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1Co 14:26 How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.

Ventilations: The Brats of Europe Need a Good Spanking!

(Copyright 06-01-2025) by Craig M. White (Australia)

I recall vividly my Dad's railing against the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union during the 1970s and that it did nothing for the country.

He detested the loss of British sovereignty and the way the British governments permitted the EEC (now the EU) to walk all over them. And I still recall his joy when the British voted to leave the EU in 2016. I was visiting the Blue Mountains just outside of Sydney enjoying the snow and watching the results coming in on my laptop on that eventful day. He and

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I stayed connected over the phone into the afternoon. Initially the results were pointing to a loss for freedom but gradually, as the day progressed, it became clearer that the British wanted out of being under the oppressive EU monster.

Despite EU interference, the massive lying campaign, media bias, the intelligentsia and elite carrying on, the British voted to leave.

The same could be said about the victory for Trump which mirrored the above, including EU interference (especially from France) and even staff from the British Labor Party heading over to America to help with the anti-Trump campaigning.

Authoritarian Europe

Unbeknown to most, the EU is rather dictatorial, unrepresentative and has taken on board powers and reach never agreed to by the peoples and nations of Europe. It has shut down conservative media outlets, harassed conservative members of Parliaments, attempted to ban politicians from running for office (you know, conservative ones, not Communists or Greens) and has both politicised and weaponised their bureaucracies and security agencies for this purpose.

The organisation is schizophrenic: it acts dictatorially; yet in other ways it is led by silly snowflakes.

Their powers have slowly increased without approval. Something my Dad decried until his passing on 6 June 2019 (anniversary of D-Day).

So, when President Trump's administration stands up to them, we should all applaud.

In a warning message, the centrist *European Conservative* published the following:

“So, the truth has come to light: the European Commission offered social media platforms secret illegal deals in the run-up to the recent European elections, that if they censored speech without telling anyone, they would be immune from prosecution under the Digital Services Act (DSA).

This claim, made by X owner Elon Musk in a [tweet](#) on Friday, in which he revealed X had refused to cooperate with the deal but that Facebook and Google had, is extraordinary. It is remarkable because, throughout the recent elections, Brussels was constantly warning of Europe being under threat of fake news, disinformation, and hate speech emanating from Russia, while in reality, European citizens were under attack from the anti-democratic and hateful censorious attitude of EU elites.” (Norman Lewis, “The EU's Digital Dictatorship”, *The European Conservative*, 16 July 2024)

This is their ploy: accuse others of what they are guilty of, including election interference, dictatorial behaviours and smear campaigns. In this, they are polar opposite to the Trump administration which is restoring freedoms, free speech and national sovereignty. This portends well for the (temporary) revival of the Anglo-Kelt Sphere.

President Trump and a Resurgent America

Who knows where this is all heading in the short to medium term. We may be seeing the restoration of Anglo-Keltic world supremacy again. A supremacy deliberately run down by Presidents Clinton, Obama and Biden. Their plan was to use American power to create a new world order of integration of the world's nations, races and religions into a single melting-pot, subsuming America into it. How Marxist!

Instead of cow-towing to the EU, right now we are witnessing President Trump put them in their place and showing these recalcitrant petty autocrats who is boss.

His senior cabinet members have spoken out against the mistreatment of conservatives and nationalists throughout Europe. He has responded to their tariff war against America, attempting to bleed the country dry. They have caused so many issues and problems that they must be stopped.

The imbalance in trade in effect meant that Europe was being subsidised by America. Germany alone was benefiting

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\$70 billion per annum! This, together with extreme spending programs by various administrations over the decades and massive social engineering/Woke programs, is sending America broke. This has to be curtailed one way or the other. The EU prefers its free ride, its huge bureaucracy and enormous salaries and various benefits – all thanks to Uncle Sam.

After all, did Trump not state publicly that the EU was set up to undermine America? Although he sometimes uses hyperbole to get a point across, this was not one of those occasions.

He casually categorised the EU as the lowest tier among America's trade partners, imposing a 20 percent tariff on all imports from the bloc. In the White House Rose Garden, Trump stated:

'For decades, our nation has been exploited and taken advantage of by countries both near and far, whether allies or adversaries.'

He continued,

'While the European Union may seem friendly, they take advantage of us. It is disheartening and unfortunate to witness this situation.'

Compared to Trump who is reviving American greatness and strength on the world stage, the EU continues its pathetic and puny responses. It will never be great while it is neoMarxist, holds to anti-family values and anti-nation.

For Europe to ever challenge America, it must have moral character and inner strength. Not be overloaded with European integration, Woke policies and massive immigration.

For Europe to be great again, it has to return to its original values, Christian beliefs and evolve into a Confederation of the Nations with an armed superstructure and single treasury that soaks up the debts caused by the EU and those political parties in power at the national level which support them.

One of the most insightful and respected publications, *The Spectator*, contains revealing information about the current state of the EU:

“In an op-ed entitled ‘The EU is a hostage to its bureaucracy’, the paper [*Le Figaro*] lamented that the bloc refuses ‘to take the initiatives that would relaunch European capitalism’. As a consequence, Europe has ‘ruined its agriculture and industry’ and is no longer capable of competing with America and China.

The facts and figures the paper lists are damning. European industry has shrunk on the world market from 22.5 per cent to 14 per cent since 2000. Steel production in the world market has, meanwhile, fallen from 7 per cent to 4 per cent. Chemicals production has fallen by almost 15 per cent since 2020. The number of automobiles manufactured in the EU has plummeted from 18.7 to 14 million since 2017. Three million farms have disappeared since 2015. Energy prices in Europe are four times higher than in Asia and five times higher than in the US.

Le Figaro's grim assessment of the EU's diminishing clout was reminiscent of the warning sounded last September by Mario Draghi. A former Italian prime minister and the president of the European Central Bank between 2011 and 2019, Draghi couldn't hide his fear for the bloc's future.” (Gavin Mortimer, “The EU's power is waning. If only Starmer could see it”, *The Spectator*, 20 May 2025)

In contrast, we only have to take a look at the positive impact President Trump has on uplifting America, securing the border, eschewing Wokeness, implementing all sorts of sane and conservative policies. Such as clearing out the shocking Woke people administering the military. Or rescuing many Afrikaners from South Africa; getting American prisoners out of Gaza and so much more.

How can one be opposed to almost everything he has initiated or accomplished in just over four months?

Concerning his Presidential Executive Orders, there are few which a Christian or conservative would disagree with. Particularly de-politicising the bureaucracy and intelligence agencies, reducing medical expenses, designating English

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as the national language, reducing the massive and unaffordable size of government and such like. You can find a list of them here:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_executive_orders_in_the_second_presidency_of_Donald_Trump

The only criticism I have thus far is that the tariffs should have been staged over time, starting with the raw deal they have been receiving from the EU, followed by China.

Will Europe be spanked?

The EU is far weaker with decreasing support on the continent. It is loathed by more and more citizens of Europe as they slowly wake up to what it is now all about – not just the end of the individual nations with their unique characteristics, but a Europe that is no more. One that is blended into and disappears into a new world order of no nations and one religion. A European version of Marxism known as Euro-Communism that emerged in the late 1960s. Its leadership is also known as the New Left or New Class.

This particular variant of Communism emphasises social and sexual liberation and massive immigration over the economy. To them, the workers are now expendable. Critical industries must be privatised to global corporations who straddle national boundaries and would be easy to work with to integrate the world. After all, state run industries or even private ones that are locally owned, breed nationalism and that cannot be permitted.

The EEC's initial plans in the 1950s were to ensure that there would be no more wars in Europe, but they could not stop the madness in south-east Europe in the 1990s after the breakup of Yugoslavia after the death of General Tito. Who did? The Americans and British.

Right now, there is a terrible disaster in the Ukraine. Why hasn't the EU resolved it? Why has it gone on for so long?

Is it their ineptitude as per the norm?

Or are they deliberately drip-feeding the conflict to so weaken the Ukraine so that it can be absorbed? And to destroy Russia and its peoples, forcing it to become globalists and Woke?

They had many years to do something positive but did not raise suspicions. Now an Anglo-Keltic power led by Trump is trying. Let's hope he succeeds where the EU either cannot or will not. Their motives are certainly suspicious.

Who chiefly defeated Napoleon, the German-Austria imperial ambitions, Hitler and his allies, brought down the Soviets and checked the Islamo-fascists (for the time-being at least)? Was it the nations of Europe? Or the Anglo-Keltic world powers?

Following in the footsteps of his ideological predecessors (especially Presidents Nixon and Reagan), Trump is negotiating with nations; stamping out conflicts in the Middle East; and is trying his hand at the Ukraine war. How unlike his predecessor and the EU.

He speaks the truth but uses hyperbole; he gets things done but does not understand statecraft; he accomplishes the most incredible foreign policy deals but does not use the old methods of the past which have been proved to no longer work in a modern world. He is years ahead of his time.

The Australian newspaper is noted as the only one that offers in-depth analysis containing various viewpoints, unlike the legacy media's far left bent. Writing in this publication, Greg Sheridan noted:

“He believes his more transactional method may in fact produce better human outcome. The defense of trump's personal actions is that his very brazenness is a kind of honesty”. (“Good, bad, and the ugly of Trump's big tour”, *The Australian*, 20 May 2025)

But the EU, as usual, is, in contrast, dishonest and undermining his efforts by not coming on board in solving the Ukraine war, preferring an unworkable approach. Strange days indeed!

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So, will Trump spank the European elites? What methods can he use to cane them?

Actually, the spanking has already commenced.

“The European Union has been, it was formed, in order to screw the United States. I mean, look, let's be honest. The European Union was formed in order to screw the United States. That's the purpose of it. And they've done a good job of it. But now I'm president.” (“Trump: EU was ‘set up to take advantage’ of US”, *Reuters*, 27 Feb 2025)

His verbalisations are sending fear into the European elites and causing a reaction. But the reaction is silly and ineffective against a much greater giant. The weakness of the Left is there for all to see.

Europe cannot be great under a Leftist leadership which is weakening the continent, not strengthening it!

During the Munich Security Conference, U.S. Vice-President J.D. Vance criticized European allies for purportedly stifling free speech, which he deemed a greater threat than Russia or China. He further alleged that the host nation, Germany, was suppressing rightwing political perspectives.

Other administration officials including Secretary of State (Marco Rubio) have also given the EU a telling off. I do not know if that is enough discipline for the EU elites. They want to pretend to be like adults but stay at home under the shelter of Daddy.

Their resistance to the spankings is futile. They must accept their punishment and make changes or continue to slide into oblivion, taking Europe with them.

Will the Brats of Europe be Replaced by Adults?

This writer gets the clear impression that Trump finds it difficult to deal with an immature European leadership.

In my article [Trump 2.0 and the Roots of his Realpolitik](#), I wrote that:

“Unlike Presidents Nixon and Reagan who were initially outsiders who worked their way through the establishment and created networks within various power groups, engaging the system, building alliances and understanding statecraft, Trump seemingly doesn't understand statecraft and doesn't care too much for it. And that may well be what is needed nowadays when America is confronted with a room full of rowdy, ungrateful **brats**. **Brats** who bully others for not towing the line, even within their own ranks. Witnessing the undemocratic behaviours of the EU toward their own people is appalling to watch.

The recalcitrant **brats** in the EU after all, are the ones who have drifted away from their core European values and what ties them to America...

All he [Trump] is doing is attempting to have them look after themselves and solve their own problems without running like children to Daddy with a handout for more money. The **brats** need to learn a lesson, but they prefer to gang up on their superior.”

They are brats. They are authoritarian. They are globalist/Woke. And they are trying to undermine Anglo-Keltic world leadership.

These brats need to be shown that they are not adults but children always whining, complaining, attacking, destructive, tail-bearing to other governments, undermining and crying crocodile tears over nothing by constantly carrying on in the media. Always demanding more and blaming Trump and others for their long list of mishaps.

Perhaps a restored dominant America under Trump will give these little brats something to really cry about and unpower them!

PS. In terms of political cycles, this restoration of America is something we can admire in the short-term. In the long-term the situation would likely turn around with a restored and mature Europe having shaken off its brats, using the very

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methods of the EU and bending them to a new use – a sort of European fascism. While America would, sometime in the future, find itself in the unenviable situation of another Biden or Obama in power, wrecking and weakening the nation again. If the European brats are replaced by adults, then Europe will truly get its act together and take on America. Currently it is a sick, pathetic, leftwing joke.

The conservative, reasonable Europe of Helmut Kohl and others, led by statesmen, is dead. The Euro-communist version led by brats is playing out. The next iteration may turn out to be a new form of militaristic fascism.

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The Rapture
(Copyright 06-03-2025) by Paul Janvier Mbock (Cameroon)

I – INTRODUCTION

The Plain Truth about the “**Rapture**” can only be grasped if we understand that Biblical Prophecy clearly speaks of two (2) distinct Advents, which will take place at the end of time, namely:

- First, of the Advent of the Son of Man, Elijah, who will first bring about the Physical Kingdom of God, ZION,
- and
- Second, of the Advent of the Son of God, Jesus, who will then bring about the Spiritual Kingdom of God and the Millennial Reign or Millennium!

The Confusion that has long been maintained about these two advents, taking them for a single advent, is today clarified, because the time is very close (**Ps 118:27; 119:130; Rev 1:1-3; 22:10; Amos 3:7**), and the Bible is more than ever current and a Source of Truth (**Jn 17:17; 2 Cor 13:8**)!

Elijah, the son of man (the second) will restore all things in the Church and Arouse the Kingdom of God **Before** the Coming of Christ to Establish this Kingdom (**Matth 17:11; Acts 3:19-21**)!

- NB:** - Arouse = To suddenly emerge
- Establish = To put in place

II – JESUS IS NO MORE SON OF MAN

Since His Resurrection from the dead, Jesus is the Son of God (**Rom 1:3-4; 2 Cor 5:16; Luke 20:36; Jn 3:6**).

His earthly mission as the Son of Man ended at his death when he said, 'It is finished' (**Jn 19:30**). He had completed in the flesh the work the Father had given him to do here below (**Jn 17:4**).

He ascended into heaven (**Acts 1:9**) and is now seated at the right hand of the Father (**Heb. 8:1; 12:2**), awaiting the Restoration of all things (**Acts 3:19-21**) which will be done by Elijah who must come before the Day of the Lord (**Mal. 4:5; Matthew 17:11**).

A son of man cannot sit next to God (**Ex 33:20**). Thus, Jesus will never again return to earth as a son of man, in a mortal body (**1 Cor 15:54; Acts 13:33-34; Isa 25:8; Rev 1:18**); He will never again wear this body of humiliation which will have made Him an Atoning Sacrifice for all humanity (**Phil 2:7-8; 3:21; Matt 20:28; Heb 2:17; 12:2**)!

