.-Title 3 sec. 301 et seq. And by this Executive order, he gave himself the power to create federal agencies and appoint a head of each agency. He then re-delegated his authority to make law (statutory regulations) to those agency heads. One big problem there, the president has no constitutional authority to make law.

Under the Constitution re-delegation of delegated authority is a Felony breach. When the president gave these agencies the power to tax, we became a government by appointment. Thus we have taxation without representation. The next time you put on your thinking cap, think about all the laws and regulations that exist, where you had no say so in their creation.

Something is amiss when we let big government control our lives and yet we say we have freedom. Freedom to do what? To buy and purchase is a banking privilege, from debt green money to credit cards, the **Federal Reserve** controls it. To drive, move about and live life is a licensed privilege created by law of the legislature, which is a tentacle of the **American Bar Association**, the legal arm of the banking interests.

Knowing that the Great Creator of all things is in charge, no matter what, is a comfort to those who understand. The problem with our America is, we acknowledge man made systems as sovereign and ignore the true sovereignty of the true God, thus we don't understand what

Liberty really is, therefore we don't know who we are. (We have lost our identity.)

From the time we are born to the time we die we belong to a system (a parent) that gives us straw to make brick and just like the children of Israel in Egyptian slavery, we feel we cannot exist without that straw. (Exodus 5: 7-21)

In the book of the bible called Daniel, in chapter 3, there is an account of the golden idol that King Nebuchadnezzar had made and he required the people to bow to this image. Today you and I worship this same image in the form of the system of government we allow to control us. Some don't know they are controlled, some just don't care and those of us who do care are looked at as radical. Be that as it may we will get what we deserve as a nation of deceived people. May God help us all! (My quote) (Some information from Barefoot.com.)

Article found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/a2008-045-06.htm>

THE END**

("A Warning from..." continued from page 1)

held the finest jobs in the country as bankers, business owners and teachers. Children obtained a solid education. They lived in fine homes and families were closely knit.

Storm clouds were slowly forming, but many of the people could only see blue skies enhanced by the sun. For those who could see the raging storm clouds on the horizon, calm assurances were given by family and friends that everything would be fine. "How can you take seriously a little buffoonish character with a comical moustache?" Many said, "Political change is in the air, but no one can possibly take this little man seriously!"

Even though random attacks took place upon average citizens and children were bullied at school, many of the people refused to believe what was happening was about to spread like a cancer. Those who had warned had either fled or were arrested and killed.

Although political and cultural hurricane force winds were slowly destroying all segments of society, many people clung to personal worlds as if reality was only make believe created by alarmists. Many people proudly looked at the historical mindset of the nation and continually reassured themselves that the masses would never give in to the hatred spouted by a man that was a mere comic book figure.

Within time, a typical evening meal or a comfortable nights sleep was interrupted abruptly by a loud pounding on the door or no warning at all. The dark ominous clouds soon overshadowed the self-created blue

skies and sunny days that so many people convinced themselves was reality.

How could the Jewish people of World War II Germany not see the handwriting on the wall or not hear the warning cries of those who could not convince the majority that the days ahead were a matter of life or death?

Very few people in America, Canada and Britain see the handwriting on the wall or hear the warnings. There is nothing new under the sun as stated in Ecclesiastes 1:9. It's as if a baton of complacency and arrogance have been handed from the Jews of World War II Germany and given to the American, Canadian and British people in a race to personal and national destruction.

The nightmarish rule of **Adolph Hitler** and the death of millions is a warning of what happens when complacency and arrogance is embraced within a comfort zone that refuses to be violated.

Seemingly out of nowhere a prosperous nation with many of the brightest minds became a death trap simply because of race. Not only did the Jewish people lose their homes, but millions found themselves looking through slits of boarded cattle cars on their way to places such as **Chelmo, Belzec, Sobibor, Treblinka, Maidanek** and **Auschwitz**. One can only imagine what was going through the minds of those who were herded like cattle as they silently listened to mile after mile of endless railroad track.

The world overall was far more civilized some 70 years ago. Today the world is not only ruled by God-less leaders, but people are far more blind to what is happening around them. Due to the false god of materialism, America, Canada and Britain refuse to see a whole host of problems.

God's people have been given the precious understanding of God's truth, but do we see the dangers growing by the day, due to the lack of appreciation for what we have been given?

How many brethren will find themselves victims of the Great Tribulation as a result of not appreciating God's truth? How many will be put in positions to provide answers to those they are with while in captivity? The coming enslavement is just one facet of the Great Tribulation. A persecution is coming and God will correct a Laodicean attitude by allowing lukewarm brethren to experience the very thing that some have convinced themselves is for other church members who are lukewarm.

We are in such a confused state today that the only way many brethren will wake up is to see that belonging to a particular church organization is not what grants us entrance into God's Kingdom, but a dedication to God and Christ, which is what they desire above all else.

A mere 30-40 years ago we would never

have imagined the churches of God would be in such disarray, let alone an America, Canada and Britain living life on a daily basis as if there is no tomorrow.

Not only should we desire a heartfelt and urgent warning to those who do not know what lies ahead, but voices of warning need to cry out due to the spiritual condition of God's Church.

Article found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/a2008-045-07.htm>

*****THE END*******

(“HEAD and HEADSHIP:...” continued from page 1)

company.” 3) a beginning point, as “head” of a river

Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary talks of this last meaning, “The word head is often used of inanimate objects such as rivers to designate a **beginning point** or top part of the object <Gen. 2:10; Ps. 24:9>.”

The Greek **kephale**- Strong's 2776, is used of the literal head of the body and also as the “source of life” just as we used the term “head of the river”, meaning the **source** of the river. In Greek mythology Athena sprang fully grown from the head of Zeus, therefore “head” became connected with the idea of “source of life” and became a common meaning.

If the Greeks wanted to express the idea of authority or ruling over someone there were many other words that they used, but the exact word used for one's literal head, **kephale**, was thought of as “source of life” and not as authority. So in this way, the Greek word for head does not always carry the exact same meaning that our English word does. Many early writers understood this point.

Ancient writer **Cyril, Archbishop of Alexandria**, writes of Adam: “Therefore of our race he became first **head, which is source**, and was of the earth and earthy. Since Christ was named the second Adam, he has been placed as **head, which is source**, of those who through him have been formed anew... Therefore he himself our **source, which is head**, has appeared as a human being.”

Other writers of the first few centuries are also quoted in Catherine Clark Kroeger's paper “The Classical Concept of *Head* as ‘Source’” which can be found in the book **Equal to Serve by Gretchen Gaebelein Hull**, p 267-283. Dr. Clark holds a Master's degree in Greek and a Ph.D. in classical studies.

Head as Source of Life

In Col 1:18 below, Paul talks of Christ

being like the literal head and the church like the literal body. The two are connected and function as one! Notice the ideas of “beginning” “firstborn from the dead” and “preeminence” which are all concepts linked with the **source of life**. We receive life from Christ who was the first to be resurrected to eternal life. Col 1:18 And he is the **head of the body**, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

This next verse also expresses the idea of being joined: Col 2:19 ... the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God. (NKJ)

Again, the idea is of closeness and interdependence as a flesh and blood head is to a body that is growing.

Women first or Men first?

This next scriptural passage is a very misunderstood one. Some of the beliefs of the false teachers of the day included the idea that Eve was created first, not Adam (see 1Tim. 2:13) and therefore man originated from woman. Also it was said that man originated from woman because every man was born of a woman and therefore a man's source of life was a woman. In the next scripture Paul is countering this false concept using “head” in the Greek meaning of “life source”.

1 Cor 11:3 But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God. (KJV)

Christ gave life to the man (Adam) and then woman (Eve) was created from man and the head--life source--of Christ is God the Father. Paul is not listing a chain of command here, **he is countering a pagan teaching**. He is showing the **source of life** of each one: man, woman and Christ.

Paul is not in a discussion about men having authority over women, but whether men came from women. In the next verse he shifts from “life source” to literal “heads” and whether one's head should be covered or uncovered while praying. Finally he decides a woman's hair is her covering.

