

## How are we in the image of God?

(Copyright) by Bill Hillebrenner  
(Matthews, North Carolina)

PAGE 2 **Articles**

## My Trip to Kokomo

(Copyright) by Wayne Schatzle  
(West Chester, Ohio)

PAGE 5 **Articles**

## Letter to a Young Lady from Grandpa

(Copyright) by James Steinle  
(Swanville, Minnesota)

PAGE 6 **Articles**

## 'Hammer and Tickle' by Ben Lewis, book review (a great book!)

(Copyright) by Curtis Dahlgren  
(Stephenson, Michigan)

PAGE 7 **Articles**

## The Real Reason for the Unfolding Tragedy in Afghanistan

(Copyright) by Eddie Hyatt  
(Tulsa, Oklahoma)

PAGE 10 **Articles**

## God's Accuracy

Sent by Michael R. Zaeske  
(Kalamazoo, Michigan)

PAGE 12 **Other Items**

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

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## Articles

### How are we in the image of God? (Copyright) by Bill Hillebrenner (Matthews, North Carolina)

What does it mean that humans are made in the image of God? Romans 1 states that we should look at the things God made to understand the Godhead.

The invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead . . . (Romans 1:20).

#### God Made Kinds!

Genesis 1 tells us that God made kinds.

And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind . . . (Genesis 1:24 - 25).

Each kind was a male and a female (not yet a family). These later became a family (offspring, genetically related) as Genesis 8 states.

Every animal, every creeping thing, every bird, and whatever creeps on the earth, according to their families, went out of the ark (Genesis 8:19, NKJV).

#### The Earth Dominating Kind: Adam

Most Bible translations conceal an important fact. All through Genesis 1 and into Genesis 2 the Hebrew word translated as "man" is *adam* (Strong's Concordance #H120). This Hebrew word, however, is identical to the word translated as the proper name Adam (Strong's Concordance #H121) throughout the book of Genesis.

The correct translation, therefore, of verses such as Genesis 1:26 - 27 should have "Adam" or "the Adam" instead of the word man.

And God said, Let us make ADAM in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth . . .

Adam is a kind which became a family, named after the first created man. If we are going to look at God's creation to understand the Godhead, shouldn't we be looking at that very creation that is made in God's image?

#### In the Beginning was the Woman

And the woman was with Adam and the woman was Adam! The scholarly world knows what most of Christendom doesn't grasp. The dictionary definition of "Adam" is: 1) The name of the first man . . . 2) man (Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary, 1994). Yes, Adam is the name of the father of the human race but also the name of the kind we are! Notice the correct translation of Genesis 5:1 - 2 from the Hebrew.

This [is] the book of the generations of Adam (Strong's Concordance #H121). In the day that God created Adam (Strong's #H120) in the likeness of God made he him; Male and female created he them; and blessed them and called THEIR name Adam (Strong's #H121), in the day when they were created (Genesis 5:1 - 2, emphasis added).

John 1:1 states the following.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the word was God (John 1:1).

Two beings exist here. All things were created by him (the Word). He still has the Word as one of his names, too.

**The "New" Church of God Messenger**  
**A Newsletter for the People of God**  
**May 21, 2022 --- Issue No. 68**

And his name is called the Word of God (Revelation 19:13).

In Genesis 1 we find the following.

In the beginning God (Hebrew: *Elohim*) created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1).

Elohim is plural. There is more than one being here also! "Let us make man in our image . . ." (Genesis 1:26) which is more than one being here also. Notice there is only one image of God! God beings all have one image! Adam is the name of the first man. The whole family of man is called Adam in the Bible and in Webster's Dictionary. ". . . the Father (God) of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named" (Ephesians 3:15). The whole family of God is called God.

### **God, the Holy Kind**

Adam (mankind) is a kind made in the image of the God kind. God is a kind becoming a family through the Adam kind! Notice that even the Jews understood that to be a son of God meant that you were the same equal kind of being.

Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me? The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God (John 10:32 - 33, KJV).

### **Mother of the God Family**

Yes, Galatians 4:26, says that the Jerusalem above is the mother of us all, but this is an allegory: "which things are an allegory." Why did Adam call the woman Eve?

And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living (Genesis 3:20).