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III – ANOTHER SON OF MAN (2ND)

1) Identity of the 2nd Son of Man

The Coming of the Kingdom of God is closely linked to the appearing of a Son of Man (**Matthew 10:7,23; 24:33; Luke 21:31**). But ‘Who is this Son of Man’? (**John 12:34; Luke 17:22**)!

Through the mouths of the prophets Ezekiel and Malachi, Jehovah (who later became Jesus-1 **Cor 10:4**), said that He will send a Son of Man, a Prophet (**Ezek 2:1-5; 7:1- 10**), and Elijah, the Prophet (**Mal 4:5**) to the children of Israel at the end of the age, before the Day of the Lord, of the Eternal, lest His coming strike the land with utter destruction (**Mal 4:6**)!

This therefore means that Elijah, the prophet, and the Son of Man, a prophet, who are sent by Christ to the Israelites (physical and spiritual), at the same time (end times), and for the same work (warning), are one and the same person, “*For God is not a God of disorder, but of peace.* » (**1 Cor 14:33**). He only uses one man as Leader, for a specific task!

Editor’s Note:

Are you forgetting that there will be two witnesses warning people in the end times? Laura Lee

Also in **Luke 17:22-37**, Jesus announced to his disciples the coming in the end times which resemble the times of Noah and Lot, of a son of man whom these first disciples would not see (**V22**), since they all died in the first century.

They nevertheless saw and heard Jesus as the Son of Man for 3.5 years (**Luke 7:34; 10:23-24**). They saw Him die on the cross and be buried (**John 19:26-30, 38-42**). They also saw Him as the Son of God after His Resurrection from the dead (**Matt 28:16-17**) and they will be with Him at His coming (**Zech 14:5; Rev 17:14**)!

The Son of Man described in **Luke 17:22-37**, cannot therefore be Jesus, Son of God since his resurrection (**Rom 1:4**), but Elijah the prophet who comes to restore all things in the Church, After the death of the spiritual Moses who was Herbert W Armstrong, and Before the coming of Christ (**Mal 4:4; Matt 17:11**).

Editor’s Note:

Saying that Herbert W. Armstrong was the spiritual Moses would be the opinion of the author. Also, Luke 17:22-37 is referring to Christ as the “Son of Man”. Read it in context. Laura Lee

In **Luke 18:8**, Jesus cried out, “*When the Son of Man comes (not returns), will He find faith on the earth?*”. Which Son of Man is Christ talking about? We have just seen that Christ is no longer the Son of Man since His resurrection, and that He will be accompanied by all the resurrected saints who have proven their faith (**Rev 14:1-5**)!

Editor’s Note:

You have in no way proven that Christ is not the “Son of Man”. Laura Lee

Again, the son of man that Jesus refers to in **Luke 18:8**, can only be the prophet Elijah (the 3rd) who will come in our days, which resemble the days of the 1st Elijah, when Israel was limping from side to side, as is the case today in the Church of God since the death of Herbert Armstrong in 1986 (**1 Kgs 18:21**)!

Editor’s Note:

The “Son of Man” referred to in Luke 18:8 is Christ. Also, it is true that Herbert Armstrong taught a lot of truth, but he also taught a lot of error or all the people claiming to be in the Church of God would be on the same page, but because of the error taught by Herbert Armstrong there is much confusion among those claiming to be in the Church of God. If you are truly in the Church of God you would stop making Herbert Armstrong into a god where even his error is truth and you would instead study what God says in the Bible. Laura Lee

*The Son of Man (the second), is therefore Elijah, the prophet who must come in the name of the Lord (Jesus), to do preparatory work which will prevent the annihilation of the earth at the second Coming of Christ (**Mal 4:6**).*

*This is also why Jesus (who is no longer the Son of Man) must remain in heaven, at the right hand of the Father, until Elijah comes to restore and reestablish all things (**Acts 3:21; Mark 9:12**), in His devastated house, after the death of the Zerubbabel of the end times who was Armstrong. (**Zech 4:6-10**)!*

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Editor’s Note: Herbert Armstrong being Zerubbabel is also the opinion of the author. Laura Lee

2) Elijah (the 2nd son of man) Brings ZION

We know today from biblical revelation (**Jn 14:26; 16:13; Rev 1:1; 22:10**) that this end-time generation son of man, who is also a physical descendant of David (**Mal 4:5-6; Mat 17:11; 2 Sam 7; Mk 9:2**), was to suffer greatly from illness and be rejected (**Luke 17:25; Ez 3:24-27**); he was to die before miraculously returning to physical life, to raise up God’s nation Zion, which will bring down Babylon (**Job 14:13; Ps 30:1-4; 40:1-4; Luke 17:24-37**)!

Editor’s Note: When there is much error in an article, it throws the entire article off. Laura Lee

NB: The Passover in Egypt, had triggered events that ended with the annihilation of Pharaoh and his troops in the waves of the Red Sea. Likewise, the birth of the physical Nation of God in one day will precipitate the collapse of the present system of this wicked world (Babylon). God said, *“I will shake the heavens and the earth, I will overthrow the throne of the kingdoms, and I will destroy the power of the kingdoms of the nations.”* (**Ag 2:21-22**) – *“...The God of heaven will raise up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, nor will it come under the dominion of another people; he will shatter and annihilate all those kingdoms, and he himself will stand forever.”* (**Dan 2:44**)!

IV – THE TWO ADVENTS

1) – Visibility

a- The Coming of the Kingdom of God will not be visible

* *“The Kingdom of God does not come with a sight.”* (**Luke 17:20**),

* *“For behold, the Kingdom of God is within you.”* (**Luke 17:21**),

* *“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field...the field is the world; the good seed are the children of the Kingdom.”* (**Matthew 13:31,38**),

* *“...on the day the Son of Man is revealed...in that night, two people will be in one bed; one will be taken and the other left...wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together.”* » (**Luke 17:30,34-37**),

* *“He will send his angels...and they will gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”* (**Matthew 24:31**).

NB: The Unexpected and Miraculous Arrival of the 'true' son of man (Elijah) who brings the Physical Nation of God onto the world stage (**Is 66:7-8; Matt 24:44; Luke 21:34-35; 1 Thes 5:2**), **will shake up all of humanity**, since it will be a well-known man, who would have died a few years before, and who will come back to physical life (**will resurrect or will sprout**) **where he was buried** (**Ps 30:1-4; 40:1-4; Zec 6:12**); after his return to physical life, he will be surrounded by a few people, equally known, from all continents, who will find themselves instantly and miraculously at his side without the help of any known means of transport, even the most quick and sophisticated (**Zec 3:8; Dan 2:34,45; Jer 3:14; Deut 30:4; Mk 13:27; Luke 17:30,34-37**).

This extraordinary event will be relayed across the entire planet Earth, from East to West, by all modern media (internet, television, radio, telephone, social networks, etc.), which did not exist in the first century and which are Waves like Lightning (**Is 45:5-6; Matth 24:27; Luke 17:24**).

The whole world will be amazed to see **“A Revenant surrounded by the people who were just moments ago, sleeping in their bed, or cooking in their kitchen, or working in their field, thousands of miles away.”**, according to time zones! » (**Luke 17:34-36**)!

People will not notice when the Son of Man will be resurrected to physical life (**Ps 30:1-4; 40:1-4**), after having suffered sickness (**Luke 17:25**), and having disappeared by death, for a moment (**2 Thes 2:7; Job 14:13**); nor will they notice when the angels will gather the physical elect of the Nation of God, to bring them to where the Son of Man returned to physical life will be (**Luke 17:34-37**)

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It is this event that Traditional Christianity has always called '**the Rapture**' which in reality is the Birth of the Physical Nation of God in one day! (**Isa 66:7-8**): the gathering of the physical elect will be done by the Angels (eagles or vultures) who will bring them to where 'the body' will be, that is to say the son of man who is Elijah, returned to physical life (**Luke 17:30,34-37; De 30:4; Mk 13:27**)!

Editor's Note:

Most of this is fiction made up by the author. Laura Lee

b- The Coming of Christ will be visible

* *"Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky; and all the peoples of the earth will weep as they see the Son of man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."* (**Matth 24:30**).

NB: In these verses, it is not a question of the son of man, Elijah who comes before heavenly signs (**Matth 24:27**), but of Jesus, the Son of God who comes after those signs; if Jesus, talking about his second comings often used the expression "Son of Man", it's only because he still was in flesh, fulfilling his mission (**Luke 7:34; Jn 4:34**). He was not yet died and raised from death as "The Son of God" (**Rom1:3-4**).

Editor's Note:

Christ is the Son of Man whether he was flesh or spirit after the resurrection. Laura Lee

Moreover, God has created man at His Resemblance (**Gen 1:26**); so, in some visions, the Father and Jesus are described resembling at Son of Man (**Ez 1:26-27; Rev 1:13; Dan 7:13**), however they are God, then Spirit (**Jn 4:24; 2 Cor 3:17**)

Matthew 24:30 just talk about "the sign of the Son of Man"! This sign is explained in **Revelation 19:11-13**, and cannot correspond to a son of man in the flesh: *"His eyes were like a flame of fire."* (**V12**) – Refer to **Revelation 1:14**).

* *"Look, he is coming on the clouds! Everyone will see him..."* (**Rev 1:7**).

NB: Jesus will return in human likeness, while being God, as when He was resurrected from the dead (**Jn 20:26-29**). His coming will be seen by all humanity; He will be accompanied by His Bride, the resurrected Saints (gods) to establish the Millennial Reign, after the annihilation of the beast, the false prophet, and their armies gathered for war in Jerusalem (**Zec 14:1-5; Rev 17:15; 19:11-21; 20:4**).

2) - The Work of Angels

a) - The Angels will gather the Physical Elect of the Nation of God or Physical Kingdom of God (SION)

****"He will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."* (**Matthew 24:31**)

NB: These elect, gathered by the angels, can only be physical, since it is because of them that God will shorten or cut short the 'Global Genocide,' that is, the extinction of all life on earth through human folly (**Matthew 24:22**)!

Editor's Note:

The elect gathered by the angels will be changed to spirit as they are resurrected so they are not physical beings being gathered by the angels. See 1 Cor. 15:52

1Co 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. (KJV) Laura Lee

* *"When you are exiled to the farthest corners of heaven, the Lord your God will gather you from there and fetch you from there."* (**Deut. 30:4**),

* *"I will take you, one from a city, two from a family, and bring you to Zion."* (**Jer. 3:14**),

NB: Zion is the physical Nation of God which will be born in one day, like a grain of mustard seed, after the return to

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physical life of the son of man, who is Elijah (**Ps 87; Is 66:7-8; Matth 13:31,38**),

"In that night two people will be in one bed; one will be taken and the other left...wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together."* (Luke 17:34-37**),

NB: This is not about the resurrection of the dead, it is about the birth of the physical Nation of God in one day, by a gathering of the physical elect by the angels, who will bring them to where the (resurrected) body will be, that is to say the son of man returned to physical life; this is what Christianity commonly calls, "**the Rapture**", as has been said!

The Greek word for *Eagle* also means *Wind* or *Flight*; in **Psalms 104:4** and **Hebrews 1:7**, Angels are called Winds!

So, it is the Angels who will gather the handful (mustard seed) of the elect of the Kingdom or of the physical Nation of God scattered in the 4 corners of the globe, because they will still be physical, and therefore will need supernatural assistance to find themselves almost at the same time in the place where Elijah will be, the son of man **who will resurrect or sprout where he was buried (Zec 3:8; 6:12; Ps 30:3-4)**!

The Rapture of the physical elect by angels is therefore not a myth, as some in the Church of God believe. It is a biblical reality, and not the first:

Editor's Note:

The Bible calls it a resurrection throughout. The word rapture is never used in the bible. You are making things up and preaching them as truth. Laura Lee

- **Elijah** (physical) was raptured or transported to another place (**2 Kings 2:3, 11**),

- **Jesus** (physical) was transported by Satan, an angel (**Luke 4:5, 9**)!

b) - The Angels will not gather the Resurrected Saints,

** "We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we will be changed."* (**1 Cor 15:51-52**),

** "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."* (**John 3:8**),

NB: The resurrected saints, that is to say born again in the blink of an eye, will have become gods (**Ps 82:6; Luke 20:36; John 10:34**); they will then have Autonomy of Movement and will not need angels to gather together.

** "For the Lord himself...will descend from heaven with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive...will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air."* (**1 Thess 4:16-17**),

** "After three and a half days the spirit of life from God entered into them (the 2 Witnesses), and they stood on their feet...And they heard a voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here!" And they went up into heaven in a cloud..."* (**Rev 11:11-12**),

NB: The resurrected Christ was also taken up to heaven without the assistance of angels. On the other hand, Satan (fallen angel) transported him during his temptation, to the top of the temple in Jerusalem, and to a high mountain, because he was physical (**Matthew 4:5,8**)!

** "The Lord, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven..."* (**Mark 16:19**),

** "While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven."* (**Luke 24:51**),

** "After he had said this, he was taken up...and a cloud took him out of their sight."* (**Acts 1:9**),

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NB: The resurrected saints, like Christ, ascend to heaven without the help of angels, and a cloud covers them, since, having become gods, their divine splendor risks killing all the men who see them in their splendor (**Dan 12:3; Matth 13:43; Ex 33:20!**)

3) - The Trumpets

a) -The Resounding Trumpet, for the gathering of the physical Elect of the Nation of God, will be sounded by ordinary Angels (several angels - **Matthew 24:31**). They will then gather the elect, where there will be the body of the son of man (2nd), who is also a descendant of David, returned to physical life (**Luke 17:34-37; Ps 30:1-4; 40:1-3!**)

b) - The Trumpet of the Resurrection of the Saints, which is the last trumpet of God to be sounded (1 Cor 15:52), will be sounded by the voice of an Archangel (a single angel - **1 Thess 4:16; Rev 10:7!**)

4) - Before the 2 Advents

a) - Before the advent of the son of man (Elijah) which is very close and **which precedes the Day of the Lord (Mal 4:5)**, men today are carefree and do not suspect anything (**Matth 24:39**), they go about their usual occupations which are: eating, drinking, marrying, planting, building, selling, buying, as it happened in the times of Noah and Lot, they lead in some way the "Good Life". (**Luke 17:26-29!**)

b) - Before the advent of the Son of God (Jesus), which will take place **after the Day of the Lord**, it will no longer be the Dolce Vita, because men will suffer greatly, and will "*bite their tongues in pain*", because of the ulcers that the plagues of the Day of God's wrath will cause them, and they will blaspheme the God of heaven (**Rev 16:8-11**). It will no longer be the "Good Life", but Calvary!