1 Cor 11:4 Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonors his head. (NKJ)

In translating this next verse to the Ephesians, the translators added “things” when it is not in the Greek. Again, Christ is like a head and we are like a body.

Eph 1:22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all {things} to the church, which is His body, the fulness of Him who fills all in all. (NAS)

Lastly, let's look at Ephesians 5:21-33, an important passage regarding the relationship between husband and wife. The

marriages of Ephesus were especially troubled because the cult of **Artemis** looked back to **Amazon warrior women** who subjugated men. Verse 21 is to all church members and the lines that follow are to married couples within the church: Eph 5:21-33

21 and **be subject to one another** in the fear of Christ.

Here **all** church members are told to be "subject to one another". Both males and females are to be "subject to one another". We are not to be in contention with other church members--male or female, but to willingly cooperate. There is no injunction for all the women to be "subject" to all the men as some believe. Next Paul moves this same willing cooperation into the sphere of marriage:

22 Wives, {be subject} to your own husbands, as (Greek: **hoos**) to the Lord.

Does "As" the Lord Mean Equal to the Lord?

The "be subject" is not in the Greek; that thought is carried from the verse before telling how all members are to act toward each other. The "as," is translated from the Greek **hoos**, and could be translated "**after the Lord**" because this exact same word is translated "after" in Acts 16:10, "And **after (hoos)**..."

A Christian woman is subject first to the Lord and **after that**, subject to her husband. It does **not** mean that a husband's influence and wishes have **equal authority** with Christ's commands, for that would be blasphemy! No man is equal with Jesus Christ.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself {being} the Savior of the **body**.

Paul presents the idea of being connected-- as a married couple you are **one being** just as a head is connected to a body as Paul makes clear in verse 31.

24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives {ought to be} to their husbands in everything.

There is definitely the idea of a husband's leadership here, but godly leadership-- NOT supreme authority and crushing domination--loving as Christ's own love. Back in Eph. 5:21 at the start of this passage we were told that every church member is to "be subject to one another", so we know that being "subject to" does not give permission for oppressive behavior.

25 Husbands, **love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church** and gave Himself up for her;

26 that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

27 that He might present to Himself the

church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless.

28 So husbands ought also to **love their own wives as their own bodies**. He who loves his own wife loves himself;

Clearly, Paul's instruction to husbands is kind love and the idea of being **one body**, not to dominate harshly, bark orders, and view wives as lesser mortals.

29 for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also {does} the church,

30 because we are members of His body.

31 For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become **one flesh**.

32 This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

33 Nevertheless let each individual among you also love his own wife even as himself; and {let} the wife {see to it} that she respect her husband. (NAS)

Supreme Commanders

Some take this passage and make husbands into Supreme Commanders who stand on their wives to make themselves look taller. Does Christ treat the church that way?

Remember that no man should elevate himself to the level of Christ and think he comes between his wife and Christ! A woman is always responsible directly to Jesus Christ **first** and to any human being second.

Notice in the case of Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5 that God held the woman equally responsible for the lies they told. If the man was the "Supreme Commander" of the home and the woman **MUST** obey the husband, even when what he commands is evil-- if all this were true, then Sapphira would have gone free. God would have said, "Sapphira has no responsibility in this matter. She had to do what her husband said." Instead Sapphira had responsibility before God because He expected her to obey His Commandment not to bear false witness. Instead she obeyed her husband Ananias, and died because of her choice to put her husband's words **as** if they were **equal** to the words of Christ!

Conclusion

A husband's instructions are never to be put "as" or **equal** to the Lord's instructions. They are to be followed "after" the Lord. Like a woman respects God she is to respect her godly husband in a similar way-- but not equal to God! If a woman puts her husband equal to God she makes her husband her God! No man, even a very good man, can be given equal status with God or Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "And the two shall become

one flesh; consequently they are no longer two, but one flesh." Mark 10:8. A husband and wife are one union, one flesh, and one body. A wife should cooperate with a godly husband's leadership and "be subject" to him **after the Lord**. A woman is not to be subject to all men, just to her own husband. She must never obey her husband when he would lead her to disobey God. Husbands are to love their wives with a Christ-like love-- a sacrificing love-- and wives are to respect their husbands and return that same high standard of love.

Article found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/a2008-045-08.htm>

THE END

("Sacrifices..." continued from page 24)

JEWISH WORSHIP AT JUDAISM'S HOLIEST SITE.

The Temple Mount must host the royal **House of Prayer for All Nations**, whose international representatives will be most welcome and their generous offerings gladly accepted (Isa. 56:7).

Jerusalem undivided: the eternal capital of Israel!

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/i2008-045-09.htm>

THE END

LETTERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2 ...

reconcile with each other, they will not be in the Kingdom and that is the bottom line here. And again, if either of us have ever done anything wrong to any of you, please come to us as in Matthew 18:15-17. We are willing to apologize to you when we are found to be wrong. We do not know if you do not tell us.

If someone comes to you as in Matthew 18:15-17, do not just brush them off or make it sound like they have no complaint. Listen to them and try to work on it. Sometimes I hear people say that they don't have to listen to the person coming to them with a Matthew 18:15-17 matter if that person is angry. Read the verses, there is nothing in those verses that gives you a way out when you are confronted with any kind of a problem between you and another person. If however the person is coming to you in anger, this is no time to defend yourself as this will only make the matter worse. First start by listening to what the other person is telling you is the problem. If you did what they say you did, then apologize without excuse or

reason. You might be surprised how that way of doing things just melts all anger away. Once there is conversation or conversations leading to reconciliation and at a point in the future you can when given the right opportunity tell your friend your reason or excuse for what you did if you have one and that will go a long way in helping your friend to understand and love you more, however do not push this point until you feel your friendship is able to withstand it. If on the other hand, someone comes to you and you did not do what they are saying you did, take a deep breath and do your best to prove to them in whatever way you can, that you did not do it. Try not to get too angry or upset over a false accusation.

Many people claim these verses say to take 3 witnesses with you in Matthew 18:16, but it says to take one or two witnesses with you, not three. These witnesses are not there to take sides or to gang up on the person you are going to. They are there to establish every word that is spoken between the two parties. If you do not have a witness to take with you, a tape recorder will definitely establish every word between the parties. Obviously any witnesses you do take are going to be your friends and maybe not the other persons. The point of verse 16 is to establish what is being said, because what is said at this meeting will determine whether the matter is to be taken to the church as in verse 17. These are to be witnesses who are able to establish every word that is said and make judgments as to whether the matter can be resolved or if it needs to be taken in front of the church. If your brother or sister is still brushing you off at this point then taking the matter to the church is the next step.

Many times when a person has a problem with another person they not only do not go to the person they have a problem with one on one, but they discuss the matter and the person with all or many of their friends. Just who do you think your friends are going to side with? In Matthew 18:15-16 God says to keep this matter private and that you are not to go public with it **unless** or **until** no reconciliation takes place after doing verse 15 and verse 16. When will people understand that privacy in the initial stages of reconciliation is important.

A good example in favor of privacy in the first 2 verses is evident in corporation churches when the minister decides on his own that you are on your way out the door but generally not for sin. The first thing they do is start rumors about the person they are about to throw out, this gets everyone else to thinking that they are bad people. Once the rumors are started then the other people in the congregation will not ever listen to the one being thrown out nor will they ever come to them to ask what happened, for they already believe they know because they

heard the rumors from the trusted ministers and deacons. If you don't think the ministry does this within the corporation churches of God then you are living in a wooden barrel with the bung hole closed. People in our congregation were told that we could come back to services any time we wanted to because we were not disfellowshipped. When the ministers wife Rhonda Luecke told this to a person who asked her directly, she neglected to tell the person that we were suspended from services and definitely could not attend any time we wanted to. When Darwin tried to correct this error with the person who told us we could come to services anytime because we were not disfellowshipped, the person would not hear one word Darwin said to him. Ministers, deacons and their wives do not lie, according to many, yet it happens over and over again. Suspension from services is the same as disfellowshippment, they just don't announce when suspension happens as they do with disfellowshippment.