Eve is the mother of everybody, even Jesus Christ, except herself, Adam and God the Father! Half of all the family genetics comes through the mother. God the Father is called "the Father of Spirits" but not the father of our genetics. But we are the "offspring of God" (Acts 17:29). The word "offspring" is *genace* (Strong's #G1085) in the Greek. It is where the English word "genetics" is based.

In Revelation 22:16 Jesus says he is the "root and the offspring (*genace*) of David." We know how he is the genetics of David, but how is he the "root"? Jesus is also called the "only begotten of the Father" (John 1:14). The Greek word translated in this verse as "only begotten" is *mono-genace* (Strong's #G3439), the only one with the genetics of the father. He is the firstborn (*proto-tokos* as found in Romans 8:29, Colossians 1:15, etc.), the first child. But he is the only one with the genetics of the Father God. How can this be?

At this point many will fall away to the ethereal "but this is physical stuff and God is spirit we can't understand." Saying we can't understand is a slap in the face to Romans 1:20. Notice that Levi is spoken of as existing in the loins of Abraham, his great grandfather (Hebrews 7:9 - 10)! This is genetics.

### **The Golden Calf: One Kind, Not One Being!**

Notice that Aaron made only one calf, yet it was called "Gods" (*Elohim*, plural in Hebrew). This is substantiated in Acts 7:40 - 43, where only one calf is mentioned yet called "gods" (*theoi*, plural in Greek). The Israelites were not so stupid as to think that the gold which was their bracelets and necklaces the day before was now God. They wanted to know what the God kind looked like (Acts 7:43, "figures which you made to worship the host of heaven").

The golden calf represented what they thought the god kind looked like. But God has an image to know what Elohim looks like. He created the Adam kind. This is one reason why even criminals condemned to die were not to be left hanging overnight. It was the image of God which beasts could tear and mutilate.

### **Eve, the Glorious Clone**

God created the various kinds. They are genetically related. God did not make the Adam kind as two independently created beings but took the rib from Adam and built it into a woman. Sex is not the only way reproduction can take place. We have long known that identical twins come from the splitting of the initial cell. In these last days (when knowledge is increased) we have accomplished cloning. But cloning and twins always produce the same sex. Why did God not make

**The "New" Church of God Messenger**  
**A Newsletter for the People of God**  
**May 21, 2022 --- Issue No. 68**

the woman out of the dirt as the first man?

The key lies in the answer to other questions. Why is Jesus not only called the offspring (Greek *genace*, genetics) of David, but the "root" of David? And we are called the offspring of God (Acts 17:29). And why is Jesus the only begotten, the "mono-genace," the only genetics of the Father, and yet we are called the offspring of God? And how could a God being engender with an Adam being and produce offspring (Kind only can produce after their kind)? Because the God kind has the same genetics as Adam kind.

Genetics is the pattern, the blueprint of how to assemble a body. Our genetics takes the eaten flesh of a fish and breaks it down and reassembles it as our human body. If we fall into a pool of piranhas, they will eat our flesh and their genetics will change it into fish flesh. The genetics of God can assemble a body of flesh or spirit. The pattern is the same (Note that Levi is spoken of as existing in his great-grandfather Abraham, Hebrews 7:9, 10). David said all his parts were known (Psalm 139:15 - 16). That is one reason it is written "I said ye are gods (Elohim)" (Psalm 82:6, John 10:34).

1Corinthians 11:7 reveals to us that man is the exact image of God, but the woman is a little different; the woman is the glory of the man.

For a man indeed ought not to cover [his] head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man (1Corinthians 11:7, KJV).

Being cloned from Adam, the woman would have been the same sex. So, God had to "build" (Hebrew) the woman: one set of chromosomes different, some different hormones. This created the female of Adam kind. Verses 8 and 9 remind us that the woman is of the man and created glorious for the man. But what does this mean?

Both the woman and the man have the same genetics! But where did the genetics come from? From a God being! The very fact that Jesus is the "only-begotten of the Father," the *mono-genace*, the only genetics of the Father, tells us the God kind has genetics! The various animal kinds cannot engender across the kind barrier. Yet man is special in that God engendered with a woman the Son of God. Jesus is the only one whose body is thus engendered.

#### **The Root of David Through Adam**

The root comes from the planted seed and has all the genetics that go to make new seeds.