5) - After the 2 Advents

a) - When Elijah, the son of man, arrives on the world scene with the physical Nation of God, God will then begin to shake the world, as in the times of Noah and Lot (**Hag 2:6-7; Luke 17:26-30!**)

- The Flood did not occur until after Noah and his family had entered the ark (**Luke 17:27**).

- The rain of fire and sulfur did not fall on Sodom until after Lot and his family had left (**Luke 17:29**).

- Likewise, God will not begin to shake the world, until Elijah, the son of man (2nd) appears with the physical Nation of God, and they go to the place of refuge in Galilee, on Mount Zion, which is Hermon (**Isaiah 66:7-8; Exodus 15:17; Deuteronomy 4:48; Ezekiel 34:12-14; Isaiah 4:5-6; Isaiah 33:16!**)

b) - When Jesus, the Son of God, comes with His Bride, the resurrected saints, God will put an end to a shaken world, by establishing the Millennial reign (**Rev 16:17; 19:11-21; 20:4!**)

CONCLUSION

(a) - **Elijah**, who is to come and restore all things before the day of the Lord (**Mal. 4:5-6; Matt. 17:11**), who is the son of man who is to appear before the fall of Babylon (**Ezek. 7:2; 2:3,5; Luke 17:22-30**), and who is finally the descendant of David who is to raise his tent from its fall (**2 Sam. 7:12; Am. 9:11**), is the one who brings the Kingdom of God (**2 Chr. 13:8**); this kingdom will suddenly be born like a grain of mustard seed in the world, in our days (**Matt. 13:31,38; Isa. 66:7-8; Luke 17:34-37; Jer. 3:14**). It is this Nation that Elijah, under the direction of Christ, will bring to the place of Refuge (**Zec 9:14-15; Is 52:11-12; Mic 2:13; 7:15-17**), on the high mountains of Galilee, and more precisely on Mount Hermon (**Ex 15:13-17; De 4:48; Abd 17; Is 4:5-6; Ez 34:14; Ps 133**).

In the Church of God booklet "**Where Are Enoch and Elijah**," published in 1962 by Ambassador College, Dr. Hoeh wrote: "*The supernatural rapture of Elijah was a foreshadowing of the coming transfer of another man who, shortly before the day of the Lord, will fulfill the same mission as that accomplished by the original Elijah (Mal. 4:5-6)!*"

(b) - **Jesus Christ**, the Son of God, seated today at the right hand of the Father (**Acts 3:19-21; Heb. 8:1**), is the one who will bring about the Millennial Reign, after Elijah has restored all things (**Matthew 17:11**), and the Father has satisfied his long-held anger (Isa. 63:4) by the plagues of his Day (**Rev. 16:17; 19:11-21; 20:4!**)

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(c) - In Summary

- Elijah, the son of man of the end times will return to physical life, and will "Raise up" the Kingdom of God through the physical Nation of God that will be born in one day (**Isa 66:7-8; Dan 2:44**), **BEFORE** the Day of the Lord,

- Jesus, the Son of God is resurrected to immortality and will "Establish" the Millennial Reign through the spiritual Kingdom of God, composed of the resurrected saints (**144,000-Rev 14:1-5**), his Bride (**Rev 20:4**), **AFTER** the Day of the Lord!

In the Name of Jesus Christ!
Paul Janvier Mbock (**Avoicecriesout**)

Editor's Note:

Because there is so much biblical error in this article, it should be looked at as mostly fiction. What little truth is in this article is made unbelievable due to all the false points which are made throughout the article. Laura Lee

A Revival of Hatred

(Copyright 06-04-2025) by Joseph B. Baity (Charlotte, North Carolina)



On May 8, 2025, [the world](#) witnessed the eightieth anniversary of the Allied victory in Europe over the Axis forces led by Adolph Hitler's Nazi Germany. Though Hitler and his minions committed untold atrocities against humanity, the greatest

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of these was the Holocaust, the barbaric extermination of over six million Jews. Sadly, the same malevolent tenets of antisemitism that inspired the Holocaust have experienced a resurgence in Western civilization, spurring a new movement of violent opposition to Jews and the modern nation of Israel.

Antisemitism can be defined as unfounded animosity or hostility against Jews and Jewish institutions, resulting in discrimination, stereotyping, and violence to prevent Jews from taking their rightful place as equal members of society.

The origins of antisemitism date back to biblical times with the bad blood between Abraham's sons, Ishmael and [Isaac](#) (Genesis 16; 21:8-21), and later conflicts between his grandsons, Jacob and Esau ([Genesis 25:21-23](#); [26:34-35](#); 27). The [Old Testament](#) chronicles many manifestations of the acrimony that followed between their descendants ([Amos 1:11](#); [Psalm 83:1-6](#)). In addition, history is replete with examples of Jewish persecution from ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome, and other nations.

Following Jesus Christ's crucifixion at the instigation of the Jews, great enmity arose between them and the Christian church, which worked tirelessly—and beyond the fourth century, even violently—to convert them to Christianity. The anti-Jewish mindset morphed into many different forms of bigotry and oppression from the Middle Ages through the Enlightenment and into the twentieth century, encompassing religious, economic, racial, ideological, and cultural discrimination.

Today, the descendants of Ishmael and Esau likely established the Arab/Muslim nations of the Middle East, with a particular focus on controlling Palestine, the modern home of the State of Israel. From 1517 to the end of World War I, the Muslim-controlled Ottoman Empire did just that.

But the world changed significantly after the last century's two world wars.

Following the defeat of the Ottoman Empire in World War I, the British gained control over Palestine. Zionism—encouraging Jewish migration into Palestine—rose to prominence, primarily as a result of Nazi persecution in Europe. Then with the defeat of the Nazis in World War II and the horrors of the Holocaust brought to light, antisemitism began to take on pejorative overtones, especially in the West, and its once-proud adherents and their bigoted practices started to wane.

Sympathy for the plight of the Jews grew, and in 1947, the United Nations partitioned Palestine into Jewish and Arab territories. In 1948, the modern State of Israel was founded in Palestine despite the protests of the Palestinian Arabs and most of the greater Arab community.

Though there have been innumerable, well-documented wars and skirmishes in and around Israel and Palestine ever since, Jews in the West enjoyed a sort of golden age well into the early 2000s, as antisemitism in both Europe and the U.S. seemed bound to become a relic of an ugly past.

Sadly, the golden age was short-lived. Ira Rifkin, in his article [“Anti-Semitism in the 21st Century”](#) for [MyJewishLearning.com](#), writes:

It is an irony of Jewish life that it took the Holocaust to give anti-Semitism a bad name. So widespread was international revulsion over the annihilation of six million Jews that following World War II anti-Semitism, even of the polite variety, became the hatred one dared not publicly express. But only for a time.

At the dawn of the 21st century, virulent, open anti-Semitism has surfaced yet again, and in a big way. One need only read a Jewish newspaper or website-replete as they are with accounts of verbal anti-Semitism by high officials and intellectuals, and anti-Semitic physical attacks by common street thugs-to understand the depth of concern this has stirred among Jews.

Over the past several decades, Israel, Israelis, and Jews have been frequent victims of violent aggression by the Palestinians and other Muslim-Arab terrorist groups, like the Palestinian Liberation Organization, Fatah, Hezbollah, Hamas, Al Qaeda, ISIS, et al. Typically, Israel defended its borders and citizenry efficiently and thoroughly while displaying great restraint to prevent excess civilian deaths among their enemies. This policy of restraint often prevented

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the Israelis from exercising the level of force they desired to punish their attackers adequately and prevent further aggression. However, after the brutal and horrific surprise attack by Hamas from Gaza on October 7, 2023, Israeli leaders felt pressured to cast off most restraint to eliminate the presence of Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

This Israeli determination resulted in a protracted, violent war and the decimation of virtually all semblance of Gazan civilization. Today, the battle rages on.

The world, however, has grown weary of the never-ending conflict and the inevitable violence that accompanies it. Noah Feldman, a Jewish journalist writing for *Time*, writes in his February 27, 2024 article, “[The New Antisemitism](#)”:

In the months following Hamas’ attack on Israel on October 7, 2023, antisemitic incidents increased substantially. The Anti-Defamation League [ADL], which keeps track, says they tripled in the US over the previous year, although its criteria also changed to include anti-Zionism. But from 2019 to 2022, the amount of people with highly antisemitic attitudes in the US had nearly doubled, the ADL found. In Europe, Human Rights Watch warned in 2019 of an “alarming” rise in antisemitism, prompting the European Union to adopt a strategic plan for fighting it two years later.

Further, Feldman states:

Instead of disappearing among people who would condemn neo-Nazis, antisemitism is morphing right now, before our very eyes. The core of this new antisemitism lies in the idea that Jews are not a historically oppressed people seeking self-preservation but instead oppressors: imperialists, colonialists, and even white supremacists. This view preserves vestiges of the trope that Jews exercise vast power.

Indeed, while many observers focus on left-wing protesters and activists targeting the Jewish community, a growing number of right-wing extremists—reminiscent of 1930s Nazi propaganda—spread unfounded rumors that Jews exercise untold power and influence over worldwide banking and political institutions in the U.S., Europe, Russia, China, and beyond.

Antisemitic fervor, primarily driven by Islamic hatred for Israel and supported by Western media, has found a potent breeding ground on the college campuses of Europe and the U.S. Ironically, the highly regarded schools of the Ivy League in America, once bastions of Israeli support, have turned into danger zones for Jewish students. Recently, violent, anti-Israel protests at Columbia University spilled onto the streets of New York City. They likely were a catalyst for the murders on May 21 of two young Israeli Embassy staffers as they left the American Jewish Committee’s ACCESS Young Diplomats Reception by a pro-Palestinian terrorist who shouted, “Free, free Palestine,” as police were carrying him away.

On that same night, in another part of New York City, Judge Michael Mukasey, former Attorney General of the U.S., spoke at the twentieth anniversary of the opening of the Jewish Children’s Museum, named for Ari Halberstam, a murder victim in a 1994 terror attack on the Brooklyn Bridge. The following is an excerpt from [his speech](#):

It’s hard to believe that it has been 31 years since Ari Halberstam was murdered in an act of antisemitic terrorism—and it is indeed hard—it is harder still to believe that we are living in the midst of a widespread resurgence of antisemitism, not only around the world, but also in our own country, where many of us—and I include myself—believed that although there might be occasional antisemitic incidents, antisemitism would never become a widespread phenomenon. Oh boy, were we wrong.

As an anti-Semitic fever besets the globe, and especially the West, unlike any time since World War II, observant Christians ([Matthew 24:32-33](#); [Luke 21:34-36](#)) should recall the critical role that the city of Jerusalem, amid the Holy Land, played throughout biblical times and the prophetic role it will play in end time events and beyond ([Isaiah 33:20-22](#); [Jeremiah 9:10-12](#); [Revelation 21:2-7](#)). War in this part of the world and persecution of the Jewish race have been all too common throughout history ([Matthew 24:1-8](#)). Eventually, though, the hatred, violence, and persecution will synchronize with other prophetic events ([Daniel 11:41](#); [12:11](#); [Matthew 24:15-29](#); [Luke 19:43](#), 21:20) to usher in the [second coming](#) of [Jesus Christ](#) ([Matthew 24:30-31](#)).

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1860s Nihilists, 1960s Hippies and 2025 Rioters (Copyright 06-11-2025) by Curtis Dahlgren (Stephenson, Michigan)

"Religion was to be replaced by the *exact sciences*, family life by free love, private property by collectivism... "
– Encyclopedia Britannica, 1910

IN VIEW OF the violent rioting in California and other places, it's past time to republish the following excerpts from my March 20, 2022, column.

"NIHILISM, the name commonly given to the Russian form of revolutionary Socialism, which had at first an **academical** character, and rapidly developed into an anarchist revolutionary movement." [The following quotes are all from the Encyclopedia Britannica, 11th edition (1910), with my emphasis throughout.]

"It originated in the early years of the reign of Alexander II, and the term was first used by Turgeniev in his celebrated novel, *Fathers and Children*, published in **1862 [three years after Darwin published *Origin*]**. Among the students of the universities and the higher technical schools Turgeniev had noticed a new and strikingly original type – young men and women in slovenly attire, who called in question and ridiculed the generally received convictions ['faith'] and respectable conventionalities [mores'] of social life and **talked of reorganizing society on strictly scientific principles.**

"They reversed the traditional order of things even in trivial matters of external appearance, the males allowing the hair to grow long and the female adepts cutting it short and adding sometimes the additional badge of blue spectacles. Their appearance, manners and conversation were apt to shock **ordinary** people, but to this they were profoundly indifferent, **for they had raised themselves above the level of so-called public opinion**, despised ['Philistine'] respectability, and **rather liked to scandalize people still under the influence of what they consider antiquated prejudices.**

"For aesthetic culture, sentimentalism and refinement of every kind they had a profound and undisguised contempt. Professing extreme utilitarianism and delighting in paradox, they were ready to declare that a shoemaker who distinguished himself in his craft was a **greater man** than a Shakespeare or a Goethe . . .

"Thanks to Turgeniev, these young persons came to be known in common parlance as 'Nihilists,' though they never ceased to **protest against the term** as a calumnious nickname. According to their own account, they were simply earnest students who desired reasonable reforms, and the peculiarities in their appearance and manner arose simply from an excusable neglect of trivialities in view of graver interests.

"In reality, whatever name we may apply to them, they were the extreme representatives of a curious moral awakening and an **important intellectual movement among the Russian educated classes . . .** In material and ['moral'] progress Russia had remained behind the other European nations, and the educated classes felt, after the humiliation of the Crimean War [ala Vietnam], that the reactionary regime of the emperor Nicholas must be replaced by a series of drastic ['reforms']. **With the impulsiveness of youth and the recklessness of inexperience**, the students went in this direction much farther than their elders, and their reforming zeal naturally took **an academic, pseudo-scientific form.**

"Having learned the rudiments of [legal] positivism, they conceived the idea that Russia had outlived the **religious and metaphysical stages of human development and was ready to enter on the positivist stage [i.e., secular progressive]**. She ought, therefore, to throw aside all religious and metaphysical conceptions [such as God], and to regulate her intellectual, social and political life by the pure light of **natural science.**"

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Does any of this sound familiar to you yet? The Britannica goes on to say:

"Among the antiquated institutions which had to be abolished as obstructions to real progress, were religion, family life, private property, and centralized administration. Religion was to be replaced by the exact sciences, family life by free love, private property by collectivism, and centralized administration by a federation of independent communes.

"Such doctrines could not, of course, be preached openly under a paternal, [imperial] government, but the press censure had become so permeated with the prevailing spirit of enthusiastic liberalism, that they could be artfully disseminated under the disguise of literary criticism and fiction, and the public very soon learned the art of reading between the lines.