So privacy is important in verse 15. Once you do verse 16 you are starting to open those involved up to a non private venue if you do not choose your one or two witnesses carefully and in verse 17 the whole matter goes public. God wants us to reconcile with each other, that is why it needs to be done in private. However there are many heartless people out there who do not want reconciliation so in that case God allows for the matter to be made public as a warning to others so they are better able to discern who the brethren really are and so people will try to reconcile privately. So all brethren should work toward reconciliation with all people. You do need to learn how to do this now, because you will need this skill in order to enter the Kingdom of God.

Mt. 18:15-17 "Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou has gained thy brother, but if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican."

Entire letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0044/12008-044-03.htm>

THE END**

Friendship (9-11-02)

**by Jeffrey Caldwell
(Redwood City, California)**

Friendship -- on the occasion of receiving a card... learned about the roots of

the word "friend" ... useful knowledge.

Dear Mike,

I'm not much into cutesy stuff and may not be the warmest friend one can find, but hope to prove reliable, at least. It's a good thing to think about.

The Lord said: "You are my friends if you do what I command." With insights more generally on friendship: "I have called you friends, for everything I learned from my father I have made known to you." He shared what was precious to him.

I'm glad you sent me the cutesy card because I have just made a most marvelous discovery! I got curious about the dictionary definition and, even more, derivation of the word "friend", so I traced it to its Indo-European root, which, according to my dictionary, is "pri-"; the legend for it says: "Important derivatives are free, filibuster, friend, afraid, and Friday."

So the word "friend" has interesting and - every one, strangely, appropriate -- relatives. The meaning of this derivative root is, logically enough: "To love."

This really bolsters my contention that freedom is God's ultimate value, the prime theme of Scripture and of His personality. With perhaps all too characteristic laziness and inattention, and even though I knew it was of utmost importance, I never did bother to study the roots of the word "free" -- friends, such as yourself, help one to progress!

"Free" is the first word listed under the root from which also derives "friend": "a. FREE, from Old English freo, free, and freon, freogan, to love, set free."

Humans aren't the only ones with the notion "to love, set free" -- it is close to our Father's heart as well. Here we see that freedom and love are incredibly intimately related themes. "To love" and "to set free": more or less the same! And from the roots of friend the concept comes: "lover, friend": they are more or less the same!

Your brother,
Jeffrey

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/12008-045-01.htm>

THE END**

**Requests Literature (11-02-07)
by Mr. Collins (Kenya)**

Mr. Collins writes:

Dear Brethren,

Receive our Christian greetings from Kenya in the gracious name of our beloved Holy one the Lord Jesus Christ from whom we are forgiven and saved. We are greatly

blessed and feel privileged to know you through your [web site](#), learnt about your faith and your desire to serve God.

We are an independent fellowship church group in Kenya desiring to be established in your church ministry. We are independent in that we are without any cover, are not under any mission, ministry or church organization. We request for your Christian literature materials and bibles.

We pray that through God's Holy Spirit at work, that you shall appreciate our interest and desire that we might find a definite spiritual partnership with your church ministry.

May God richly bless you as we look forward for your feedback. Yours in Christ, Mr. Collins

Laura Lee writes:

Hi to your congregation in Kenya. We appreciate your interest in our [web site](#). You are totally welcome to use anything on our [web site](#) as study material, for free. I will also send you a hard copy subscription form via postal mail in case you need a hard copy [newsletter](#) and are unable to afford the subscription price. Since June of 2007 when our postal rates increased we were forced to charge a subscription price for hard copy [newsletters](#). The same [newsletters](#) can be down loaded for free from our [web site](#).

We only have a local home [church](#) congregation and so are unable to provide a church cover for you as you call it. We also do not distribute Bibles, so we are also unable to help you with that, but we do hope that you will visit our [web site](#) often to use our study materials.

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/I2008-045-02.htm>

THE END**

Unsubscribe Information (4-11-07)

by Angelito Corpuz (Philippines)

Angelito Corpuz writes:

Dear Darwin & Laura Lee,

Warm greetings from the Philippines. I would like to request if you could kindly unsubscribe me from all your e-mail lists because I don't have the time to read them online and that's because I don't have a computer, I only rent in an Internet cafe and the rental fee is expensive so my time online is limited.

Please be informed that this request is for the e-mail lists only. Please continue to send me your hardcopy newsletters via postal mail.

Thank you very much, I'll be looking forward to this request soon and may God

bless you all for the work that you're doing. Angelito V. Corpuz

Laura Lee writes:

Dear Angelito Corpuz,

If you want to unsubscribe you must fill out the form at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/data/05-16-06.htm> or you must go to:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/mailman/listinfo>

We do not take unsubscribe requests by email. Laura

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/I2008-045-03.htm>

THE END**

Myra McQueen (9-2 & 7-07)

by Aaron Dean (Gladewater, Texas)

The below letter is written in regard to a letter "Who is Persecuting Who" which was printed in Issue #41.

Aaron Dean writes:

Hi, saw your exchange with Myra McQueen. I have had several as well.

Laura Lee writes:

"More False Accusations", "Abusive Speech", and "Who is Persecuting Who?", are only some of my exchanges with her.

Aaron Dean writes:

What you may not know is that she has a number of other fictitious names she goes by. I answered a bunch from Alex Donovan and found that was also her.

Laura Lee writes:

We have known this since 2002, see: "Intentional Deceptive Practices and Lying".

Aaron Dean writes:

She entered a forum I was on, and made a soft accusation. She then, under another name, continued the accusation and raised it to a higher level. What made it look like 'verification' was simply her own building of a stray man accusation to appear like it had a wide support when it had none.

Laura Lee writes:

I guess she is smarter than I thought she was. When a person first makes false accusations pretending to be a person she is not and then intentionally turns around and pretends to be yet another person who she is not, just so she can support her original accusation, she is little more than a trouble maker. By their fruits we shall know them. Thank you for this information.

Aaron Dean writes:

Fortunately she was caught by a computer geek on the forum that traced the various addresses by their IP, and exposed her publicly to all.

Laura Lee writes:

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.

Aaron Dean writes:

It is sad that such people exist only to destroy others. How one thinks this deceit is God's way of doing things is beyond me.

Laura Lee writes:

You heard Myra in my latest printed exchange with her. She believes she is doing right. Some of her relatives have also defended her to me and got mad at me when I told them that what she was doing was wrong. How long ago has it been since this incident?

Aaron Dean writes:

When she was caught on this forum it was a few years ago. Not sure when. She still writes to ask questions occasionally. The last one was only a couple months ago. She now only writes me under her name.

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/I2008-045-04.htm>

THE END**

More on Religious Wars (09-23-06)

by Nony George (Austria)

The below letter is written in regard the following item "Religious War" which was sent by Alfred Green.

Nony George writes:

From:

http://www.readingislam.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=Zone-English-Discover_Islam/DIEZone

Question and Answer Details

Name of Questioner Arrows

Title Did Islam Grow By Killing Non-Believers?

Date 30/May/2004

Question 1. Why do you think the article by Rick Mathes entitled: "Allah or Jesus?" is being circulated so widely among ordinary Americans through e-mail? Why do you think the author chose the title "Allah or Jesus?"

Question 2. Is it true that an "infidel" is a non-believer (like me)? If so, is it true that the

Qur'an actually instructs Muslims to kill non-believers to guarantee them a place in heaven? If so, what are the exact words (or as near as they can be in translation)?

Question 3. What is jihad? Is this a real on-going endless call for the murder of "non-believers" (a bit like Bush's War on Terror), or is it a metaphor describing the need to fight for what you believe in and share your faith with the doubters? Explain.

Here is "**Allah or Jesus?**" By Rick Mathes: Last month I attended my annual training session that is required for maintaining my state prison security clearance. During the training session there was a presentation by three speakers representing the Roman Catholic, Protestant and Muslim faiths who explained their belief systems. I was particularly interested in what the Islamic imam had to say.