The Word of God (Jesus, Revelation 19:13) formed Adam of the ground, making a clay "dummy." But though all man's elements come from the ground, how did they all get into the right place: calcium to skeleton, heart tissue to a heart, etc.?

In these last days we use MRI (magnetic resonant imaging) to take pictures of the body. Powerful magnetic fields make molecular parts "jump." How fast they jump tells what kind of flesh it is. Can we see something like Jesus moving his spirit genetic pattern over the clay dummy to have molecules pulled into place to form a human body in the exact image of Jesus (The first Adam is Jesus' genetics in Adam; the second Adam is Jesus' spirit in a body half of Adam genetics). What is now left to do to this lifeless image? Why, CPR of course; blow in the breath of life!

#### **The Beginning of the Creation**

Some have been confused by the scripture in which Jesus refers to himself as "the beginning of the creation of God" (Revelation 3:14). But Jesus is the firstborn. The ultimate creation of the God kind is the Family of God. A family is genetically related. Jesus has half of the genetics of the father and half of his own back through Adam and Eve!

The Adam kind will all be variations of the genetics of Adam and Eve, which genetics is that of the Word of God. The Christ is referred to in Isaiah 9:6 as "the Everlasting Father" or the father of eternity. Jesus is our father through Adam and Eve. He is the one in Luke 3:38 "Adam, which was the son of God." God the Father is the Father of our spirit, Jesus is the father of our genetic body! The Plain Truth is not hard to understand, just hard for most to believe!

## **My Trip to Kokomo** **(Copyright) by Wayne Schatzle (West Chester, Ohio)**

In September we had the privilege to attend our first Vietnam Veteran’s Welcome Home Reunion. It has been held in Kokomo, Indiana, for 24 years. I heard about it last year and decided to go. Those types of festivals have gotten a bad name due to some rowdiness and drinking, and some people view Vietnam vets poorly anyway. It was very reminiscent of Woodstock, and it was as if everyone there knew each other. I myself am a Vietnam veteran, and like most of the rest of my fellow vets I have a similar story of returning from a very unpopular war and learning to not say anything about my military service there. Like nearly all my fellow vets, I had to cope with the problems on my own and not expect any sympathy or understanding from people that were never there.

I wasn’t sure what it would be like. There were many great memories for me there. One was being given a “welcome home” hug by Sam L Davis, a man from my division who won the Medal of Honor. Interestingly, Sam was the man that was shown receiving the Medal of Honor by President Johnson in the movie Forrest Gump (with Tom Hanks face superimposed.) There are only about 150 living recipients today, and only half of them live to receive it. Another great moment was when the band played “Proud to be an American,” and the nurses from back then came to the foot of the stage, and the Purple Heart recipients filed by to hug those nurses that helped them so many decades ago. There were no dry eyes in the crowd of several thousands.

What I found at the reunion was interesting with lots of music; vendors selling lots of food and drinks; all types of military flags, shirts, hats, and patches for sale; some great displays of military hardware; and, more importantly, thousands of hurting men. Hurting not only physical in the nature of missing arms and legs, and various complications from being poisoned by Agent Orange, but a much more difficult affliction of psychological problems. The goal of the reunion is not to pat each other on the back for a job well done, but an attempt to bring about some closure to the war and give the participants the welcome home they never received. The bad news is that it will never end, there will never be a closure, and the past will never be changed. We have learned that our only support group will be the men and women that have gone through the Vietnam experience.

Vietnam vets know well the importance of supporting our current veterans. The damage done by jeering and spitting at returning soldiers is marking them for life and can never be undone. I well remember the incredible high I had as I landed in California after more than a year in Vietnam, only to experience the utter shock of rejection and jeers at the airport, and have the absolute lowest feeling just a few minutes later. It is impossible to get over it.

The point of this article is just this: veterans, like anyone struggling with trials, must turn somewhere for help. Some turn inwardly, and many times turn to the dead-end of suicide. The Veteran’s Administration has established ways to help veterans, and most of the time it becomes a lifelong dependence on psychiatrists and drugs. But some turn to religion and experience a new life and direction in Christ.