"The work which had perhaps the greatest influence in popularizing the doctrines was a novel called *Shto Dyelati?* ('What is to be done?'), written in prison by Tchernishevski, one of the academic leaders of the movement, and published with the sanction of the authorities...

"In the winter of 1861-1862 a high official wrote to a friend who had been absent from Russia a few months: 'If you returned now you would be astonished at the progress which the opposition – one might say, the revolutionary party – has made . . .'

"Certainly, the government was under the influence of the prevailing enthusiasm for [reform] for it liberated all the serfs, endowed them with arable land, and . . . was preparing other important reforms in a similar spirit . . . [but] the well-intentioned, self-confident young people to whom the term Nihilists was applied were not reasonable. They wanted an immediate, thorough-going transformation of the existing order of things according to the most advanced socialistic principles, and in their youthful, reckless impatience they determined to undertake the work themselves, independently of and in opposition to the government.

"As they had no means of seizing the central power, they adopted the method of endeavouring to bring about the desired political, social and economic changes by converting the masses to their views. They began, therefore, propaganda among the working population of the towns and the rural population in the villages.

"The propagandists were recruited chiefly from the faculty of physical science in the universities, from the Technological Institute, and from the medical schools, and a female contingent was supplied by the midwifery classes of the Medico-Surgical Academy . . .

"Some disguised themselves as artisans or ordinary laborers, and sought to convert their uneducated fellow-workmen in the industrial centers, whilst others settled in the villages as school-teachers, and endeavoured to stir up disaffection among the recently emancipated peasantry by telling them that the tsar intended they should have all the land, and that his benevolent intentions had been frustrated by the selfish landed proprietors and the dishonest officials.

"Landed proprietors and officials, it was suggested, should be got rid of, and then the peasants would have arable, pastoral and forest land in abundance, and would not have to pay any taxes. To persons of a certain education the agitators sought to prove that the general economic situation was desperate, that it was the duty of every conscientious citizen to help the people in such a dilemma, . . ."

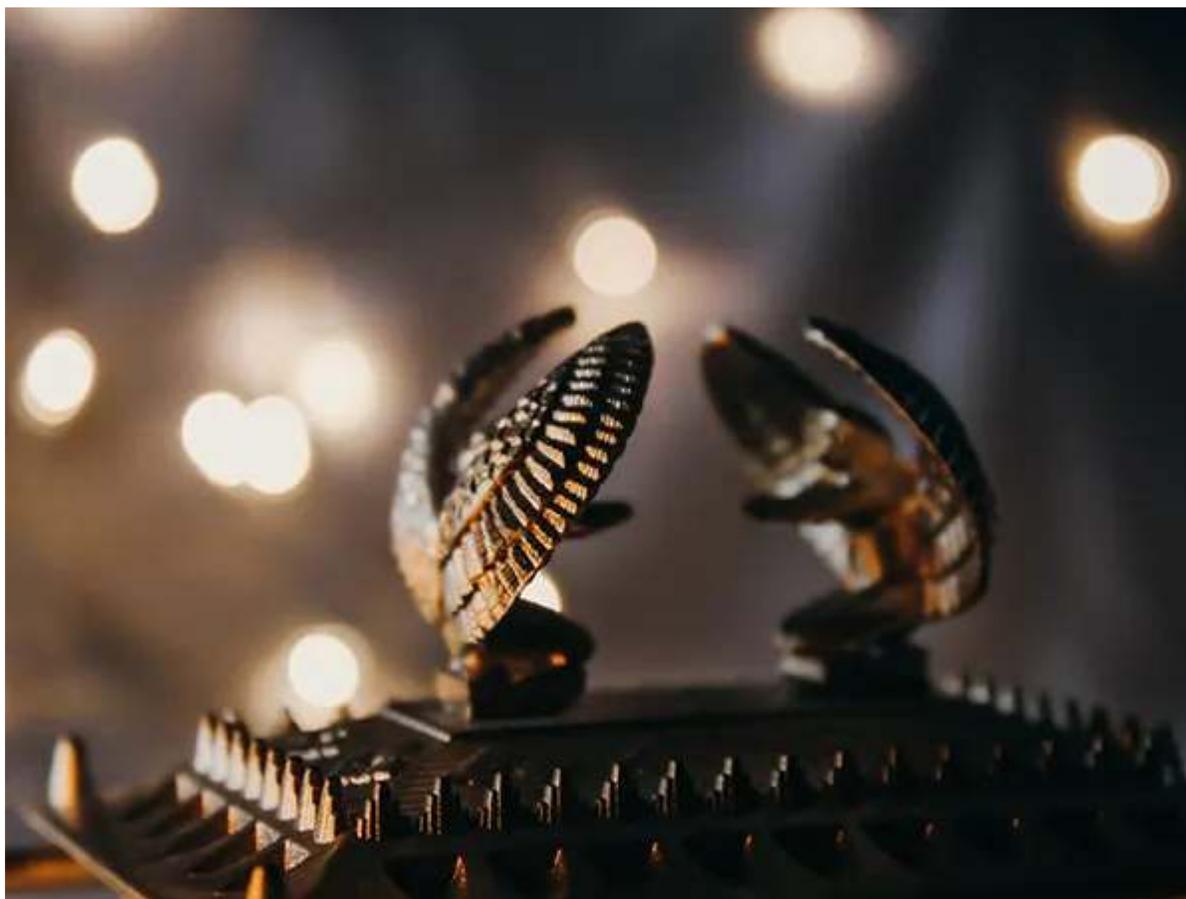
P.S. Shortly after the 1917 Revolution, Finland had a plan to go in and take out the Reds. The West vetoed the idea (and the rest is history). President Trump is committed to nipping the chaos in the bud. Otherwise, it could develop into the attempted revolution which the Communist Party USA has dreamed about for decades. Thank God he dodged a bullet in Butler, Pennsylvania. And we dodged a bullet in the 2024 election.

PPS: The precursors to the Bolsheviks, the 1860 Nihilists, sprouted just a few years after Darwin published Origin, and it was a thoroughly atheistic movement. They assassinated a Tsar in 1881, exactly 100 years to the month prior to the attempted assassination of President Reagan. The godless spirit of the Nihilists still lives. It's going to require a great Third Awakening in this country to make America great again.

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God Our Provider

(Copyright 06-13-2025) by Charles Whitaker (Charlotte, North Carolina)



One of God's names is *Yahweh Jireh*—the Ever-Living One, our Provider. Our Father supplies *all* our needs—what we need for our daily living as well as what we need to carry out *His* work. The story of the building of the Tabernacle of Meeting illustrates how **God** provides all we need to do His work. Today, this story serves as an encouraging example ([1 Corinthians 10:6](#)) to us as we actively collaborate with God in building another structure—His church.

The Tabernacle of Meeting was an important structure to God—it functioned as a portable Temple where He could dwell while His people trekked through the Wilderness of **Sin**. In a physical sense, the Tabernacle served as the focal point of their relationship with God:

When the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys. But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not journey till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the LORD was above the tabernacle by day, and fire was over it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel,

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throughout all their journeys ([Exodus 40:36-38](#)).

Similarly, God views His church as a building, a spiritual temple. In [1 Peter 2:5](#), the leading apostle of his day states that we are living stones "being built up [into] a spiritual house."

Paul also compares God's church to a building. In [1 Corinthians 3:9](#), he tells us that we are "God's building." In Ephesians, he develops the analogy between God's church and a building more thoroughly. He calls us

members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, [Jesus Christ](#) Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a habitation of God in the Spirit ([Ephesians 2:19-22](#)).

This spiritual Tabernacle is God's habitation, just as, physically, the Tabernacle of Meeting served as His habitation in the wilderness.

Building the Tabernacle

The story of the Tabernacle's construction teaches us a great deal about God's care for us. God gave at least the following four gifts to the children of Israel to ensure that they *could* complete His Work.

- God provided an explicit, clear **commission**. He told [Moses](#), "Let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them" ([Exodus 25:8](#)). He could not be much clearer about what He wanted done!

God went a step further by providing a means to fund, to finance, the building of the Tabernacle. He told Moses, "Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering" ([Exodus 25:2](#)). Verses 3 through 7 describe what that offering was to be—gold, silver, bronze, oil, spices, onyx stones, etc. God was aware that the Israelites were not poor; after all, with His help, they had just plundered the Egyptians ([Exodus 12:35-36](#))! Who knows how much treasure they had hidden among their luggage!

Just as He did with our forefathers in the wilderness, God has given each of us a clear commission: to grow, becoming strong parts of His Temple—pillars in it. Ours now is a spiritual work; ancient Israel's work was physical. However, in both cases, it is a work of building, edification, and growth. We are building, with God, the spiritual Temple to which Christ "will suddenly come" ([Malachi 3:1](#)).

- God provided a detailed **pattern** for building the Tabernacle and its furnishings. Part of His commission was to follow that pattern precisely. God stressed that Moses build the Tabernacle *exactly* to specifications: "According to all that I show you, that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it" ([Exodus 25:9](#)). These "blueprints" were substantial, taking about five chapters to outline. They are given from [Exodus 25:10](#) through [Exodus 30:38](#).

God has also given us the blueprints of the Temple we are building with His help. He has given us a whole Book of specifications, every word of which "is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" ([II Timothy 3:16-17](#)). Notice, God's Word is designed to make us fit for His *work*!

But God did not stop there! He has provided us with, as it were, a *living blueprint* to supplement His written Word. This, He has given to us in the person of Jesus Christ—the Logos. These two forms of God's revelation—the written and the living Word—agree with each other in every aspect. Jesus Christ is our pattern, our model. We are to become "conformed to the image of His Son" ([Romans 8:29](#)).

- God took special care to provide the children of Israel with a qualified **leader**. He told Moses:

See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in [wisdom](#), in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, to

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design artistic works. ([Exodus 31:2-4](#))

Who was Bezaleel? Was he a chief architect and designer of Raamses or Pithom, the treasure cities the children of Israel built while enslaved in Egypt ([Exodus 1:11](#))? Was he trained by the best artisans of Egypt? Of course, we cannot say for sure. What we do know is that he was an expert in his field. Now, once freed from Egypt, God called him and supplied him with wisdom *and* understanding *and* knowledge. More than all this, God imparted to him His Spirit along with another very important gift of God: "The ability to teach" ([Exodus 35:34](#)). Why all these blessings? So, Bezaleel could provide the instruction and leadership the other craftsmen needed to build the Tabernacle.

God even gave Bezaleel a lieutenant, apparently a second-in-command, to lead the other craftsmen. He informed Moses, "I, indeed I, have appointed with him Aholiab . . . of the tribe of Dan" ([Exodus 31:6](#)).

In this area as well, God has done His part for us today. He has supplied leaders filled with His Spirit, teachers with wisdom, understanding, and knowledge. The children of Israel had their Bezaleel; we have pastors. And, as Bezaleel had his Aholiab, our pastors have elders, deacons, and other converted leaders to assist within the congregation.

- God provided **His Spirit** to empower our forefathers to construct His Tabernacle and its furnishings. Of course, God did not give His Spirit to all the children of Israel at this time. But He did give it to the man He had called to lead the building of the Tabernacle, as [Exodus 31:3](#) indicates.

Today, God has given His Spirit not only to the ministry, but also to *all of us* as our Helper to do His work (*cf.* [John 15:26](#)). With it, we "are endued with power from on high" ([Luke 24:49](#)). The Father knows how essential that Spirit is if we are to grow and to complete the work. His Spirit gives us the power to *live* the way God wants us to live; it empowers us to be effective witnesses for God ([Acts 1:8](#)).

In short, just as God gave the ancient Israelites all they needed to complete the Tabernacle of Meeting, so He has given us all we need for our part in building the holy Temple, the church of God: a commission, directions, leadership, and power through His own Spirit.

Being Good Stewards

This instance is one of those rare, refreshing cases where the children of Israel serve as a *good* example. True, it was not a perfect example. After all, in this section running from Exodus 25 to the end of the book—right in the middle of all their efforts to construct the Tabernacle—Israel committed their first large-scale apostasy: the fashioning of the golden calves (Exodus 32-34). Moses had to come down from Mount Sinai to put the people back on track again. They had taken their eyes off God and started doing a *very wrong* work!

However, after Moses' intervention, notice what good use the children of Israel made of the gifts God had given them. They took God's commission seriously. He asked the people to give offerings, and they gave and gave and gave! So wholeheartedly did they do their part in God's work that Moses eventually had to rein in their enthusiasm. [Exodus 36:5-7](#) tells a story we do not hear very often. The craftsmen came

to Moses, saying, "The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work which the LORD commanded us to do." So, Moses gave a commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, "Let neither man nor woman do any more work for the offering of the sanctuary." And the people were restrained from bringing, for the material they had was sufficient for all the work to be done—indeed too much.

Not only did the people do God's will, but for once, they actually *did it His way*, following His specifications exactly:

All the work of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting was finished. And the children of Israel did according to all that the LORD had commanded Moses; so they did. . . . According to all that the LORD had commanded Moses, so the children of Israel did all the work. Then Moses looked over all the work, and indeed they had done it; as the LORD had commanded, just so they had done it. ([Exodus 39:32, 42-43](#))

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Yes, at this time, the members of the congregation in the wilderness were good stewards of the gifts God provided them (cf. [Luke 12:42-48](#)). As a result, God accepted their efforts. "Moses finished the work. Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle" ([Exodus 40:33-34](#)). God dwelt in the Tabernacle; His glory filled it.

Israel's First Love

Let's conclude by placing this incident in its broader historical context. Just before God gave Israel the assignment to build the Tabernacle, He had married them. God viewed the agreement He made with Israel, as recorded in [Exodus 23:20-24:8](#), as a *marriage covenant*. The prophet Isaiah pointedly told Israel, "Your Maker is your husband" ([Isaiah 54:5](#)). Jeremiah, in a passage where he called Israel to [repent](#), quotes God as He pleads, "Return, O backsliding children . . . for I am married to you" ([Jeremiah 3:14](#)).

But it is Ezekiel who, in one of the most poignant passages of his book, connects the Old Covenant with marriage:

When I passed by you again and looked upon you, indeed your time was the time of [love](#); so I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness. Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine. ([Ezekiel 16:8](#))

Jeremiah speaks in more detail about the relationship between God and Israel when Moses sprinkled the blood of animals to confirm the Old Covenant (cf. [Exodus 24:8](#)). In [Jeremiah 2:2-3](#), He speaks to a highly apostate and corrupt Judah some 850 years after the construction of the Tabernacle. The house of Israel was already in exile, and soon Nebuchadnezzar would carry the house of Judah captive into Babylon. Jeremiah quotes God as He fondly—almost wistfully—looks back in time, remembering Mount Sinai, remembering when the Old Covenant was confirmed:

I remember you, the [kindness](#) of your youth, the love of your betrothal, when you went after Me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown. Israel was [holiness](#) to the LORD, the firstfruits of His increase.