The imam gave a great presentation about the basics of Islam complete with a video. After the presentations, time was provided for questions and answers. When it was my turn I directed my question to the imam and asked: "Please, correct me if I'm wrong, but I understand that most imams and clerics of Islam have declared a holy jihad (holy war) against the non-believers of the world. And, that by killing an infidel, which is a command to all Muslims, they are assured of a place in heaven. If that is the case, can you give me the definition of an infidel?"

There was no disagreement with my statements and without hesitation he replied: "Non-believers!"

I responded: "So, let me make sure I have this straight. All followers of Allah have been commanded to kill everyone who is not of your faith so they can go to heaven. Is that correct?"

The expression on his face changed from one of authority and command to that of a little boy who had just gotten caught with his hand in the cookie jar. He sheepishly replied: "Yes."

I then stated: "Well, sir, I have a real problem trying to imagine Pope John Paul commanding all Catholics to kill those of your faith or Pat Robertson or Dr. Stanley ordering Protestants to do the same in order to go to heaven!"

The imam was speechless.

I continued: "I also have a problem with being your friend when you and your brother clerics are telling your followers to kill me. Let me ask you a question: Would you rather have your Allah who tells you to kill me in order to go to heaven or my Jesus who tells me to love you because I am going to heaven and wants you to be with me?"

You could have heard a pin drop as the imam hung his head in shame. Chuck Colson once told me something that has sustained me these 20 years of prison

ministry. He said to me: "Rick, remember that the truth will prevail." And it will!

Topic Human Rights, Non-Muslims

Name of Counselor Shahul Hameed

Answer: Salaam (peace be with you), Arrows. Thank you very much for your question.

First, I would like to respond to the **article** by Rick Mathes and then answer your questions. Rick Mathes and his wife Trish are the founders of **Mission Gate Prison Ministries**, an outreach to those who are incarcerated and their families in Missouri and Illinois.

In the story, Rick Mathes claims that he told the imam: "Well, sir, I have a real problem trying to imagine Pope John Paul commanding all Catholics to kill those of your faith..."

In fact, most people will really have a number of problems with his story, which purports "to prove" that Islam demands its adherents to kill all others.

In spite of the alleged command of Allah to kill all non-believers, millions of non-Muslims continue to live beside their Muslim brothers in the predominantly Muslim countries.

In the United States of America as well as in other Western countries, Muslims are quite successfully convincing the non-Muslims—instead of trying to kill them—that Islam is more tolerant than Judaism and at any rate the **Christian coalition**. Of course, one may cite instances of Muslims killing non-Muslims, but at the same time, Christians, too, have been killing non-Christians! Does anyone need a command from God to go and kill?

The Muslim preachers allowed in the US prisons are more successful than their Christian counterparts in getting converts. Maybe that is one of the reasons for spreading this absurd story! "The second-largest religion in the world after Christianity, Islam, is also the fastest-growing religion. In the United States, for example, nearly 80 percent of the more than 1,200 mosques have been built in the past 12 years. Some scholars see an emerging Islamic renaissance as Islam takes root in many traditionally Christian communities. Islam has drawn converts from all walks of life, most report of April 14, 1997).

Not even one with the brainotably African-Americans..." (From a CNN ns of a gnat would believe that a Muslim imam engaged in inviting non-Muslims to Islam would undermine his cause by making an open declaration that the Muslim mission in life is to kill all non-Muslims. Or else he must be insane or hopelessly dim-witted.

And lastly, if Allah had commanded Muslims to kill all non-Muslims, the Prophet and his companions would not have left alive

any non-Muslim tribes in Arabia, when they had got complete authority over them. Speaking of the Christian missionary claim that Islam was spread at the point of the sword, one may ask: Was it because of the fear of the sword that hundreds of thousands of the most warlike Arabs of the time literally followed the Prophet in everything he commanded?

And what is more, isn't it ridiculous to say that any belief system, not only Islamic, can be pushed down the throat of a human being at the point of the sword? Can't you see that Islam has withstood the vicissitudes of fourteen centuries and is still outstripping all other faiths at an astonishing rate? Can a religion that preaches the killing of all outside its confines capture the minds and hearts of millions throughout history? Sorry, the Rick Mathes **story** does not stand to reason.

Now to answer your questions: 1. Why do you think the article by Rick Mathes entitled: "**Allah or Jesus?**" is being circulated so widely among ordinary Americans through e-mail? Why do you think the author chose the title "**Allah or Jesus?**"

It must be evident to anyone who observes the **Christian coalition** or **Zionist Christians** that they are bent upon doing everything in their power to wipe out Islam from the face of the earth. For this they would stoop to any level; and this is no surprise, as St. Paul is their exemplar in their strategies. Read the following from his Epistles, which are foisted on the masses as the Word of God: "But be it so, I did not burden you: nevertheless being crafty, I caught you with guile" (2 Corinthians 12:16).

Laura Lee writes:

From the Basic English Bible: 2co 12:16 "But let it be so, that I was not a trouble to you myself; but (someone may say) being false, I took you with deceit." This scripture is in no way saying that Paul was deceitful or that he used deceit to catch anyone in anything. He is combating false accusations against himself.

Nony George writes:

"For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them under the Law, that I might gain them that are under the Law; to them that are without the law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ) that I might gain them that are under the law. To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (1 Corinthians 9:19-22).

Laura Lee writes:

To me, the above scriptures are among

the most misunderstood scriptures in the Bible. I have heard and seen people twist the above scriptures in order to justify all manner of awful things. For example, if you are witnessing to a person whose language consists of every third word being a cuss word, the Christian then changes his own language to match the person he is witnessing to, by adding in several cuss words while witnessing about God. Do you see the problem with such a concept?

These scriptures are not telling anyone to act like or talk like the person they are witnessing to. What these scriptures are really saying is to take into account who you are speaking to and then speak to them according to their level. For example, what if the person never read the Bible, ever. If this is the case you then need to start with something simple and don't overwhelm them. If you are speaking to a Jewish person you would take into account their belief system when speaking one on one with them as a witness of God and Christ.

Nony George writes:

What better illustration of hypocrisy can we give? For the sake of the truth, Paul will use all means of deceit in order to gain more followers. If St. Paul teaches this, can we really blame his present followers, the likes of Rick Mathes, Pat Robertson, or Jimmy Swaggart? Please see the BBC report about this.

Laura Lee writes:

Paul was taught the law of God by Christ himself. The above listed scriptures are by no means an example of hypocrisy by Paul, but instead a twisting of scripture in order that they may teach their own satanic agenda.

Nony George writes:

Please read this too: "For if the truth of God, hath more abounded through my lie unto his glory: why yet am I also judged as a sinner?" (Romans 3:7). Just think, if Paul really believed he had the truth, why should he use lies to make "the truth of God" "more abounded," as he says?

Rick Mathes and his tribe adopt the same Pauline technique of using the lie as a means to promote Christianity at the expense of Islam. Even in the title, "**Allah or Jesus?**" the same guile is used. It really is funny how they try to advance "the truth" with falsehood!

Laura Lee writes:

From the Moffatt Bible: Romans 3:7-8 "You say, "If my perfidy (the deliberate breaking of faith) serves to make the truthfulness of God rebound (react) to his glory, why am I to be judged as a sinner? Why should we not do evil that good may come out of it?" (which is the calumny (false accusation) attributed to me--the very thing

some people declare that I say). Such arguments are rightly condemned.

These scriptures in no way say that Paul is using lies to promote Christianity. Paul in many places throughout scripture combats false accusations and false doctrine. Many people who oppose God, and Christ will make up all manner of lies to personally discredit those who do follow God and Christ. The writing which Nony George has sent to us is apparently written by one of these people who oppose God and Christ and twist many scriptures in order to discredit Paul as a servant of God and Christ in order to promote Islam.

Nony George writes:

2. Is it true that an "infidel" is a non-believer (like me)? If so, is it true that the Qur'an actually instructs Muslims to kill non-believers to guarantee them a place in heaven? If so, what are the exact words (or as near as they can be in translation)?

"Infidel" is an English word and we get its meaning from any English dictionary. Here is the definition from Dictionary.com: "An unbeliever with respect to a particular religion, especially Christianity or Islam."