If you are a Vietnam vet or know one, pass on the information about this meeting. What we have found out is that many of the vets still are in their shell, and keep their service locked in the closet of their minds and speak about it to no one. These types of reunions are for people like that. Come and experience the joy, hugs, tears, and the healing.

### **Postscript:**

These events are open to everyone and honor all veterans for their service to our country. For information contact the website: <https://hcvvo.net/>

## **Holy Days 2022**

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

**Unleavened Bread – April 16-22, 2022**

**Pentecost – June 5, 2022**

**Trumpets - September 26, 2022**

Atonement – October 5, 2022  
Tabernacles – October 10-16, 2022  
Last Great Day – October 17, 2022

## Letter to a Young Lady from Grandpa (Copyright) by James Steinle (Swanville, Minnesota)

Dear young lady,

Loved ones and friends find it a joy watching you grow up! How fast time goes by as we first see you as a little child but then so rapidly, that young child starts to blossom and mature. As we watch you our hopes and prayers are that you arrive at adulthood safe and sound and filled with both inner and outer beauty.

As a person that I hope you realize loves you and wants the best for you, I would like to give you the best gift that I have to give. It is not money or material things, but it is any wisdom I may have accumulated over the years that will help you to become that beautiful mature woman. That is where this letter is coming from. Some of what I will try to express to you are things that I wish my parents had been able to tell me when I was young, but they too were not always aware or able to tell of the things that would have been helpful and educational. Any of us can fail so easily in various areas of our lives, but thankfully if we care for one another, we can help each other and make all of our lives more rewarding. We are all interconnected in our lives and love and that gives you, and me, many opportunities for joy - or sorrow!

The same is true for our heavenly Father who is in the process of creating His *own* family – us! We are even made to look like Him (Genesis 1:27). I know you have some religious training in you, so that is why I would like to use the wisdom found in that "Letter" (the Bible) our Father wrote to us, His children. He too is a loving Parent and desires His children to have the joy and happiness of life that He makes available to us. The problem so often is that many of us do not take the time or effort to study out the way of life in that Letter, and then apply it. If we did, it would produce the joy and happiness that we each want. From personal experience I know that at times in the past when I tried to have some fun or joy in my life *my own way*, a way that went different from how the "Letter" from my "DAD" told me to get it, the *end result* was disappointing! I have learned through the "College of Hard Knocks" that the way to actually have joy in my life was to study what He said, then actually apply the teachings to the way I live. *I now have much more joy and happiness because I try to do what DAD wants and to live the way that produces it.*

I know you too as a maturing young woman are searching for joy and happiness in your life and I hope you have it. We all can be disappointed at times in what happens to us or to those around us. Scars in life happen to us all. It happens because we as human beings sometimes try to find joy our own way and not follow the instructions of our Father; and we *all* can suffer as a result! Each one of us can be guilty of failing to follow those "best of life" instructions. When we realize we each do fail from time to time, it helps give us the compassion and the ability to not judge others too harshly.

These instructions from our loving Father include preparing for marriage by education in a variety of areas, keeping oneself chaste before marriage so that when one finds their proper mate there can be pure untainted joy. Our Father wants us to find a mate who has the same values. That is why it is good to date a variety of young men to see if they have the same values. When you find one and marry him, those same values produce a stable home environment that promotes loving, happy, healthy, and prosperous families.

If you would be kind and patient enough to bear with me, here are some things I wish I could have been taught, or taught better, or applied better when I was young. One of which is to seek the will of our Father with all our heart. In Isaiah 66:2 our Father says "... but to this man (meaning male or female) will I look, even to him that is poor (meaning depressed in mind or circumstances, afflicted, humble, needy) and of a contrite spirit (meaning smitten or dejected), and that trembles at My word." (meaning takes His words to heart, respecting what He says). He also says in Deuteronomy 4:29 "But if from there you shall seek Yehovah (His Hebrew Name) your Elohim (your God or, Mighty One), you shall find him, *if* you seek him with all your heart and with all your soul." In other words, our heavenly Father is not far from any of us if we truly look to Him for the answers to our trials and troubles and do the best, we can to do what He wants. That of course means we have to read and study His Word and get educated (and sometimes even listen to the wisdom of others who have been through much of this life)!