God actually said that "Israel was holiness" to Him! When they built the Tabernacle of meeting, physical Israel was probably closer to God than they ever were or would be in their history. In fact, they were in their first love! A fruit of their extremely close relationship with God was the properly finished Tabernacle. Israel submitted to its husband, *Yahweh Jireh*.

History bears witness to the fact that Israel made a colossal mistake by abandoning its first love. Let's not make the same mistake. God, living up to His name, has provided us with *everything* we need to complete His work. As ancient Israel pleased its husband through obedience, let's please Christ—soon to be the Husband of the church (cf. [Revelation 19:7](#) and [21:9](#))—by wholeheartedly carrying out the commission He has given to each of us. Let's grow "into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a habitation of God in the Spirit" ([Ephesians 2:21-22](#)).

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My Father Taught Me
that God is Really Real without Saying a Word
(Copyright 06-14-2025) by Eddie Hyatt (Grapevine, Texas)

When I was 11 years old my family was living on a farm near Tipton, Oklahoma where my dad worked as a farmhand making .50 cents per hour. Our family attended the Assembly of God church seven miles away in Tipton, and we were there every Sunday morning, Sunday night and Wednesday night.

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Becoming dissatisfied with his situation on the farm, Dad began making plans to move to Dallas, Texas and work as a bricklayer. But as he made his plans to move, he heard the Holy Spirit speak in his heart, "What about pastoring this church?"



This seemed like an impossibility for two reasons: First of all, the church had a pastor and he had given no hint that he planned to leave. Secondly, Dad knew that the people did not see him as a pastor. He was a farmhand with a fourth-grade education and on the lower end of the socio-economic scale in this "nice" church.

However, it sounded like God had spoken and 12 years before this he had experienced a supernatural call to the ministry but had never been able to find his niche. He decided to ask for confirmation, and said, "Lord, if this is you speaking to me, let this pastor resign before the first of the month."

He was shocked when he went to church the following Sunday and the pastor got up and announced his resignation. Knowing that God had spoken, Dad afterwards went to the church secretary and said, "I would like to submit my name to be the pastor of this church."

The church had a process in place for selecting a pastor and it consisted of allowing anyone who was interested to preach in a service and then afterwards the members of the church would vote. If the preacher got more than 50% of the votes, he would become the pastor. The secretary replied, "You are the first one to inquire so your name is at the top of the list."

About three days later, an older gentleman, who was the chairman of the board of deacons/elders, visited my dad and informed him that he had talked to all the members of the church. "We are all in agreement," he said, "That you are not qualified to be our pastor." He then asked Dad to withdraw his name for consideration because, he said, "No one will vote for you."

Well, what do you do now? God had clearly spoken for him to pastor this congregation, but now they are all in agreement that they do not want him as their pastor. He was between the proverbial "rock and a hard place."

Not being a politician with a plan to sway votes, Dad went to prayer. He prayed all night but heard nothing. What now? Do you throw in the towel and move on? Something inside would not let him quit, so he prayed all night the second night; but there was no voice, no guidance, and no direction.

Virtually everyone advised him to withdraw his name and forget about pastoring that church. One of his relatives poked fun, saying, "The Lord told Clarence to go plow, and he thought He said to go preach." The one voice of support came from my oldest brother, Harvey, who said to him, "Daddy, if God told you to do this, you better do it."

He prayed on, all night for the third night in a row. As morning dawned, he looked out a window and as the first rays of the morning sun shone in his face he was, in his words, "turned into another man." Suddenly he had no concern about

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what anyone thought of him. The only thing that mattered was being obedient to the call of God. He went out and found the secretary of the church and the chairman of the board of deacons/elders. He said to them, "Brethren, whatever you do is between you and God, but I have to go through with this." They said OK, and arranged for him to preach the following Sunday night.

I still remember the message that Sunday night, and there seemed to be special anointing from the Holy Spirit as he preached from Haggai 1:5, "Consider Your Ways." After finishing his sermon, he said to the congregation, "I have done what God asked me to do and it is now between you and God."

He then led our family out of the church to our home, now about one-half block away, where we waited to hear the results of the election. About one-half hour later, someone came from the church and told him he had been voted in as pastor with 100% of the vote. WOW!!

They then proceeded to explain that, after we left, Brother Cook, the chairman of the board who was emceeding the election, had gotten up before the congregation weeping and said, "Folks, I have been wrong about this man; he is supposed to be our pastor."

Everything suddenly changed. Hearts were melted across the congregation. And whereas everyone there had come prepared to vote against him every single member voted for him.

From that time forth, except for brief intervals between pastorates, my dad was in full time pastoral ministry for the rest of his life. The last church he pastored was the Assembly of God in Chicota, Texas, which he pastored for 27 years. One young man, Tony Boykin, who grew up under his ministry, wrote the following after his passing.

He had a profound impact on my life that changed me forever. My children and I can always say that our Christian life was helped to be framed by one of America's greatest pastors. I will forever believe that he will stand beside Moses, King David, Elijah, and Father Abraham. If any man has ever lived by Gods highest standards, it was the legendary C.H. Hyatt. I miss one of the best friends I have ever had.

So, I learned this most important lesson, not from a lecture, but from being there and seeing this unfold. I learned from that that God is really real, and that He does answer prayer in marvelous ways when we pray and obey.

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The Distorted Thinking Behind the Riots in Los Angeles (Copyright 06-14-2025) by Eddie Hyatt (Grapevine, Texas)

When Freedom is Turned into Lawlessness & Anarchy

Political supporters of the violent protestors insist that they are exercising their First Amendment rights of Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Assembly. This is a blatant distortion of those rights and America's founders warned this would happen with an amoral and irreligious people.

America's Founders knew that the success of the nation they had formed hinged on the moral character of its citizens and their ability to govern themselves. For example, President John Adams, in a 1798 speech, warned,

We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion . . . Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

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From the beginning, political liberty and Christian virtue were linked together in the minds of America's founding generation.



This is why John Dickinson, Founding Father and chairman of the committee that produced the Articles of Confederation, warned that, "when states lose their liberty, this calamity is generally owing to a decay of virtue."

Virtue is defined as "moral excellence" and America's Founding Fathers all agreed that only a virtuous people could handle freedom. They also knew that such a people would be the fruit of a vibrant Christianity. This was made clear by John Adams in a letter to his cousin, Zabdiel Adams, a minister of the Gospel, two weeks before the signing of the Declaration of Independence. He wrote,

Statesmen, my dear Sir, may plan and speculate for Liberty, but it is Religion and Morality alone, which can establish the principles upon which Freedom can securely stand. The only foundation of a free Constitution is pure virtue . . . You cannot therefore be more pleasantly or usefully employed than in the Way of your Profession, pulling down the strongholds of Satan.

When the Founders speak of "religion" they are speaking of Christianity, and they saw Christianity as offering the only moral and philosophical system that would undergird the nation they had formed. George Washington made this clear in his Farewell Address of 1796 after serving two terms as America's first president. Washington warned the young nation to guard against separating freedom from faith. He wrote,

Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are *indispensable* supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens.

Far from having a hostility or even indifference toward Christianity, America's Founders counted on a vibrant Christianity to be a rejuvenating moral and ethical force in American society.

They knew that unless the American people were a virtuous people, the freedoms they were implementing would be turned into anarchy and societal chaos. This is exactly what we see happening today with the violent anti-government, antisemitic, pro-Hamas protestors and their supporters claiming a constitutional right to free speech. This is the distorted thinking that is fueling these riots.

It is time for the American church to step up to the plate and be the spiritual rejuvenating force the Founders counted on her to be. Only then will our constitutional freedoms be preserved, for faith and freedom must coexist in America if either are to be preserved.

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When the Bible was King in America (Copyright 06-14-2025) by Eddie Hyatt (Grapevine, Texas)



The Bible was the most cherished and the most quoted book in early America. America's founding generation found in the pages of the Bible its moral compass, its guide for ethics, and the lens through which it viewed and interpreted all of life. It is, therefore, not surprising that the second most popular book in early America proposed a ceremony making the Bible America's king.

In January of 1776, Thomas Paine published his very popular book, *Common Sense*, in which he presented compelling arguments for independence from Great Britain. The book sold 500,000 copies, which would be like 60 million with today's population.

The book played a primary role in convincing the colonists to declare their independence from Great Britain. In the book, Paine suggested a public ceremony that would show that Americans had replaced King George with the Word of God as their king.

Paine suggested an Independence ceremony in which America's founding charter would be placed on a Bible and a crown placed on the charter. This would be a public demonstration that in the new nation the Law of God would be their king. He wrote,

But where says some is the King of America? I'll tell you Friend, he reigns above, and doth not make havoc of mankind like the Royal Brute of Britain. Yet that we may not appear to be defective even in earthly honors, let a day be solemnly set apart for proclaiming the charter; let it be brought forth placed on the divine law, the word of God; let a crown be placed thereon, by which the world may know, that so far as we approve as monarchy, that in America THE LAW IS KING.

This exact ceremony did not occur, but the same message was conveyed 11 years later when George Washington took the first presidential oath of office with his hand on a Bible. This act showed, that for Washington, the Bible was Supreme. When someone swears an oath, they swear by something greater than themselves. For Washington, the Bible was the highest tangible authority by which he could swear to uphold and defend the Constitution.

Editor's Note:

In the Church of God, we do not swear an oath on the bible or anything else. Instead, we "Affirm". Laura Lee

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A ten-year study to find where America’s founders got their ideas for America’s founding documents, found that they quoted the Bible far more than any other source. America’s second president, John Adams, one of the most learned men in America, believed that if the Bible were truly king, it would produce a utopian paradise on earth. He wrote,

Suppose a nation in some distant Region, should take the Bible for their only law Book, and every member should regulate his conduct by the precepts there exhibited. In this Commonwealth, no man would steal or lie, or in any way defraud his neighbor but would live in peace and good will with all men—no man would blaspheme his Maker or profane his worship, but a sincere and unaffected piety and devotion, would reign in all hearts. What a utopia, what a paradise would this region be.

The major role of the Bible in the founding of America was highlighted in a 1982 article in *Newsweek* magazine, entitled “How the Bible Made America.” The authors, in vivid fashion, showed the Bible’s impact on the founding of America and wrote,

For centuries, the Bible has exerted an unrivaled influence on American culture, politics, and social life. Now historians are discovering that the Bible, perhaps even more than the Constitution, is our founding document: the source of the powerful myth of the United States as a special, sacred nation, a people called by God to establish a model of society, a beacon to the world.

America is in trouble today. Sixty plus years of vehement attacks on the Bible and its removal from the public life of the nation have produced a large element in our culture that is crude, cruel, selfish and intolerant. America must revisit the role of the Bible in her rise to prominence and in defeating slavery at a time it was being practiced around the world. This is what I do in my soon-to-be-published book entitled, *The Book that Made America Great*. Watch for it.

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Wormwood

(Copyright 06-18-2025) by Gary C. Miller (Pocahontas, Arkansas)

“In 1968 at the MIT [Massachusetts Institute of Technology] a plan was designed to deal with the possibility of a giant meteor on a collision course with earth. This plan is named ‘Project Icarus’.”

This quote is from the movie “Meteor” (American International, 1979; starring Sean Connery). The theme of the movie centers on the possibility of a giant meteor colliding with earth.

“Project Icarus” was the result of scientists’ astute awareness that the earth is simply a “sitting duck”, cosmically speaking, for any stray asteroid-sized meteor heading our way.

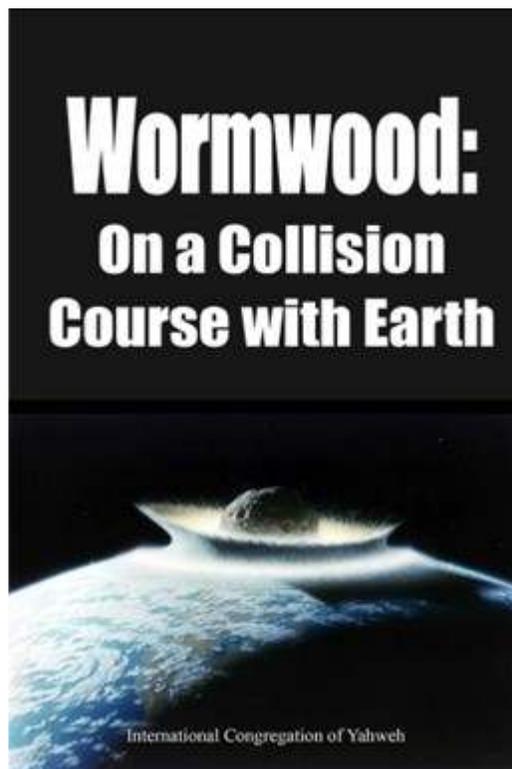
A meteor hurling at a cometary speed of around 108,000 miles per hour and colliding with earth could cause widespread devastation!

To counter such an eventuality, the movie depicted a cluster of nuclear-tipped rockets called Hercules, designed to attack this unwanted invader, breaking it into smaller chunks. These smaller parts then mostly burn up entering the earth’s atmosphere.

What is the likelihood of such an occurrence? Is such a cosmic encounter in the offing?

We should not hastily dismiss the idea. For in 1937, the asteroid Hermes came within 194,000 miles of earth (Advertisement for the movie “Meteor”). This is much closer than our moon’s mean orbital radius of 240,000 miles!

Hermes came inside the orbit of the moon!



On June 30, 1908, a meteor-calculated at forty-thousand tons-fell in the Tunguska River region of Central Siberia-at 60 degrees 56 minutes north latitude and 101 degrees 57 minutes east longitude (Worlds In Collision, Immanuel Velikovsky, Doubleday & Company, Inc., Garden City, N.Y.; 1950, p. 41).

The radioactive scars are there today (Stranger Than Science, Frank Edwards, Ace Books Inc., New York, 1959; pp. 220-224).

Something similar-but on a larger scale-could happen again!

The Bible says it WILL! The earth will again "capture" an asteroid-like meteor via their mutual gravitational attraction! It will be a "collision encounter" with target earth!

A Fire on the Moon

The earth-moon system had direct hits by huge meteors many times in the past. The pock-marked surface of the moon is mute testimony to this fact! The huge four-fifths mile wide Barringer Meteorite Crater (better known as Meteor Crater) southwest of Winslow, Arizona is a 600 feet deep meteoric wound from the past!

Emperor Maximilian and his court saw a stone fall from the sky in Ensisheim, Alsace, on November 7, 1492 (Velikovsky, p. 41).

Scientists believe the famed "Bays" of North and South Carolina, and Northern Georgia were formed long ago by a huge flaming mass blazing across the Midwest grazing the Blue Ridge Mountains at 150,000 miles per hour plowing into the earth devastating thousands of square miles! (Stranger Than Science, Edwards, p. 89).