About Heaven we find the following among other verses in the Qur'an, on the same theme: 1. *{Verily We shall give life to the dead, and We record that which they send before and that which they leave behind, and of all things have We taken account in a clear Book [of evidence]}* (Ya-Sin 36:12).

2. *{Who receiveth guidance, receiveth it for his own benefit: who goeth astray doth so to his own loss: no bearer of burdens can bear the burden of another: nor would We visit with Our wrath until We had sent an apostle [to give warning]}* (Al-Israa' 17:15).

3. *{Those who do wish for the [things of] the Hereafter, and strive therefore with all due striving, and have faith,- they are the ones whose striving is acceptable [to God]}* (Al-Israa' 17-19).

4. *{God will say: "This is a day on which the truthful will profit from their truth: theirs are gardens, with rivers flowing beneath,- their eternal Home: God well-pleased with them, and they with God: That is the great salvation, [the fulfillment of all desires]}* (Al-Ma'idah 5:119).

5. *{He that works evil will not be requited but by the like thereof: and he that works a righteous deed--whether man or woman--and is a believer, such will enter the Garden [of Bliss]: Therein will they have abundance without measure}* (Ghafir 40:40).

The above verses clearly say that there will be a Day of Judgment on which God will be the Judge of all. On that Day, on the basis of our faith and deeds, we will be sent to Heaven or Hell. And it is made quite clear that on that day the truthful who follow the

guidance of God will be admitted to Heaven and those who reject God and His guidance will be sent to Hell.

To continue on the subject of killing, it is true that God has permitted fighting; but this fighting must be against oppression and injustice, not against non-Muslims as such! Where innocent men, women and children are attacked, or when intolerable atrocities are committed, Muslims are asked to fight to protect the innocent and safeguard their rights.

Those who blame Allah--and this is just the Arabic name for God--for commanding the Muslims to fight can turn the pages of their own book and see how Joshua at Jehovah's command "left none remaining, but utterly destroyed all that breathed, as the Lord God of Israel commanded" (Joshua 10:40).

Didn't Jesus himself say, "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. I have come to set a man against his father and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law" (Matt. 10:34-35)?

I would particularly like to make it clear that the Qur'an does not instruct Muslims to kill non-believers to guarantee them a place in Heaven, as you have said. On the contrary, God commands the believers to invite others to His way in the most peaceful manner. In this call, the Muslims are commanded to appeal to their common sense and to their own faith in truth and justice. Most certainly God has categorically prohibited forcing anyone to accept Islam, let alone killing! The Qur'an says what means: *{Let there be no compulsion in religion. Truth stands out clear from error: whoever rejects evil and believes in God hath grasped the most trustworthy hand-hold, that never breaks. And God heareth and knoweth all things}* (Al-Baqarah 2:256).

{Say: "The Truth is from your Lord." Let him who will believe, and let him who will, reject [it]} (Al-Kahf 18:29).

{Goodness and evil can never be equal. Repel [evil] with good: then will he between whom and you was hatred become as it were your friend and intimate} (Fussilat 41:34).

{Invite [all] to the way of thy Lord with wisdom and beautiful preaching; and argue with them in ways that are best and most gracious: for thy Lord knoweth best, who have strayed from His path, and who receive guidance} (An-Nahl 16:125).

From these verses it is clear that anyone who uses force to convert a non-Muslim or harm any human being on that score, breaks the divine command; and such a person is not what a Muslim should be.

3. What is jihad? Is this a real ongoing endless call for the murder of "unbelievers" (a bit like Bush's War on Terror), or is it a

metaphor describing the need to fight for what you believe in and share your faith with the doubters? Explain.

Jihad simply means "striving," and any effort can be called a jihad. But in Islamic parlance, it stands for the Muslims' effort to obey the commands of God in their life, even when the odds are against them. In certain contexts, as mentioned above, where fighting for truth and justice becomes unavoidable, that effort can also be called jihad. But today the word is terribly misinterpreted and misunderstood to mean "holy war." The concept of a holy war comes from the Christian history of the Crusades. Islam never considers war as holy. Fighting is allowed in Islam only as a last resort, as a necessary evil, not as something holy. The Qur'an says what means: *{To those against whom war is made, permission is given [to fight], because they are wronged;- and verily, Allah is most powerful for their aid...}* (Al-Hajj 22:39).

I hope the foregoing answers your questions. And Allah knows best. Thank you and please keep in touch. Salam.

Darwin Lee writes:

Reader beware, the scriptures quoted here from the Koran are favorable to the Islamic believer, however one should read ALL of the Koran when making any judgments, for there may be scriptures that paint a different picture than the one presented above.

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/12008-045-05.htm>

THE END**

Healing (03-02-06)

by Robert Goldman (Ione, California)

Robert Goldman writes:

Dear Darwin & Laura Lee,

Hello! First off as promised-when I was able too, I said I would love to give to your ministry, so here's a start. Second I want to thank you two for your support, material sent, and those cards that others sent you, passed along to me! I'm already going thru the stuff you sent me. It will help in my research--thanks a whole bunch!

Those folks who sent me cards were so wonderful and very up lifting! I have written them and thanked them. I look forward to fellowshiping with them in the near future. The out pouring of God's love through you and those people is awesome! I'm also looking forward to hearing from others--because iron sharpens iron. Just prior to receiving cards from those people, about a week before, I had a dream of receiving cards in the mail from your ministry--very

interesting uh?

Well I noticed that the **letter** I sent and the piece on **sorcery** got into the **newest issue** of your newsletter. Thank you for the opportunity to do something like this! I'm working on a full article on--phrases used to nullify the Law of God, "Works of the Law--Under the Law."

Now I read your comments in the **Editor's Note:** and they were very interesting and quite revealing. What you said in some instances is very typical of what is always said and taught. But this is just how the world handles sicknesses of any kind. Medications of today do not heal, they only disguise symptoms or mask the pain and when you stop taking them (meds) the problem and symptoms just return!

Laura Lee writes:

My Editor's Note on your information article "**Sorcery; Witchcraft**", was in no way an endorsement to go to a doctor to get medication every time a person has a sniffle or an ache or a pain. **I believe you have a very narrow definition of what sorcery and witchcraft involves** and I was only trying to show those reading your information article that medication like any thing else has a wrong use as well as a right use. God has given doctors knowledge which the average person does not have and there is nothing wrong with using that knowledge which a doctor has when it is needed. That does not mean that you put all your faith in a doctor healing you, when God is the only one that can heal anyone.

I also understand that most medication does only disguise symptoms or mask the pain, which is why a person should be very involved in getting all the information they can on why they are put on such medication and see if there might be alternative natural treatments out there which can be used instead. Natural treatments are geared more toward healing than most medications distributed by drug companies, but remember only God heals people.

In 1999 Darwin broke his right leg. Split it right open. If a doctor who knew how to stop the bleeding had not come to help, he would have bled to death. So doctors do have a place. Because Darwin lost so much blood they wanted to give him a blood transfusion. We refused the blood transfusion and went with a safer route of using a blood builder called Ringers Lactate and some other things through diet to build the blood. The Doctors said he would never walk again. Darwin started back to work as a high rise window washer by the following spring. This is only one of many cases I can show you where doctors and God can be used together to the glory of God, because only God can heal anyone.

Robert Goldman writes:

See the ungodly men of this world created the medications we have today to by-pass God and His commands of how to get healed. They don't want to stop sinning-repent and obey God's commands, so they keep on sinning which brings on sickness in the first place. Instead of receiving forgiveness through the blood of Yahshua and repent which brings healing--they by-pass what His son did and use what they have created to heal! Plus charge you for it, God does not charge for His healing! Why is the church going to man and his creation for healing? And paying for it? Our healing comes from God through His word (authority) and not from what a man has created!

Laura Lee writes:

Sometimes when God's people ask for healing God says "No". The Apostle Paul asked three times to be healed and God essentially told him "No, live with it." King David was told "No" by God also and his baby died. There are many things which factor into healing.