**The "New" Church of God Messenger**  
**A Newsletter for the People of God**  
**May 21, 2022 --- Issue No. 68**

I know you someday would love to have a good husband and children and raise up a family of your own. How wonderful that would be, and I hope and pray it happens for you!! Of course, you will want the best for your children also! You will want to see them grow up and produce loving happy children (and grandchildren *for you!*)! *Now the question is, how to bring that about? What will you teach them?* Thankfully, there are good guidelines to go by if you believe in the Bible as I do.

If you do, you will probably teach your children to study the woman and wife found in Proverbs 31:10-31 who was well respected by her husband and the rest of the community. It is absolutely fabulous reading! This woman was not only virtuous and industrious, but smart. She apparently was taught and/or educated herself enough not only to take care of the daily needs of her household but was able to go out and buy and sell property on her own! Her husband said "who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies...". Verse 30 says "favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman that fears Yehovah, she shall be praised." It's what is in our heart that shows our true beauty. And, if you ever have children and teach them that, you won't go too far wrong. As Proverbs 14:1 says, "Every wise woman builds her house, but the foolish plucks it down with her hands." In other words, you will teach your children that the choices we make in life will either build, or tear down. It's up to us.

If you make our Fathers "Letter" the place where you get your teachings, then I'm sure you will also teach your children what it says in 1 Timothy 1:9-10, where the Apostle Paul says, "So I want men everywhere to pray with holy hands lifted up to Yehovah, free from sin and anger and resentment. And the women should be the same way, quiet and sensible in manner and clothing. Believing (Christian) women should be noticed for being kind and good, not for the way they fix their hair or because of their jewels or fancy clothes." Not that that is wrong if done in an appropriate way and attitude of humility; in other words, not thinking more of ourselves than we should. If you have boys, you will teach them that before they get married, they need to "Develop your business first before building your house" as Proverbs 24:27 says. Also, that when they grow up they are to love their wife and take care of them as they would their own body. And they are to treat their own children properly for it says in Colossians 3:21, "Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged." For your girls, you would teach them that being a wife means they are to respect their husband (Ephesians 5:22-33) You would teach your children what it says in Colossians 3:20, "Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is pleasing to Yehovah."

The woman who understands and does this will attract the kind of man that has similar values and who will provide for her and her family. It will be a family where joy and happiness are to be found, even when trials come into our lives.

Well young lady, I have probably tested your patience with my long letter to you and in using so many scriptures, but I care enough for you to take that chance. All I can say is make wise and right choices now based on how our Father instructs us. If you do, the joy and happiness that results will help when hurts and sorrow come into your life as they do in all our lives. And you will be able to pass on *your* wisdom and *your* joy to your children when that time comes. I look forward to your future!

With much love, Your Grandpa

**‘Hammer and Tickle’ by Ben Lewis,**  
**book review (a great book!)**  
**(Copyright) by Curtis Dahlgren (Stephenson, Michigan)**

**"The Party told you to reject the evidence of your eyes and ears. It was their final, most essential command."**  
George Orwell, "1984"

- ❖ The truth is forbidden now; it is expelled and cancelled.
- ❖ All doors and windows are closed to it now,
- ❖ But anecdotes go out amongst the people,
- ❖ Finding their way to the soul thru the eyes and the ears.
- ❖ The jokes may not reach our grandkids,
- ❖ But future historians will dig thru the archives,
- ❖ Comparing "great men" with our trail of anger, laughter, and tears. -paraphrased from "Impatience," written in 1955 by a survivor of Siberian exile

**The "New" Church of God Messenger**  
**A Newsletter for the People of God**  
**May 21, 2022 --- Issue No. 68**

❖ **"The Law of Faust: the worse the times, the better the jokes."** – Ben Lewis [we are beginning to relive some of those times]

Lewis says, in the conclusion: "The concentration of all political and economic power in the hands of the state, and the state's attempt to direct artistic activities – that meant any joke critical of life in a Communist society was de facto about Communism. All these things created the innate and inalienable humor of Communism, its GREATEST CULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT." (my caps; this book should be required reading in every school, public and private)

I have a knack for finding the best part of a book by just opening it randomly, but "Hammer and Tickle" came with a bookmark in it, so the first thing I read was "Analysts of Communist jokes agree that the 1960s were the golden age of Communist jokes. The Soviet bloc had quit arresting joke-tellers... which produced a tsunami of 'anekdoty' . . ." [They impeached Trump for jokes over here though; "Maybe Russia can find Hillary's 30,000 e-mails."]