The larger of these bays average 2200 feet across. Their most remarkable feature is their parallelism. According to Melton and Schriever (1933) of the University of Oklahoma, the bays are the result of a "meteoric shower or colliding comet." (see F. A. Melton and W. Schriever, "The Carolina Bays-Are They Meteorite Scars?" Journal of Geology, XLI (1933)).

A gigantic meteoric collision with the moon was even observed from the earth!

In the year 1178 A.D. five monks of Canterbury reported seeing a fire on the moon. The monk Gervase of Canterbury, who was keeping the chronicles of the cathedral and monastery, recorded this remarkable astronomical observation:

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“This year [1178 AD], on the Sunday before the birthday of St. John the Baptist [June 18], after sunset when the moon was first visible a marvelous sign appeared to some five or more men who were sitting there facing the moon. For the new moon was bright, and, in the usual manner of new moons, extending its horns to the east; and behold! suddenly the upper horn split in two. And from the middle of this division a flaming torch sprang up, casting fire, coals, and sparks a long distance...After these transformations, the moon from horn to horn-that is, for its whole length-became blackish...”

(The Search for Solution, Horace Freeland Judson; Holt, Rinehart, and Winston; New York, 1980, pp. 166-167)

In 1976, 798 years later, planetary scientist Jack Hartung compared this record with data from the lunar orbiter, the Apollo moon missions, and the Soviet Lunik 3 (1959 moon probe). He decided a huge new crater, Giordano Bruno, photographed by Lunik 3, may have been the result of what was apparently the meteor impact seen by the monks.

Other scientists confirmed Bruno could have been formed at about the time of the Canterbury sighting. Laser measurements of lunar motions also showed some wobbles in the moon’s rotation which “...are only explicable by a recent impact...” such as the collision which created Bruno (The Search for Solutions, Judson, pp. 166-168).

A direct hit created a crater 20 kilometers (about 12 miles) across on the lunar landscape in 1178 A.D. Hermes came close to earth in 1937.

Meteor showers are common sights about August 12 (the “Perseids”), October 20 (the “Orionids”), November 10 (the “Taurids”), and the flurry known as the “Geminids” about December 10 each year.

“...and the stars shall fall from heaven...(Matt. 24:29).”

Poetic metaphor or meteors falling?

Velikovsky

In 1950 a bold hypothesis was presented in the pages of the book, *Worlds in Collision* written by Immanuel Velikovsky (Doubleday & Company Inc.; Garden City, New York).

The controversy he sparked continues to this day.

Notice how he summarizes his conjecture:

“Harmony or stability in the celestial and terrestrial spheres is the point of departure of the present-day concept of the world as expressed in the celestial mechanics of Newton and the theory of evolution of Darwin. If these two men of science are sacrosanct, this book is heresy. However, modern physics, of atoms and of the quantum theory, describes DRAMATIC CHANGES in the microcosm-the atom-the prototype of the solar system; *a theory, then, that envisages not dissimilar events in the macrosogm-the solar system-brings the modern concepts of physics to the velestial sphere* (Worlds in Collision, Velikovsky, preface, p. vii).”
[Emphasis mine]

Velikovsky developed a kind of “kinetic theory of the cosmos” somewhat akin to the kinetic theory of gases in which collisions between molecules account for temperature and pressure.

In his scheme, planets, comets, and asteroids collide in the cosmic interplay of natural order. Planetary-scale collisions are no surprise in such a scenario:

“In the middle of the second millennium before the present era, as I intend to show, the earth underwent one of the greatest catastrophes in its history. A celestial body that only shortly before had become a member of the solar system-a new comet-came very close to the earth. The account of this catastrophe can be reconstructed from evidence supplied by a large number of documents.”

(Velikovsky, p. 48)

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This thesis forms the basis on which scores of references are netted together. An earth passing through the throes of continental upheavals caused by celestial collisions fills Velikovsky's book.

The gradualism, or principle of uniformity, of Darwin is replaced by mighty sudden changes in climate and geography. East and west are reversed by rotational change (pp. 105-120).

The uniformity theory that only gradual changes in the past account for present circumstances, first advocated by Hutton (1795) and later by Larmarck (1800) was raised to the level of a scientific law by Charles Leyell. Charles Darwin used Leyell's principle as the basis of his theory of evolution. (Earth in Upheaval, Immanuel Velikovsky, Doubleday & Company, Inc., Garden City, N.Y.; 1955, p. 23-26).

The uniformity doctrine is at a loss to explain the obvious sudden demise of mammoths in Siberia, for example.

Of the many unearthed, one found in Beresovka, Siberia, eight hundred miles west of Bering Strait even had its eyeballs intact (Earth in Upheaval, Velikovsky, pp. 227-229):

“A fractured hip and fore limb, a great mass of clotted blood in the chest, and unswallowed grass between the clenched teeth, all point to the violence and suddenness of its passing.” (R. S. Lull, Organic Evolution, [revised ed.; 1929], p.376).”

The earth and its inhabitants have obviously met with violent discontinuities on a scale hard for us to imagine today. Amid the quiet of long centuries of geological calm which have followed, many have come to believe in a future equally serene.

But what does the Book of books tell us about what's ahead and why?

Where are we headed cosmically? Or what is headed toward us? The Bible has much to say on this vital matter! The placating religion of unrepentance will not help in the troublous times ahead!

The Bible Speaks

The prophecies of coming geological cataclysms are found in many scriptures. The highly graphic details of these prophecies are often masked by many as “spiritual symbols” with no real-world meaning nor as depicting honest-to-goodness actual events.

But make no mistake about it, the Bible forcefully and plainly shows what cataclysms will AGAIN happen to this earth to punish the sinful iniquitous people who live on it!

Notice!

“And I will punish the world for their evils, and the wicked for their iniquity...(Isa. 13:11).”

“Therefore ***I will shake the heavens***, and the *earth shall remove out of her place* [“...will be **shaken** out of its place...” RSV, Good News Bible;

Strong's 7493, 'shaken' means “undulate”], in the wrath of *Yahweh* of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger (Isa. 13:13, KJV).”

Now that is specific and cataclysmic! Moving the earth “out of her place” is an orbital change-***an event not witnessed since this prophecy was given!*** It is therefore **yet to occur!**

Imagine, if you can, the magnitude of the force necessary to move a mass the size of the earth out of its orbit!

Forces great enough to do that would certainly “...lay waste the earth and make it desolate,...and...*twist its surface* [“...turneth it upside down...” KJV] and scatter its inhabitants (Isa. 24:1; RSV).”

Yahweh is not kidding around! These are **real events!** And **He** says **He** is going to do it because of the *wickedness* of those dwelling on the earth.

Staggering Earth

Mighty forces will stagger the earth as it hurls through space at over 66,600 miles per hour:

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“The earth is utterly broken down, the earth is clean dissolved, the earth is *moved exceedingly*. The earth shall **reel to and fro like a drunkard**,...and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it *shall fall* and not rise again (Isa. 24:19,20).”

A drunk goes along an irregular path. The direction of his walk changes as he teeters side-to-side. *Yahweh* says the earth’s motion is destined to become just like the staggering trek of a drunk!

The earth’s rotation will also speed up! Notice what Amos recorded:

“And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Master *Yahweh*, that I will cause the **sun to go down at noon**...(Amos 8:9).”

If the sun sets at noon time, it must spin on its axis twice as fast as it does now!

What awesome mind-boggling times are ahead! These are sure prophecies, which help us easily understand **why** *Yahshua* himself proclaimed:

“For then shall be **great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

And *except those days be shortened, there should no flesh be saved*: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened (Matt. 24:21-22).”

Do you grasp the full impact of these prophecies?

Do they give you pause?

Think about it!

The earth will be wobbling *out of control* and headed for **total disaster!**

All flesh will be in danger of extinction!!!

Unless *Yahweh* intervenes at that time **and quick**, the final gasps of the whole human race will come at once, the aspirations of the great and small will end together, millennia of human effort in the arts, the sciences, and industry will be little more than vestigial rubble!

Suddenly the earth will verge on repeating a former beginning-back to Genesis 1:2: “The earth was formless and desolate (NJB).”

“I looked to the earth-it was a formless waste; to the heavens, and their light had gone.

I looked to the mountains-*they were quaking* and **all** the hills *rocking to and fro*.

I looked-there was no one at all, the very birds of heaven had fled.

I looked-the fruitful land was a desert, **all** its towns in ruins before *Yahweh*, before his burning anger.

For this, the earth will go into mourning and the heavens above grow dark, For I have spoken, I have decided, **I shall not change my mind or go back on it** (Jer. 4:23-26,28 NJB).”

Ominous times are ahead! They will happen for *Yahweh* will have **had it** with iniquity, transgressions, and sins!

Will Earth Survive?

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Unless there truly is a great Creator who is involved in the affairs of mankind, one who is ready to snatch us from the brink of oblivion, this planet (Gr. “wandering star”) in a solar system of an average-sized star is destined to become a lifeless cinder. It would wonder through space with a past but no future—a noble experiment that failed!

Will the earth and some remnant of the population survive?

Yes!

There is hope!

Notice!

“...but for the *elect’s sake* those days *shall be shortened* (Matt. 24:22).”

Just short of total annihilation as “...a firebrand plucked out of the burning:...(Amos 4:11).”, *Yahweh* will stop what would otherwise be the death knell of us all!

“Yes, *Yahweh* has said this, ‘The whole country (“...whole earth...” Good News Bible) will be laid waste, though I **shall not annihilate it completely** (Jer. 4:27 NJB).”

Why?

For the elect’s sake! For the sake of those who have made their “...calling and election sure (2 Pet. 1:10).” by *obedience* to *Yahweh’s* holy and perfect law. For the sake of those very elect who are not deceived (“to seduce” Mark 13:22) by the great signs and wonders of the false Messiahs and false prophets (Matt 24:24), a remnant will survive!

Just as Sodom and Gomorrah would have been spared for the sake of a few righteous saints (“...ten’s sake...” Gen. 18:32), the earth—though tossed, battered, and shaken to its foundations—and a remnant of its population will be spared for the sake of the **few** righteous living at that time!

Deceived Billions Perish

But billions will perish, because they believed the lies of false prophets!

Will you be deceived? Are you now being deceived by false messengers?

How can you KNOW whether a messenger is false or true and whether you are being deceived or not?

Here’s how!

“To the **Law** and to the **Testimony**: *if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them* (Isa. 8:20).”

The Law Isaiah refers to is the Torah Law, found in the first five books of the “Old” Testament.

Regardless of what else they may say or do, if messengers are not “lawmen” upholding **all** of *Yahweh’s* eternal law, **there is no light of truth in them!** This does not mean just ten or so commandments (about 1.6 % of the Torah law), but the entire Torah! The Bible is emphatic about this point!

The Testimony is specifically the Ten Commandments written on two tables of stone: Ex. 31:18; 32:15; 34:29; 40:20, etc.

Those who palm off the mystery religion of **Babylon**, the Babylonian new moons, the sunset-to-sunset day of Babylon, counterfeit holy days, who teach disobedience to about 98 % of the Torah Law, who teach others to break *Yahweh’s* Holy weekly Sabbath which is set aside from dawn-to-dark each Saturday (not sunset-to-sunset Friday to Saturday—that’s adding to the law); these are false teachers and will be cast into the lake of fire where the beast and false prophets are thrown—if they do not repent (Rev. 20:10,15)!

Editor’s Note:

The bible teaches a sunset-to-sunset day throughout and this applies to all the holy days as well plus the Saturday Sabbath which are all to be kept from sunset to sunset. Laura Lee

Many break the laws of *Yahweh* with a “good attitude”; with a giving and outgoing disposition; with such a “saintly” demeanor one would think they must have the ‘divine’ spark; with the camaraderie and approval of their special group

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of friends; while practicing their own form of religious beliefs; while in meditation and prayer to some deity. They do all this **in vain!**

“There is a way which seemeth right *unto a man* [to **Him** it seems right but not according to Scripture], but the end thereof are the ways of death (Prv. 14:12).”

If the action is not according to *Yahweh’s* perfect law, **it is sin!!**
Notice the apostle Paul’s terse summary:

“For I bear them record, that they have a *zeal* [They are intense and dedicated.] of *Yahweh*, but **not according to knowledge** (“...it is misguided.” NJB).

For they being **ignorant of Yahweh’s righteousness**, and going about to *Establish their own righteousness*, have **not submitted themselves to Yahweh’s righteousness** (Rom. 10:2,3 KJV).”

That is strong medicine!

The plain fact is we *have* to know just *what* true **righteousness** is before we can actually submit to *Yahweh’s* righteousness!!

So, if we are ignorant of what *Yahweh’s* law says, we simply *cannot* be and **are not now** converted and accepted by *Yahweh!*

That is the hard fact of the matter!

For to what rules are we to be converted? To some “feeling in our heart” or to a change in emotional response or amplified feeling of piety? Your heart is **not** a guide to righteousness! It is desperately wicked (Jer. 17:9)!

Editor’s Note:

Scripture is our guide. We are not in agreement with the authors’ very strange religious practices and beliefs, many of which are not found in scripture. Laura Lee

No! We must change and keep the specific, clear, *Law of Yahweh!* The law found in the first five books of Scripture—the so called Law of Moses, the books he wrote!

Do not be deceived by those iniquitous false teachers in sheep’s clothing who profane and **ignore** that law! They are simply leading you down the primrose path to destruction!!

Think about the effects of sin.

Sin is *what* will bring global devastation and death to nearly a whole world population approaching 5 billion!!

What a price to pay in human life and property!

Yahweh says it will come, **because men will not repent**. They will not lay aside their vain *traditions*, the “teachings of the *church*”: “But in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men (Matt. 15:9).”

Men will do anything but repent! Men must quit committing actions which bring death and destruction!

Notice how stiffnecked and rebellious the wicked become.

Even after a third of the population (about 1.7 *billion*) has been killed notice what happens:

“And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet **repented not** of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils...*neither repented* they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts (Rev. 9:20,21).”

Unbelievable but true!!

New Earth Orbit?

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The drastic perturbations in the earth’s orbital motion will threaten all life. The earth will apparently pass closer to the sun and be scorched with intense heat:

“And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun...And **men were scorched with great heat**, and blasphemed the name of Elohim, which has power over these plagues: and *they repented not* to give him glory (Rev. 16.8,9).”

Although this verse could mean enhanced fusion reactions occurring within the sun itself, it seems likely the scorching effect will result from the earth moving closer to the sun. This is especially true in light of the other references clearly showing orbital changes in the earth’s motion. Of course, both could be contributing factors.

How hot will it be at the time *Yahweh* intervenes to save the world from destruction?
Very! Notice!