I do agree with you that if the church is putting all their faith into having a doctor heal them, that faith in a man is misplaced. However I do not agree with your seeming stance that doctors can never be used to help or guide us through a healing process. I also believe that God is more willing to heal those who put forth effort to find a right course of treatment and then stick to it. Now by that I mean that people really need to do the research for their particular problem and find out if there are vitamins and herbs out there that will do the same or better than the medication that a doctor prescribes.

For example, many years ago I worked with a woman who had crippling arthritis and I know she did, because I saw her as a kid being bed ridden. I suppose doctors gave her medications which helped for a time, but not in the long run. Since she was mostly confined to bed she had plenty of time to read and so did research on arthritis. She found that a combination of Vitamin C and Vitamin B helped her to heal enough to get out of bed and eventually get a job. Through the years, I remembered her and when I started to get arthritis in my hands I took Vitamin B and the arthritis and the pain went away. Recently within the last 4 years, our dog Sugar Plum couldn't even walk on her hind legs, we took her to the vet to see what was wrong and they diagnosed her with arthritis and wanted us to give her man's medicine for it, which we did for the first month to see how it worked. Then we switched her over to 100 MG of Vitamin B per day and she was running and jumping around here like a puppy until this summer when it got so hot that her heart murmur got worse and she died of a massive heart attack

on October 17, 2006. She was twelve and a half years old.

In my opinion, if you take the view point that all doctors and all medication is evil as you seem to, then I believe you are wrong. On the other hand if you take the view point that only doctors can heal you, then you are also wrong. The proper way to do anything is to ask God to guide you and then do the research and use the best combination that you believe will take care of the problem. Sometimes this means you do nothing, sometimes it means you use a doctor, sometimes you may have to use man's medication, sometimes you use vitamins and herbs, and sometimes you may have to use a combination of several things. The key is to always ask for God's healing and guidance.

Robert Goldman writes:

Lay hands on the sick-for those that have faith-an they will recover-anoint the sick with oil in the authority of the Word (The Messiah) and pray over them. (Mark 16:16-18, James 5:14). The church needs to get back to how God prescribes the way you get healed-and stay that way! "Go and sin no more least something worse comes upon you." Do not your behavior on the contemporary world, but let the renewing of your minds transform you--the way you do things now! (John 5:14, 8:11, Romans 12:2, Colossians 2:8, 20).

Laura Lee writes:

Sin definitely does factor into whether God chooses to heal you or not, but even if you repent of the sin which perhaps caused you the illness in the first place, you may still have to live with all or part of the after effects of the sin that caused your illness in the first place. For example a person who contracts AIDS because of homosexuality can repent

and not practice homosexuality any longer but may still have to live with the after effects in the form of AIDS or God may choose to totally heal the person. It can go either way after repentance.

Robert Goldman writes:

Through the prophetic scripture in Rev. 18:23 God knew that we were going to run into this problem with medications of today--that's why He warned us (we need to be aware of the deives and stand against the wiles (trickery) of the devil--and not be ignorant! (2 Corin. 2:11, Eph. 6:11)

Laura Lee writes:

This is where research and individual responsibility comes in. We all need to educate ourselves, not just in regard to doctors, medicine and healing, but in everything.

Robert Goldman writes:

The reason that I was so brief in the piece on **sorcery** is to provoke thought, to get those within the body into the word of God--to study this subject--more in depth. If I had laid it all out, why would anyone bother to research it any further? I want to encourage the body to be more proactive in their study of His word, so to be fully equipped--ready for any good work. See it provoked you to comment--I want it to be discussed. This is one of many subjects that need to be brought out into the light--out of the dark, where Satan wants it to stay! So I would encourage you to look into this More In Depth--you'll be surprised what you uncover!

Laura Lee writes:

I suggest that you also study this more in depth and not take such a narrow view point as many times God sends helpers to help in our healing processes and sometimes these

may be in the form of a doctor who truly cares. Ask for God's guidance in what you do in anything and he will direct your path.

Robert Goldman writes:

Just remember the medications of today--doctors too, are not the same as the ones spoken of in the word of God. Plus why not use what God has put into place as our doctors and healers--medications: These parts of the body--the offices with the gifts to discern or diagnose sickness and prescribe supernatural healing--gifts and offices: Ephesians 4:11, 1 Corin. 12:7-11. See these are God's--the churches doctors and medications. Plus remember what Exodus 15:26 says!

I will close with that and may Yah give you revelation in this area of His word so to better serve His people. Thank you again for all you've done. His blessing is upon you! Shalom

Laura Lee writes:

Here is how we prevent illness, however this scripture does not address time and chance and the injury that can happen due to that. **Exodus 15:26 And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.**

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/12008-045-06.htm>

*****THE END*****

KIDS KORNER ---

the-cog-messenger@earthlink.net

**Here are Ways
You can Volunteer
or Serve in
Your Community
Sent by Jeana Anderson
(Casa, Arkansas)**

**Millennium Dreamers Official Web site
(see the following excerpts of just a few
young dreamers who made differences)**

<http://search.disney.go.com/?q=Millennium+Dreamers&.x=14&.y=6>

Betsy & Danny Nally: Turkeys 'R' Us

Betsy and Danny want to make sure that even the neediest people have something to be thankful for at Thanksgiving. Since 1996, they have been holding Thanksgiving turkey drives and distributing them to hungry families in Massachusetts. "Together we are making a difference," say Betsy and Danny. "Our goal is to end hunger."

In support of their goal, the Purdue company will donate 1,000 turkeys to Turkeys 'R' Us. **Turkeys R Us - Betsy &**

Danny Nally, P.O. Box 904, Westwood, MA 02090, Make checks payable to Turkeys R Us

Makenzie Snyder: Children to Children

When Makenzie Snyder realized that many foster children in her community were carrying their belongings in garbage bags, she decided to do something about it. Today, foster children all over the U.S. get a duffel bag, a stuffed animal and a loving note from Makenzie. And thanks to generous donations from Land's End and Gund, maker of stuffed animals, Makenzie can continue her acts of kindness.

Children To Children - Makenzie Snyder, 3262 Superior Lane, PMB 288, Bowie, MD 20715, www.childrentochildren.org/

Leon Little: Young Kids Against Violence

Upset by the violent deaths of two of his relatives, 9-year-old Leon Little has vowed to, "get all the guns off the street." When the R&B sensation Boyz II Men heard about Leon's mission, they sent along a special message, but you'll have to tune in to the show to hear it! Leon Little, P. O. Box 2052, Columbia, MD 21045

Josh Marcus - Sack It To You

Fourteen-year-old Josh has helped over 2,000 children with Sack It To You by donating backpacks and school supplies. He says that he has found his life's mission in his work.

Josh Marcus, 3938 NW 53rd Street, Boca Raton, FL 33496

Kevin Murray - Neighbor to Neighbor

Kevin knows the meaning of being a friendly neighbor. He cleans up the yards of his neighbors who are unable to do so themselves. He now has 12 yards he takes care of every weekend! It makes him feel good, helps others, and makes the neighborhood look great.

Ashley Bacy - Birthday Parties

Starting at age 6, Ashley felt that giving was better than receiving. Since then, she has held her birthday parties at locales such as a soup kitchen, an animal shelter, and a retirement home, so she and her friends can give to others. This year, for her 11th birthday, they will climb a mountain to benefit Muscular Dystrophy.

Jennifer Macken - Playing a Happy Tune

Once a week, Jennifer uses her talent to play the piano and lead sing-alongs at a local nursing home. She loves spending time with the elderly residents because she has made wonderful friends and is able to help others live their lives to the fullest.

Crysta Bettendorf - Cleaning up Cemetery

Crysta felt sad when she saw an unkempt cemetery in her hometown. The very next day, Memorial Day, she cleaned up the cemetery and placed flowers with personal notes tied to them at the gravesites. She plans to do this every Memorial Day.