The subtitle on the cover is just "A Cultural History of Communism," but on the title page inside it says, "Hammer and Tickle; the Story of Communism, a Political System Almost Laughed Out of Existence" (Pegasus Books). **Karl Marx** himself once said, in 1844, "The final phase of a political system is comedy." On Facebook, my theme from Earth Day/birthday-of-Lenin to May Day is remembering life back in "the good ol' USSR."

Remembering Lenin's birthday, 4/22, a story from a Russian history class. Teacher waves a well-worn book and asks, "Who wrote this, 'The Communist Manifesto'?" No answer. He asks the question again. Finally little Bartski says:

**"It wasn't me, Sir." Bartski gets sent to detention as a counter revolutionary.**

"Lenin was working late at night and when he went to bed at 2 am, he told his guard to wake him at seven. For five hours the guard fretted about the most appropriate way to awaken the big guy. He chose to play the Soviet anthem that begins with '**Arise, ye wretched of the earth**'." [Sorta kinda sounds like Hillary Clinton's view of us – irredeemable deplorables.]

A man visits Hell and notices different punishments being inflicted. He asks the devil, "Why does Hitler stand up to his neck in (poop) but Stalin is only up to his waist?" and the devil says: "Because Stalin is standing on Lenin's shoulders."

The Czechs are some of the world's most anti-Communist people because they had to live under its "utopianism." **Q: How do the Czechs know the world is round? A: In 1945 the Nazis were driven out to the west, and in 1968 they returned from the east (Moscow). In 1968, the humor which until then had only appeared in newspapers, or between friends, flowed out onto the streets.**

Historical precedent for Soviet elections: God made Eve and told Adam to choose a wife [Sorta kinda like the 2020 election].

**Q: What's the difference between a Russian optimist and a Russian pessimist? A: The pessimist says things can't get any worse. The optimist says, "Yes they can."**

**Q: Is it true that half of the Central Committee members are insane? A: No, Boris. Half of the Central Committee ISN'T insane.**

The book contains more than 600 jokes, and the sources are listed in 26 pages of bibliography. The author says analyzing the humor of an era isn't as easy as it seems. There are Russian jokes about the commies, Russian jokes about the Nazis, the jokes the Soviets *wanted* Russia's "new Soviet man" to tell, German jokes about the Nazis, and even Norwegian jokes about the Nazis. For example:

**Nazi to a Norwegian: "Are Norwegian girls all stupid?" Reply: "No. Those are the ones that go out with you guys."**

**USSR mental hospital doctors: What is your name?**

**Patient: Don'...**

**Doctors: Where are you from?**

**Patient: Duuh . . Don't know.**

**The "New" Church of God Messenger**  
**A Newsletter for the People of God**  
**May 21, 2022 --- Issue No. 68**

**Doctors: What year is this?**  
**Patient: Lenin's Jubilee.**

Uncle Boris gets sent to Siberia. He had told his family that if that happened, and conditions were bad, he would write home with red ink. A letter came that said everything was wonderful ("It's just like summer camp. The only thing is, I can't find any red ink.")

**A peasant stood in line all morning hoping to buy a loaf of bread. When she got to the door, the store closed for the day. She let go some profanities she hadn't used for years. Two men in black approached and said:**

**"This is your last warning. You will not be warned again."**  
**The lady went home and told her husband:**  
**"It's worse than we thought. They're not only out of bread; they're out of bullets."**

A housewife stands in line all morning at the state grocery. When she gets to the counter, she asks, "Don't you have any cheese?" The clerk says:

"We're the shop with no sausage. The shop with no cheese is around the corner."

A lady told her friend she must be getting senile: "I was standing in the front door with an empty shopping bag, and I couldn't remember if I had just gone shopping or if I was leaving."

They've got a million of those. The Soviets used to brag that Russia made the world's fastest watches and the largest microchips.