“Then the moonlight will be bright as sunlight and sunlight itself be **seven times brighter**-like the light of seven days in one-on the day *Yahweh* dresses his people’s wound and heals the scars of the blows they have received (Isa. 30:26, NJB).”

A sevenfold increase in the sun’s light striking the earth is life-threatening if *Yahweh* does not quickly correct the situation! If this increase is due solely to a closer approach to the sun, then the new orbit can be determined.

The earth moves in an elliptical path around the sun. It is closest to the sun (about 91,400,000 miles) on January third or fourth (depending on leap year). It is furthest from the sun (about 94,400,000 miles) on July third or fourth.

Using these facts, the assumption that this is caused by the earth moving closer to the sun, and what is called the “inverse square law” of illumination, yields a new earth orbit about 35,900,000 miles from the sun at its furthest point (aphelion) and 34,700,000 miles at its closest point (perihelion).

This places the earth in the vicinity of the inner planet Mercury which averages about 36,000,000 miles from the sun! The earth year would then closely match Mercury’s at about 88 days instead of our present 365.25 days!

This more nearly circular orbit is intolerable for life on earth! Space probes have given photographic evidence of **no life** on Mercury as it is constantly seared by the sun on its light side at temperatures of about 800 degrees F (Fahrenheit)! Earth temperatures could easily reach 700 to 800 degrees F!

What would such heat do to the polar ice caps? Would the oceans boil? Would the rivers dry up? Of course!

“I [*Yahweh*] have long time holden my peace; I have been still, and refrained myself: now will I cry like a travailing woman; I will destroy and devour at once. I will make waste mountains and hills, and *dry up* all their herbs; and I will make the **rivers islands, and I will dry up the pools** (Isa. 42:14,15).”

Yahweh speaks of drying up pools and laying bare river beds amid cataclysmic upheaval of “ravaging” (Isa. 42:15 NJB) mountains and hills (Jer. 4:23,24).

“And except those days be shortened, there should no flesh be saved...(Matt. 24:22).”

Get the picture?

How Will Destruction Come?

Awesome terrifying tribulation is on its way to planet earth! But **how** will *Yahweh* bring about His prophesied global decimation and orbital change of the earth?

Will mankind blast the world into oblivion with nuclear weapons?

Or will it be blasted there by a cosmic visitor or visitors in an awesome encounter unlike anything since the world was created?

The sixth and seventh seals of Revelation hold the key to these questions!

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A Huge Body Eclipses the Sun

Yahshua opens the sixth seal:

“...and, lo, there was a great earthquake, and the **sun became black as sackcloth of hair**, and the moon became as blood (Rev. 6:12).” [See also Joel 2:31]

This is a vivid description of what would happen if a huge body other than the moon passed between the earth and the sun causing a total solar eclipse. The moon’s disk becomes *black*-not blood red-in a total eclipse of the sun. To produce a total eclipse, the body could be as large as the moon or larger!

Truly the scenario given in verses 12-14 has all the markings of a close encounter with an asteroid or planetary-sized meteor.

Notice that a **great** earthquake is activated. The gravitational pull of a giant body would be great enough to activate such a quake.

This giant body does not directly hit the earth but passes close by partially breaking up in a rain of meteors on the earth. Notice verse 13:

“And the *stars of Heaven fell unto the earth*, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind (Rev. 6:13).”

These secondary meteors could themselves weigh tons!

A massive size (asteroid to planetary scale) and near miss of a giant meteor is further indicated by the gravitational perturbation the earth receives. The gravitational coupling between the earth and such a visitor is indicated to be great enough that:

“...**every** mountain and island were moved out of their places (Rev. 6:14).”

Notice, **every** mountain and **every** island is moved!! A **global** catastrophe!

What awesome power!!

Such a *worldwide* cataclysm is unmistakable evidence of the presence of an *externally* perturbing force or forces!

We only read of forces of that magnitude. This verse describes the earth’s actual experience of such enormous forces!

Gravitational coupling between the two bodies would combine with the conservation of angular momentum of such a system to twist and wrench the earth’s surface (recall Isa. 24.1) like *never before* (see again Matt. 24:21)!!

The earth’s rotation would speed up (Amos 8:9)!

It would rotate more rapidly (wobble) reeling back and forth (Isa. 24:19, 20)!

Its orbit would be shifted (Isa. 13:13). The effect of the orbit shift could take sometime to tell, but the gradual global warming would become evident (see previous discussion on new orbit)!

Velikovsky will hardly seem the radical theorist he once was as **millions** watch in stark terror as this unbelievably spin-chilling drama unfolds before their very eyes and TV cameras!!!

Yahweh deals in **reality**, in **inexorable natural law**, in **cause and effect!** Not the muddled heresy of religions where nothing is definite nor hard fact, but everyone does “what is right for him” where all worship “in their own way!”

We live in a universe of *Law* that governs **all actions** of matter **and spirit!!** That spiritual *Law*, i.e. the law which governs spirit-is the Torah Law-the first five books of the Bible!

The fearsome terrible “...*great day* of his [*Yahweh*’s] wrath is come; and **who** shall be able to stand (Rev. 6:17)?”!

The Dreaded Seventh Seal

But *Yahweh* is not through with the wicked who have arrogantly spurned *His* command to repent and scoffed at those *He* has sent to warn of the coming calamities: “..I **will** cause the arrogance of the proud to cease...(Isa. 13:11).”

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Notice how the next cosmic encounters unfold!

Shortly after Yahshua opens the seventh seal, heaven is silent about half an hour.

The opening of the seventh seal unleashes additional colossal worldwide devastation. The earth is already reeling wildly and-in all likelihood-in a changing or new orbit as a result of its previous bashing when the sixth seal was opened! Seven angels each prepare to sound a trumpet signaling the start of tumultuous events (Rev. 8:1, 2).

First Angel Sounds

“The first angel blew his trumpet, and there followed **hail and fire** [see Ex. 9:24] mixed with blood, which fell *on the earth*; and a **third of the earth was burned up**, and a **third of the trees were burned up**, and **all green grass was burned up** (Rev. 8:7 RSV).”

This account, too, bears the marks of a massive meteor shower perhaps due to the partial break up of yet *another* or *several* meteors passing close to earth.

The result is a **global** inferno burning one-third of everything which is inflammable at these temperatures (whatever the degrees will be), charring the grass, and causing *worldwide* forest fires raging out of control until a third of all timber is consumed!

The mixture of hail and fire is identical to that found in Exodus 9:24 where the devastation of Egypt is described. Velikovsky (*Worlds in Collision*) points out that the Exodus account of hail and fire together must certainly exclude hail of **ice**. He notes the hail was “stones of ‘borad’ or meteorites of stone rather than frozen water.

The Revelation account mixing hail and fire to *burn* trees and grass would certainly appear to exclude hail of ice in this case also. More likely, then, is meteorites of stone.

The sense of the Greek word “chalaza” here rendered ‘hail’ (taking into account its roots) appears to be “a frightening thing that is lowered into a void” (see Strong’s Gr. 5464, 5465, 5400, and 5399). A massive shower of stone meteorites would be a frightening thing filling the void above the earth’s surface.

Second Angel Sounds

“And the second angel blew his trumpet, and something *like a great mountain, burning with fire* was thrown into the sea...(Rev. 8:8 RSV).”

Here is an unmistakable description of a *direct collision* with a giant meteorite the size of a **great mountain!** Not just a mountain, but a **great** mountain! Not a near miss this time!

The meteor could be as large as Mount Everest! How much damage could a mass that size do? Could it not add somewhat to the orbital woes of an apparently already reeling earth? Could it not help rock it to and fro and twist its surface?!

Although tiny compared to the one of the sixth seal, it could nonetheless cause tremendous damage.

This giant meteorite hits the sea. Just *what* sea is not named, but it is a sea where a large number of ships are gathered (v. 9). Are they gathered there for war, and destroyed, filling a third of the sea with the blood of thousands of men prepared for battle?

Walls of water will inundate the shore line and coastal cities of that sea and wreak havoc inland along the coast!

Huge clouds of steam will explode when it hits the water, seething anything within acres of ground zero!

As it races earthward at around 100,000 miles per hour plus, air friction will disintegrate its leading surface into burning cinders flying behind it. Thousands of spectators will see this awesome sight!

Those watching will not think this is just some “spiritual symbol” for a Biblical “type” of some sort! They will **know** somebody means business!

The thesis of Velikovsky will suddenly be much easier to believe!

The truth is *Yahweh* is **that somebody** who *means business* about sin and repentance!! And *He* says, “For I have spoken, I have decided, I **shall not change my mind** or go back on it (Jer. 4:28).”!

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He has obviously decided on a specific target for this one!

Third Angel Sounds: WORMWOOD

“The third angel blew his trumpet, and a *great star fell from heaven blazing like a torch*, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the fountains of water. The name of the star is **Wormwood**. A third of the waters became wormwood... (Rev. 8:10 RSV).”

Here, again, is a **direct hit** of the earth by a huge meteorite glowing hot as it burns through the atmosphere at around 100,000 miles per hour!

It is interesting that *Yahweh* describes Wormwood as a star but not the other meteors previously discussed. The word “star” here is the Greek, ‘asteer’, which is in the sense of a star “as strown over the sky.” This implies the object appears at one stage of the saga, as one of the stars which dot the night sky, **but it falls to the earth**.

Wormwood is not one of the so-called “fixed” stars of the constellations. They are light years away, and many would dwarf our sun. The nearest star is Alpha Centauri about 4.4 light years away, while the brightest star in the sky, Sirius, is 8.7 light years from earth (The World Almanac, 1972 edition, Luman H. Long, editor; Newspaper Enterprise Association, New York, p. 227).

Wormwood will apparently appear first as a point of light like the stars and planets, hence the term “star.” This “star”-like the others-has no luminous tail or flowing ‘hair’ (Greek, “kome”-hair, from which comes the Greek word “kometes”-comet; see I Cor. 11:15) as do comets. Therefore, we can safely assume Wormwood will not be a comet.

The bitter-tasting dark-green oily wormwood deposit the meteor leaves in the rivers and springs along with the bloody seas caused by the previous meteor, are reminiscent of the plagues of Egypt when that wicked nation was punished for its sins (Ex. 9:27)!

Wormwood (“Apsinthus”-Phillips translation) will probably be visible weeks in advance of its impact with the earth.

The staggering fiery collision will shock the earth with multiple craters and a spray of oily residue which gets into the water systems of many springs and rivers fed by those springs. It obviously breaks up over a wide area in order to fall upon a third part of the rivers!

This collision could also add a slight component to the unstable motion of the earth, and even possibly to its orbit as well!

This meteor is also designed for a specific target-centuries in advance!

Wormwood and Orion?

The constellation in which Wormwood first appears is difficult to judge. A plausible-but highly speculative-choice is the constellation Eridanus, beginning just below the feet of the constellation Orion at the star Rigel in the zodiacal sign of Taurus.

E. W. Bullinger (Kegel Publications, (The Witness of the Stars Grand Rapids, MI; p. 129) denotes the meaning of ridanus as “The River of Wrath Breaking Forth for His [Yahshua’s] Enemies.” Many men (the enemies of Yahshua) die from drinking the bitter water of the rivers polluted by Wormwood (Rev. 8:11). Each polluted river is truly a “river of wrath” polluted by this fiery scourge from heaven.

Bullinger finds in Greek myths the association of this “river of the Judge” with FIRE and concludes it was originally so (p. 130). He relates the following from Greek fables associated with Eridanus:

“...**something went wrong** with the chariot of the sun, [Allusion to the sun ‘moving closer’ to the earth due to earth’s orbital change?] and a *universal conflagration* was threatened. In the trouble, ‘Phaeton’ (probably a reference to the **star** ‘Pheat’) was killed and **hurled into this river...**The **whole earth suffered from such a burning heat that great disasters ensued** (The Witness of the Stars p. 130).” [Emphasis mine]

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Here we find in the lore a star hurled into a river causing great heat and disasters to the whole earth! Amazingly similar to the saga of Wormwood!

It should be pointed out that the naming of the stars and their associated stories is admitted by scholars to be of extremely ancient date. Richard Hinckley Allen points out in, (Dover Publications Inc., 1963; Introduction, p. 9):

“...these myths [of the star’s names and their associated stories], old as the present forms of some of them may be, are but modern and trivial when one goes back into the dim past to their probable fountainhead... where the recent study of mythology discovers their origin in serious connection with the most ancient of earthly religions, **long antedating Moses...**” [Emphasis mine]

But who named the stars? Who may have written these ancient stories in the constellations of the heavens? Let the psalmist and prophet together answer:

“He [*Yahweh*] telleth the number of the stars; he calleth **them all by their names** (Psa. 147:4 KJV).”

“Lift up your eyes on high and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth **them all by names...**(Isa. 40:26 KJV).”

Perhaps there are numerous records *Yahweh* has written in the stars preserved there for the end time.

Fourth Angel Sounds

“The fourth angel blew his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, and a third of the moon and a third of the stars, so that a third of their light was darkened; a third of the day was kept from shining, and likewise a third of the night (Rev. 8:12).”

This vivid description of the partial blackening of the sun and moon is consistent with the previous events. Cosmic collisions with foreign celestial bodies dished out an unprecedented tribulation of “cosmic billiards” with the earth reeling and whirling wildly into a new orbit.

What is depicted this time?

Given the context of fiery encounters already, it appears certain what we see here is a **partial exlipse of the sun and moon!**

Here again, a body (or bodies) passes between the earth and the sun (see above discussion of Rev. 6:12-14), but this time causes only a partial eclipse of the sun!

Additionally, either the same body continues on to move inside the orbit of the moon, or another mass does so, until the moon also is eclipsed!

Further terrestrial gyrations could be expected from interactions with these bodies, although the Biblical record gives no details. It is therefore likely, that these bodies are much smaller and-passing some thousands of miles away-cause little gravitational perturbation.

The fact that they produce only partial eclipses could mean they are relatively small.

The last part of verse 12 appears at first as a change of the earth’s rotation, but the Phillips Translation clarifies it:

“...so that light by day and light by night were both **diminished** by a third-part.”

And as The Living Bible says:

“...so that the daylight was **dimmed** by a third, and the nighttime darkness deepened.”

This is exactly what would result if the sun and moon are both partially eclipsed.

This encounter seems to signify a parting gesture as the curtain falls on this phase of the drama of “...the great day of HIS wrath...” The obvious lack of damage done makes it appear more ceremonial than effectual.

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Perhaps the earth has now moved out of the path of a cluster of massive cosmic debris, and only trailing smaller bodies are crossing its orbital plane.

The end of a definite phase is shown in the eagle's announcement-verse 13. The eagle places the next three trumpets in a triad. Each is classified as a "woe." This is a different class of events from the first three trumpets which together with the sixth seal, form a group of celestial collisions of either direct hits or near misses.