Steven Lenoir - Sending Homeless Kids to Camp

Steven returned the clothes he got for his birthday and exchanged them for outfits he could give to homeless children. He continued his generosity and raised enough money to send two homeless girls to summer camp. Today, Oprah announces that she will grant his wish of sending six kids to camp this year with the help of [Oprah's Angel Network](#)

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/k2008-045-01.htm>

THE END**

PRAYER REQUESTS & UPDATES ---

PrayerRequestsAndUpdates@darwinlauralee.com

March 7, 2008--Gerald John Kloss

Gerald John Kloss of Philadelphia, PA, age 54, has suffered a major heart attack. He had surgery on 2/16 with the removal of a blood clot which was blocking an artery 100%. The removal of the clot, at the time he got there, saved his life. He also had a stent put in his heart. he is slowly recovering at home and is in need of prayer and support. Gerald's contact information is as follows:120 East Mentor St., Philadelphia, PA 19120, Phone: 215-455-1740 or 215-620-8129 Email: gkloss@earthlink.net Sent by Gerald John Kloss

March 7, 2008--Michal Croyle

A prayer request for my Daughter: Michal Croyle. She caught Mono and is really sick. She appears to have got it from an in-law's cup. Please Keep her in your prayers, that God heals her soon. If you would like to send cards to her: Michal Croyle, 406 Harding St., Emporia VA 23847 Sent by Alan Croyle

May 4, 2008--Tim Lindholm Family

Hi everyone: As friends who have spent many feasts together, we just wanted to pass on to everyone that Tim's mom died Tuesday evening (March 11, 2008). She was 75. As many of you know, she suffered from schizophrenia for 47 years. There were many good times, but also a lot of difficult times. She was admitted to the hospital a couple of weeks ago with blood pressure issues and a blood infection. Doctors detected a mass in

her esophageal area but she did not want to be camera'd or cut. They stabilized her and she went home after 4 days. Early Monday morning she was admitted again for the same issues. Tim saw her Monday night along with the doctor. At that point she was still eating well, laughing and joking. But the doctor told her and the family that her condition was life threatening. As her blood pressure dropped, her body was shutting down. Her kidneys were shutting down. She did not want dialysis. The doctor said that operating to remove the mass was not a good option: 1) she might not survive it 2) she would be left without the ability to eat normally or talk - not a good quality of life. Tuesday morning the doctor called to say she probably wouldn't survive the morning. This time the whole family went down ... she could barely talk during her awake times. They were giving her pain killers to keep her comfortable. She didn't want to be hooked up to monitors or IV's so she was moved to hospice. She finally died Tuesday night (March 11, 2008) at 9:25 pm. We feel blessed that her suffering was not long and drawn out. We also feel blessed that she no longer has to fight her demons. Of course she is loved and will be missed. Thank you for your prayers! We hope this finds you all well.-- With love, Tim, Hope and family --- Sent by Tim Lindholm

May 4, 2008--Tommy Mann

I DEEPLY ASK FOR PRAYERS ON BEHALF

OF TOMMY MANN AND FAMILY. TOMMY HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER AND UNFORTUNATELY IT HAS SPREAD. HE IS STAYING AT HOME UNDER HOSPICE CARE 2X A WEEK, AND UNDER THE CARE OF HIS LOVING WIFE AND FAMILY. HE HAS GOTTEN WEAKER OVER THE FOLLOWING WEEKS. THROUGH THE YRS. OF HIS SERVICE AND DEDICATION TO THE ETERNAL THE BIBLICAL VERSE COMES TO MIND WHICH SAYS "COME, FAITHFUL SERVANT, IN THE LEAST YOU HAVE BEEN FAITHFUL AND IN MUCH YOU WILL BE PLACED, COME AND ENTER INTO THE JOY OF YOUR MASTER." Sent by Gladys Acosta

May 10, 2008--Tommy Mann's Family

Brethren: I wanted to sadly announce the passing away of my Brother in Messiah, Tommy Mann, If any would like to send cards for the Widow and Family at this Moment they will be greatly appreciated. With her permission, the address is as follows: Sylvia Mann, 3396 Ironwood Ave., Port St. Lucie, FL 34952, Thank you. Sent by Gladys Acosta

Prayer Request Archives

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/p2008-045-01.htm>

THE END**

THE MESSAGE BOARD (ADS & INFO) ---

the-cog-messenger@earthlink.net

SABBATH SCHEDULE--BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

- April 19, 2008----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #220 & Lesson #221
April 20, 2008----Passover/ First Day of Unleavened Bread (See Ad)
April 26, 2008----Last Day of Unleavened Bread (See Ad)
May 2, 2008----Bible Study
May 3, 2008----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #222 & Lesson #223
May 10, 2008----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
May 17, 2008----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #224 & Lesson #225
May 24, 2008----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
May 31, 2008----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #226 & Lesson #227
June 7, 2008----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
June 9, 2008----Pentecost (See Ad)
June 13, 2008----Bible Study
June 14, 2008----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #228 & Lesson #229
June 21, 2008----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
June 28, 2008----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #230 & Lesson #231
July 5, 2008----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
July 12, 2008----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #232 & Lesson #233

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: June 15, 2008. 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)

PENTECOST

We will observe Pentecost here at 320 N. Griffin St., Bismarck, North Dakota on Monday June 9, 2008 (Sivan 6), with services at 2:00 PM (front door open for fellowship at 1:00 PM). At 5:00 PM for anyone who would like to join us, we will meet for a meal and fellowship at the "Bonanza Family Restaurant" in Mandan. Darwin & Laura Lee

Jim Ussery Dies
Sent by Dixon Cartwright
(Big Sandy, Texas)

Longtime Church of God member Jim Ussery dies in Big Sandy
http://www.thejournal.org/issues/issue125/jim-ussery-obituary.html

BIG SANDY, Texas -- Funeral services for James D. "Jim" Ussery, 80, of Big Sandy are scheduled for noon Saturday, May 3, 2008, at Croley Funeral Home in Gladewater, Texas, with Wayne Cole of Tyler, Texas, officiating.

Mr. Ussery, a longtime Church of God member and retired pastor of a congregation

in Arkansas, died April 28 at his residence. He had earlier served as a deacon, elder and lay pastor. Mr. Ussery was also a retired U.S. Navy lieutenant.

Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Dorothy "Dot" Ladnier Ussery; children Lorraine Witz, Minneapolis, Minn., Darlene Warren, Big Sandy, Donna Toombs, North Little Rock, Ark., Lydia Wiley, Terrell, Texas, Jay Ussery, Marco Island, Fla., and Sharon Jalil, Arlington, Texas; sisters Elfreda Lieblong, Loell Bowie, Reba Luck and Joanna Earl; 17 grandchildren and step-grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren; and nieces and nephews.

Daughter Darlene Warren handles advertising sales and placement for The

Journal. She receives E-mail at rdladnier@aol.com.

Item found on line at:
http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmesseng
er0045/i2008-045-01.htm

THE END

Camp Outreach
for Teens
by Dale & Dona Fehr
(Columbia Heights, Minnesota)

It's coming! Don't miss it! Camp Outreach for Teens in central Minnesota.

This summer teens will participate in a 3 day camp including a service project in the community, a worship service geared to topics of their interest and a boat load of fun activities like water skiing, fishing, canoeing, volleyball, campfires, etc.

The camp is on Pomroy Lake in Central Minnesota, 1 & 1/2 hrs. north of the Twin Cities.

Dates: June 26-29, 2008

Ages: 12 - 18

Cost: \$75.00 per camper

For applications and more information contact: Dale or Dona Fehr at: 763-572-8377, dlfehr@usfamily.net, or download applications at:

<http://www.liferesource.org/support-files/camp-outreach-teens-application%202008.pdf>

Camp Directors: Dale & Dona Fehr

Camp Advisor: Bill Jacobs

Sponsored by Building Bridges & **LifeResource Ministries**

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/i2008-045-02.htm>

THE END**

Can a Muslim be a Good American?

*Sent by Howard & Dorothy Bruce
(Glendale, Arizona)*

Thought you would find this interesting.

Have you ever thought -- Is Muslim-American really an oxymoron? Can a devout Muslim be an American patriot and a loyal citizen? I forwarded that question to a friend who worked in Saudi Arabia for 20 years. The following is his forwarded reply:

Theologically, no. Because his allegiance is to Allah, the moon god of Arabia.