**In 1985, Gorbachev became the new Soviet leader. He wrote in his memoirs, "No one imagined the scale of our ecological disaster, how far we were behind the developed nations... " Economic growth had virtually stopped, military spending was 40% of GDP, and there were 5 million registered alcoholics (when Marx and Lenin's dream was supposed to be at its apex).**

**On the power of laughter: the Reagan Administration collected these jokes, and he told many of them "incessantly" to Gorby at their summits. In 1987 for example, he told him this one:**

**"When our college graduates are asked what they want to do, they may say 'I haven't decided yet.' Grads in Russia say, 'I don't know; they haven't told me yet.'" Even Gorbachev laughed, but this is serious, kids. Do you want to be the butt of jokes in the future after you have brought the Soviet-style all-powerful government to America?**

Well, boys and girls, it's 2021 and America's Nihilists are trying to relive 1921, when the Bolsheviks solidified their hold on the nation, after the inevitable infighting and purges among the "victors" of the 1917 Revolution. How stands Freedom tonight? BARELY.

P.S. Parents, uncles, and aunts: please consider getting Hammer and Tickle for your young relatives, seriously. Especially if they are off to college. My edition was marked at \$15.95 in 2009, but I bought it for \$4 from a used book site. A review:

**"We find at long last the jokes only Communism could produce. And while they may not have brought it down, they can still tell us something important about why it fell."- Sunday Telegraph**

**PPS: "Vladimir" means "lord of the earth." Is that why academia chose 4/22 for Earth Day? Asking for a Friend on Facebook.**

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## The Real Reason for the Unfolding Tragedy in Afghanistan (Copyright) by Eddie Hyatt (Tulsa, Oklahoma)



Young girls await in fear the arrival of the Taliban in Kabul

I feel heartsick about the tragedy unfolding in Afghanistan, particularly for the women and girls who are about to be subjected to the most brutal forms of Sharia Law. It is a travesty that should never have happened.

While many will be debating the logistical decisions made by the president and others that led to this catastrophe, I want to discuss the moral and theological decisions in America over the past 60 years that I believe have played a primary role in this disaster.

The tragedy in Afghanistan can be traced to America's secularization of its culture and armed forces. You cannot defeat ideas with bullets. Ideas must be defeated with better ideas. The Sharia Law to which the Taliban are fanatically committed must be challenged with more than tanks and bullets.

Early Christianity defeated the mighty Roman Empire without swords, chariots, or spears. They defeated Rome with a message—the Gospel message that Paul said is infused with power to change lives (Romans 1:16).

Christian missionaries, sailors, businesspeople, and soldiers alike shared the Gospel message everywhere they went, and mighty Rome finally bowed its knee to the message of the Cross of Christ. Ancient, pagan Rome was defeated by a message—the Christian message.

In a similar way, 245 years ago, a ragtag army of American colonists, lacking armaments and supplies, defeated the most powerful army on the planet and brought into existence a new nation. They were able to do this because of the transcendent Christian ideals for which they fought. The historian, William Novak, has said,

[George] Washington knew his only hope lay in a profound conviction in the hearts and daily actions of all his men that what they did they did for God, and under God's protection (Hyatt, [\*1726: The Year that Defined America\*](#), 114).

Washington, therefore, issued an order stating that each day was to begin with prayer led by the officers of each unit. He also ordered that, unless their duties required them to be elsewhere, every soldier was to observe "a punctual attendance of Divine services, to implore the blessing of heaven upon the means used for our safety and public defense." He also expressed his desire that, "Every officer and man will endeavor so as to live and act as becomes a Christian soldier"

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(Hyatt, [1726: The Year that Defined America](#), 114).

Those early Americans believed they were fighting a just war for the ideal of God-given Liberty and that God would, therefore, fight for them. This internal belief in an ideal and cause bigger than themselves gave them the courage and fortitude to overcome tremendous obstacles and win the fight against a more powerful opponent.

Fast-forward to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. A secularized American army was sent to Afghanistan without a message for the Afghanistan people. The troops were given sensitivity training and told not to share their Christian faith with the people of Afghanistan including the troops whom they would be training.

Billions of dollars were spent, and thousands of lives sacrificed, to equip and train the Afghanistan people in the use of guns, tanks, and planes. They did not, however, equip them with a message or ideal that would give them the internal fortitude and commitment to fight for the freedom of their people.

With no ideal higher than their own personal happiness, the Afghanistan army wilted and ran when the U.S. pulled out its troops and the Taliban advanced. Their bullets were no match for the Taliban’s devotion to an Islamic ideal, be it ever so wrong.