Religiously, no. Because no other religion is accepted by his Allah except Islam (Quran, 2:256)

Scripturally, no. Because his allegiance is to the five pillars of Islam and the Quran (Koran).

Geographically, no. Because his allegiance is to Mecca, to which he turns in prayer five times a day.

Socially, no. Because his allegiance to Islam forbids him to make friends with Christians or Jews.

Politically, no. Because he must submit to the mullah (spiritual leaders), who teach annihilation of Israel and destruction of America, the great Satan.

Domestically, no. Because he is instructed to marry four women and beat and

scourge his wife when she disobeys him (Quran 4:34).

Intellectually, no. Because he cannot accept the American Constitution since it is based on Biblical principles and he believes the Bible to be corrupt.

Philosophically, no. Because Islam, Muhammad, and the Quran do not allow freedom of religion and expression. Democracy and Islam cannot co-exist. Every Muslim government is either dictatorial or Autocratic. (With this in mind, how does the United States hope to form a Democracy in Iraq?)

Spiritually, no. Because when we declare "one nation under God," the Christian's God is loving and kind, while Allah is NEVER referred to as heavenly father, nor is he ever called love in the Quran's 99 excellent names."

Therefore after much study and deliberation.... perhaps we should be very suspicious of ALL MUSLIMS in this country. They obviously cannot be both good Muslims and good Americans. Call it what you wish.....it's still the truth.

If you find yourself intellectually in agreement with the above statements, perhaps you will share this with Your friends. The more who understand this, the better it will be for our country and our future.

The religious war is bigger and more complex than most Americans currently know or understand.

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/i2008-045-03.htm>

THE END**

A Radical Idea

*by Jeffrey Caldwell
(Redwood City, California)*

Jesus said: "...what I tell you is this: Love your enemies and pray for your persecutors; only so you can be children of your heavenly Father, who causes the sun to rise on good and bad alike, and sends the rain on the innocent and wicked ... There must be no limit to your goodness, as your heavenly Father's goodness knows no bounds." (Matthew 5:44-45, 48).

I don't believe that we should in any wise give up seeking justice; but remember that justice belongs to God, an item to handle with care.

It is a radical idea, but I think we should pray for those who hate America.

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/i2008-045-04.htm>

THE END**

If You Believe

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

If you believe that **Herbert W. Armstrong** restored all truth and that you do not need to follow the instructions of the apostle Peter to "Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ," then read no further.

But if you believe the prophet Hosea's prophetic warning: "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you, that you shall be no priest to me: seeing you have forgotten the law of your God, I will also forget your children."; and if you believe the apostle Paul's instruction to "Study to show yourself approved to God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth but shun profane and vain babbling: for they will increase to more ungodliness," then please read on.

Yes, **Herbert W. Armstrong** did teach much truth, and those who have benefited spiritually from his ministry should be extremely grateful. However, it is an undeniable fact that he also taught much error that led to the demise and destruction of his ill conceived organization after his death.

The following list contains things that **Mr. Armstrong** neglected to teach, but are extremely important to the elect during this gospel age of salvation. Also listed are some of his teachings that contained errors and omissions.

- Discipleship and Stewardship
- Observance of the New Moon
- Where God Places His Name
- Congregational Meeting Places
- The Day of Atonement
- The Weekly Sabbath
- The Night to Be Much Remembered
- Tithing
- Deacons and Deaconesses

Believe it or not there is awesome, dynamic, and life changing truth still being revealed to God's people. However, it is not being revealed to those who already believe that they have all truth (See Rev.3:14-22).

There is much truth yet to be learned and much error yet to be discarded by those who have passed through the **Worldwide Church of God (WCG)** experience. There is also much truth that former ministers of the **WCG** do not want you to know. There is much that these men would rather you not investigate, because this truth reveals their true motives and in many cases their lack of spiritual maturity and honesty in dealing with the Sovereign Father's truth and way of truth.

Remember that six of the seven churches noted in the Book of Revelation are punished because they hold attitudes, behaviors, and/or doctrines that are in opposition to the Father's truth and way of truth.

We are offering you an opportunity to gain valuable knowledge that will help you grow in grace and knowledge and help you discard the error of many WCG teachings, so that you may have a closer walk with the Sovereign Father and our Savior.

To access information concerning the subjects noted above, go to www.bibleresearch.org, or www.bible-prophecy.net and click on the link Outreach: Former WCG Members.

Item found on line at:

http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/i2008-045-05.htm

THE END**



Subscription Update For Those Who Are Unable to Pay a Subscription Price for "The Church of God Messenger":

Gift Donations Received: Previous Balance: \$191.46

03-23-08 -- RL -- \$10.00
03-28-08 -- HB -- \$10.00
04-19-08 -- TS -- \$25.16

Total = \$45.16 THANK YOU!

Total Gift Donations: \$236.62

Subscriptions Requested: 02-21-08 -- Richard Mar
03-27-08 -- Robert Goldman
04-03-08 -- Janine Ziomek-Witek
05-11-08 -- Rose Mary Knudson

1 Year Subscriptions Paid: Richard Mar -- \$22.20
Robert Goldman -- \$12.84
Janine Ziomek-Witek -- \$12.84
Rose Mary Knudson -- \$13.61

Postage Increase Extra 1 cent stamps -- \$3.00

Amount Left: \$172.13

Subscription Requests Pending at this Time: None



Place of Safety Camp?

by Alan Croyle (Emporia, Virginia)

Jesus Christ is come in the flesh, 1 John 4:1-3. Of the ten virgins, 50% were not prepared. Their works were insufficient. Therefore hearken and prepare the Place of Safety Camp near Armstrong, Ontario, Canada. Contact: Alan Croyle, PO Box 7, Emporia, VA 23847

Item found on line at:

http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/i2008-045-06.htm

THE END**

Booklet Advertisement

by Gary Miller (Pocahontas, Arkansas)

Read "The Untold Story of Christmas" (Suggested donation: \$2.50, ppd in USA). Here you will find the story behind the story of this widely celebrated holiday. As far as we know, this information has never before been published showing the REAL reason for the season! This is a must read. Order your copy today. Order from ICY, P.O. Box 208, Pocahontas, AR 72455

Item found on line at:

http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/i2008-045-07.htm

THE END**

Cancer Resources

Sent by Jeana Anderson (Casa, Arkansas)

Alliance for Lung Cancer

Support, raising lung cancer awareness. 800-298-2436 www.alcase.org

American Institute of Cancer Research (AICR)

Focuses on diet-malignancy link; supports research, provides educational materials. 800-843-8114 www.aicr.org

Annie Appleseed Project

Complementary cancer care links, including cancer centers and clinical trials. www.annieappleseedproject.org

Colorectal Cancer Network

Prevention, awareness, other important topics. 301-879-1500 www.clickonium.com/colorectal-cancer.net/html/

Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered (FORCE)

Resources, chat room, more for women at high risk for breast and ovarian cancer. 954-255-8732 www.facingourrisk.org

Melanoma Research Foundation

Advocacy and action. 800-MRF-1290 www.melanoma.org

National Breast Cancer Coalition

Grassroots advocacy and action on breast cancer issues. 800-622-2838 www.natlbcc.org

National Foundation for Alternative Medicine (NFAM)

Evaluates alternative treatments not readily accessible to the average American. 202-463-4900 www.nfam.org

National Prostate Cancer Coalition

Prostate cancer awareness and advocacy. 888-245-9455 www.fightprostatecancer.org/site/PageServer

Item found on line at:

http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0045/i2008-045-08.htm

THE END**

Sacrifices for Peace

by David Ben-Ariel (Toledo, Ohio)

Judah must remove the foreign mosques of Ishmael's alien god and restore the altar of the God of Israel upon the TEMPLE Mount and proceed to "offer burnt offerings upon it, as it is written in the law of Moses the man of God. And they sat the altar upon its bases, for fear was upon them because of the people of those countries [resident sworn enemies and international pressure and opposition]: and they offered BURNT OFFERINGS upon it to the LORD, even burnt offerings morning and evening" (Ezra 3:2-3).

It's time for Judah to make their move upon the Temple Mount and RESTORE

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14