What if American military brass had allowed the troops who were Christian believers to share their faith with the Afghanistan people while going about their duties. What if they had allowed Christian social groups, such as Samaritan’s Purse, to help the distressed Afghanistan people in the name of Jesus Christ?

I know my leftist friends will scream that this is colonialism. No it isn’t! It is freedom to share truth that will lift people and change their lives for the good.

I want the best for people and so did George Washington, which is why he encouraged some Delaware chiefs, with whom he met after becoming president, to embrace “the religion of Jesus Christ.” He said,

You do well to wish to learn our arts and our ways of life **and above all, the religion of Jesus Christ**. These will make you a greater and happier people than you are (Hyatt, [1726: The Year that Defined America](#), 172).

Indeed, America’s founding generation believed that it was Christian principles and morality that would lead to happiness for both the individual and the society. That is why Thomas Jefferson took money from the federal treasury to pay for a Christian missionary to the Kaskaskia Indian tribe and to build them a chapel in which to worship.

It is why John Hancock, president of the Continental Congress and signer of the Declaration of Independence, wanted the entire earth to hear and embrace the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He expressed this in a Prayer Proclamation he issued while Governor of Massachusetts. In the 1793 Proclamation, he exhorted the people,

That with true contrition of heart we may confess our sins, resolve to forsake them, and implore the Divine forgiveness through the merits and mediation of JESUS CHRIST our Savior . . . and finally, to overrule all the commotion in the world, **to the spreading of the true religion of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, in its purity and power, among all the people of the earth** (Hyatt, [1726: The Year that Defined America](#), 173).

The recent attempts to export American-style democracy to other nations, such as Iraq and Afghanistan, apart from any connection to Christian faith and morality have proven futile. America’s Founders would say that such efforts are futile because true liberty cannot be had apart from Christian truth and morality.

It is time for all Americans to revisit our founding principles of faith and freedom. Otherwise, we will see even more tragic calamities unfold in the days ahead.

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

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## Other Items

### God's Accuracy

Sent by Michael R. Zaeske (Kalamazoo, Michigan)

God's accuracy may be observed in the hatching of eggs. For example:

- the eggs of the potato bug hatch in 7 days;
  - those of the canary in 14 days;
  - those of the barnyard hen in 21 days;
  - The eggs of ducks and geese hatch in 28 days;
  - those of the mallard in 35 days;
  - The eggs of the parrot and the ostrich hatch in 42 days.
- (Notice, they are all divisible by seven, the number of days in a week!)

God's wisdom is seen in the making of an elephant... The four legs of this great beast all bend forward in the same direction. No other quadruped is so made. God planned that this animal would have a huge body, too large to live on two legs... For this reason, He gave it four fulcrums so that it can rise from the ground easily.

The horse rises from the ground on its two front legs first. A cow rises from the ground with its two hind legs first. How wise the Lord is in all His works of creation!

God's wisdom is revealed in His arrangement of sections and segments, as well as in the number of grains.

- Each watermelon has an even number of stripes on the rind.
- Each orange has an even number of segments.
- Each ear of corn has an even number of rows.
- Each stalk of wheat has an even number of grains.
- Every bunch of bananas has on its lowest row an even number of bananas, and each row decreases by one, so that one row has an even number and the next row an odd number.

- The waves of the sea roll in on shore twenty-six to the minute in all kinds of weather.

All grains are found in even numbers on the stalks, and the Lord specified thirty fold, sixty fold, and a hundred fold - all even numbers.

God has caused the flowers to blossom at certain specified times during the day, so that Linnaeus, the great botanist, once said that if he had a conservatory containing the right kind of soil, moisture and temperature, he could tell the time of day or night by the flowers that were open and those that were closed!

The lives of each of you may be ordered by the Lord in a beautiful way for His glory, if you will only entrust Him with your life. If you try to regulate your own life, it will only be a mess and a failure. Only the One Who made the brain, and the heart can successfully guide them to a profitable end.

I HOPE YOU FIND THIS AS FASCINATING AS I DID!!  
May God Bless You In Ways You Never Even Dreamed Today and Throughout the Year!

**Have a really Great Sabbath! And Thank You!**