Conclusion

Our planet has collided with huge meteors many times throughout its history, often with devastating results. The Bible plainly says it will happen again, but on a scale unparalleled since the beginning!

These prophesied global cataclysms are found in part, in the book of prophecy with seven seals recorded in the book of Revelations. The prophecies of the Old Testament give more detail of those **same** earth-shaking events.

An incredibly tumultuous future lies ahead for the earth and all of us who dwell here! Man's debt of sin is about to come due and will drive this planet to the absolute brink of total annihilation!

But it will not come in an all-out nuclear war of man-against-man.

It will come in an all-out confrontation of man-against-the cosmos! This is the battle man **cannot win!** Man cannot win in the battle against his own sins! They will bury him! **We have to have help!**

Just short of global extinction of **all** life, Yahshua the Messiah will save *some* of us from ourselves. He is the only one that can. He was appointed to that task by his Father.

Yahweh help us to repent of breaking *His* holy and righteous **Law!**

"He that testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so come, Master Yahshua (Rev. 22:20)."

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The Truth About Speaking in Tongues

(Copyright) by Zac Poonen (Bangalore, India)

"Every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation (change)" (James. 1:17).

God never makes a mistake, He never changes and He gives only perfect gifts. Therefore when He gave the gift of "speaking in unknown languages" ("tongues") to the church on the day of Pentecost, He knew exactly what He was doing. The gift of "tongues" was a perfect gift. God has not changed His mind about the gift, for He never changes.

God knew the controversies that would surround this gift in the 20th century. Yet He felt the church needed this gift to fulfill its ministry.

Even major truths such as the Trinity, the Deity of Christ, the Humanity of Christ and the Person of the Holy Spirit have been opposed and have faced controversy in the history of Christendom. So, it should not surprise us if the gift of "tongues" has been controversial too.

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Editor's Note:

It would be the author's opinion that these are major truths, for example the trinity is not in scripture and the holy spirit is not a separate person. Laura Lee

It is always best to stick exactly to what Scripture says on all doctrinal matters. Let us look then, with an unprejudiced mind, at every single verse in the Bible on the subject of "speaking in tongues":

Truth No. 1

Mark 16:17: [Jesus said,] "These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues... they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

Jesus said that some of the signs accompanying the company of "those who have believed" would be speaking in tongues, casting out demons and healing the sick. He did not say that ALL these signs would accompany EVERY believer. But He said that these signs would be found among the company of "those who have believed".

So, every believer need not have all these gifts. Neither need every church have all these gifts. But they will be found in the whole church worldwide. The Holy Spirit sovereignly decides whom to give the gifts to.

Truth No. 2

Acts 2:4,7,11: "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance..... And the Jews from every nation marvelled saying....`We hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God."

The first time that believers were filled with the Holy Spirit, they ALL spoke in tongues. The "tongues" were languages that others understood immediately. So, there was no need for the gift of interpretation.

Notice also in verse 4 that it was the persons themselves who began to speak in tongues and not the Holy Spirit. The Spirit did not move their tongues. The Spirit only gave them utterance. They spoke themselves.

In no gift, does the Holy Spirit take away freedom of choice from us. In fact, the fruit of the Spirit is "self-control" (Gal.5:23). Only demon-possessed people lose control of themselves. One who is filled with the Spirit will have more control over himself than anyone else. "The spirit of the prophets is subject to the control of the prophets" (1 Cor.14:32).

Truth No. 3

Acts 10:46: "They were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God."

Here, in the house of Cornelius, all who were in his house were baptized in the Holy Spirit, at the same moment as they were converted to Christ. They spoke in "tongues" exalting God (praising Him) - not speaking to people, as was the case on the day of Pentecost.

Truth No. 4

Acts 19:6: "When Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying"

The Holy Spirit came upon the believers in Ephesus, when Paul laid hands on them. The "tongues" here seems to have been prophesying.

Note the following facts from the above instances in "Acts":

(a) In Acts 2 they received the Spirit, after water baptism. In Acts 10, they received the Spirit BEFORE water baptism.

(b) In Acts 2 and 10, they received the Spirit without anyone laying hands on them. In Acts 19, they received the Spirit after Paul laid hands on them.

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(This proves that there is no standard pattern for receiving the Spirit. It could be either before or after water-baptism, and also with or without the laying on of hands).

(c) In Acts 8:14-18, when the disciples in Samaria received the Holy Spirit, there is no mention that they spoke in tongues. But Simon the magician did see some evidence (we are not told what it was) which made him want the same ability that Peter had.

Truth No. 5

1 Cor. 12:7,8,10: "But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit... to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues."

The gift of tongues is for "the common good" - the good of the church. This was written 25 years after the day of Pentecost. And the gift of tongues was still being given then by the Spirit "for the common good".

Truth No. 6

1 Cor.12:11: "But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills".

This is perhaps the clearest Scripture that teaches that the Holy Spirit sovereignly decides to whom to give each gift (including the gift of tongues). We cannot dictate to Him whom He should give any gift to.

Truth No. 7

1 Cor. 12:28: "God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then... various kinds of tongues."

It is God Who appointed the gift of tongues in the church - for some purpose. So, we should never oppose this gift, lest we be found opposing God. Remember that He has more wisdom than we have.

Truth No. 8

1 Cor. 12:30: "All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they?"

All believers do not speak in tongues, just like all believers do not have the gifts of healing. So obviously, God does not feel that "tongues" is an essential gift for all believers - either for being holy or for being effective in His service. If it were, He would have given this gift to everyone.

Truth No. 9

1 Cor. 13:1: "If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal."

Speaking in tongues without love is useless. All pride in those who speak in tongues, and all "looking down" on others who don't speak in tongues is because of a lack of love. Such unloving believers who speak in tongues are as repulsive to God as a noisy gong is to us.

Truth No. 10

1 Cor. 13:8: "Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part; but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away."

When perfection comes at Christ's return, there will be no more need for speaking in tongues. In heaven, there will be no need for "tongues" - just like there will be no more need for Bible-knowledge or prophecy.

So "tongues" is a temporary gift needed only under the imperfect conditions prevalent on earth.

This explains why Jesus never needed the gift of tongues. It was because His mind was perfectly pure and because He lived in perfect communion with His Father at all times,

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Truth No. 11

1 Cor. 14:2: "One who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men, but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries."

The gift of tongues mentioned here is obviously different from the one manifested on the day of Pentecost - for this gift is not to "speak to men but to God" and no-one can understand what the speaker is saying.

Truth No. 12

1 Cor. 14:4: "One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself
The gift of tongues enables a believer to build himself up spiritually.

Truth No. 13

1 Cor. 14:5: "I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater is one who prophesies than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may receive edifying. But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what shall I profit you, unless I speak to you either by way of revelation or of knowledge or of prophecy or of teaching?"

Paul wished that ALL spoke in tongues. This is yet another verse that clearly indicates that all believers do NOT speak in tongues.

Paul's wish here is similar to his wish that ALL should be single like he himself was (as he states earlier in the same letter - 1 Cor.7:7). Paul saw some benefits in being single. He also saw some benefits in speaking in tongues. But Paul recognized that just as God was sovereign in giving the "gift of being single" only to some believers, He was equally sovereign in giving the "gift of tongues" also only to some believers.

Therefore, it is as foolish to expect all believers to speak in tongues as it is to expect all believers to be single!!

In the church-meeting, it is far better to prophesy (that is, to speak God's Word "to encourage, edify and console" others - 1 Cor. 14:3). If however a 'tongue' is interpreted, then it is equal to prophecy.

Truth No. 14

1 Cor. 14:9,13: "Unless you utter by the tongue speech that is clear (understandable), how will it be known what is spoken...Therefore let one who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret."

"Tongues" must be interpreted when used in a church meeting.

Truth No. 15

1 Cor. 14:14: "If I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. What is the outcome then? I shall pray with the spirit and I shall pray with the mind. I shall sing with the spirit and I shall sing with the mind."

When praying in tongues, a person cannot understand what he is praying. But Paul still felt that he should pray and sing "with the spirit" (in tongues), as much as he did with his mind (in a known language).

Truth No. 16

1 Cor. 14:18: "I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all." Paul was thankful to God for this gift. So, it must have helped him.

Truth No. 17

1 Cor. 14:19: "However, in the church I desire to speak five words with my mind, that I may instruct others also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue."

In the church, speaking in a known language is always the best.

Truth No. 18

1 Cor. 14:22: "Tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe, but to unbelievers"

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Tongues are for a sign to unbelievers - as on the day of Pentecost.

Truth No. 19

1 Cor. 14:23: "If therefore the whole church should assemble together and all speak in tongues, and ungifted men or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are mad?"

It is madness for all to speak in tongues in a church-meeting - for no one will understand what anyone is saying. (This must obviously be referring to people speaking in tongues individually and not when all are praying together - for in the latter case, we do not listen to the prayers of even those who pray in a known tongue.)

Truth No. 20

1 Cor. 14:26, 27: "What is the outcome then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should be by two or at the most three, and each in turn, and let one interpret;"

Not more than two or three should speak in tongues in a meeting of the church, but each "tongue" must be interpreted. "Interpretation" is not the same as "translation". Translation is "word for word". Interpretation is "expressing the thought in one's own words".

Truth No. 21

1 Cor. 14:39: "Therefore, my brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak in tongues."

This then is the conclusion. Don't forbid the exercise of the gift of tongues. But if you are desiring a gift, seek for the gift of prophecy more than for the gift of tongues.

The True And The Counterfeit

There is a certain amount of mystery about the gift of tongues, as all those who have received the gift will acknowledge - if they are honest. We do not know everything about it. We know only in part (1 Cor.13:12).

As one who has spoken in tongues for the past 26 years, let me add a few words concerning what I presently understand about the gift, from my own experience.

When a person speaks in tongues, his spirit (heart) speaks forth syllables (directly from his heart to his mouth, bypassing his mind) and thus he pours out whatever is in his heart to God - whether that be an overflow of joy or a burden caused by sorrow or discouragement. Thus the pressure on his heart is relieved. That is how he is 'edified'

As we saw earlier in Acts 2:4, when anyone speaks in tongues, it is the person himself who speaks, and not the Holy Spirit. The believer forms the syllables himself, just as he does when speaking in a known language. The only difference is that now, he does NOT use a known language to pray, but concentrating on the Lord, speaks forth syllables with his mouth, straight from his heart, bypassing his mind - knowing that God understands the longings and pressures in his heart, even if he cannot understand himself what he is saying.

Unburdening himself like that in moments of pressure helps a believer, especially if his mind is too tired to pray in a known language. We may not be able to explain how this works, but it does.

Let us now look at the gift of interpretation: As we have already seen, interpretation of a tongue is equivalent to prophesying. So, this gift will usually be given by the Spirit to one who has the gift of prophecy as well.

In a church-meeting, if someone speaks in a tongue, one of those having the gift of prophecy (usually one of the elders), if he is walking in the light of God, will find a thought being impressed on his mind, if the "tongue" is genuinely from God. He speaks forth that thought in his own words - for it is not a translation, but an interpretation.

If another elder (who also has the gift of interpretation) had interpreted the "tongue", the interpretation would have been the same (although couched in that elder's own words). This would be the case if both elders were in perfect touch with

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the Lord.

Since no revelation from God can contradict what is written in the Bible, the interpretation will be in accordance with Scripture - just like all true prophecy will also be in line with the Scriptures.

Some who are skeptical of spiritual gifts have asked this question: If a "tongue" that was interpreted in a meeting, is copied on to a tape and someone else (with the gift of interpretation) in another place is asked to interpret it, will the interpretation be the same as the first one? The answer is: It should be, if both interpreters had a perfect understanding of the mind of the Lord. If the interpretation is different in content, (and not just in words), that would only indicate that one or both interpreters are not in such perfect touch with the Lord as to understand His mind perfectly. That is not abnormal, because no believer in the world is in such perfect touch with the Lord as to know His mind perfectly.

The following example will prove this fact beyond any doubt: Suppose you have to speak in a meeting and you have a particular message on your heart which you feel is the burden of the Lord for that meeting. Then, if you are unable to be at that meeting and someone else speaks in your stead, strictly speaking, he should give the same message as you had on your heart (even if it be in his own words). If that brother doesn't give the same message as you had on your heart, it would indicate that one of you did not have a perfect understanding of the Lord's mind for that meeting. So, we see that believers could fail such a test even when giving a message in a known language.

That's why the Bible tells us to judge even a prophet's message (1 Cor.14:29). Similarly, we should judge, all messages in "tongues" and their "interpretations". What should we judge in such cases? Just this: Whether our spirit witnesses that the utterance (prophecy, tongues or interpretation) was Scriptural (and from the Lord) or not.

We are warned (in 1 John 4:1) not to believe every spirit but to "test the spirits whether they are of God". So every time, we hear "tongues" or interpretation in public, we must test it in our spirits. Many of the "supernatural utterances" we hear may not be from God. We must always reject a prophecy (or any part of it), a "tongue", or an interpretation, if we feel uneasy about it in our spirits, for any reason.

It is the unquestioning acceptance of everything supernatural and abnormal that has brought tremendous confusion into Christendom in this century - and tremendous dishonor to the Lord's Name as well.

Notice these facts in all instances of speaking in tongues in "Acts" :

- (a) In every case, the speaking in tongues was spontaneous;
- (b) In every case, all spoke in tongues - there were no exceptions;
- (c) In every case, there was no coaching or urging or instruction given on how to speak in tongues;

Today, however, in most places, none of the above characteristics are found. Only where the gift of tongues is spontaneously received without any coaching, can we conclude that it could be genuine.

Of all the "speaking in tongues" that I have heard, my spirit has borne witness to only a small percentage of it as genuine. Most of the rest I have felt was an attempt to imitate the gift - either to be accepted by others in a group or to impress them. A small percentage could even be of demonic origin. My observations are based on the fruit and the results that I have seen in the lives of many people in many lands. Speaking and singing in tongues often appears to be a form of "exhibitionism" in many churches - and exhibitionism is characteristic of little children.

It is also a well-established fact that, at this present time, the maximum exploitation of believers for financial gain is practiced by those preachers and pastors who claim to "speak in tongues". Most of the cults in the 20th century have also developed from tongue-speaking groups.

My advice to all believers therefore is: "Avoid churches that major on the gifts of tongues and healing - because many of them go to dangerous extremes and usually don't have spiritually-minded leaders. Seek instead for fellowship with a church that emphasises holiness and disciple-making primarily, that accepts the genuine gift of tongues and that does

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not covet your money or seek to control your life."

Let me also emphasise that we need to use our mind (renewed by the Holy Spirit) if we are to understand God's will and His Word aright (Rom.12:2). Many believers tend to despise their minds. Our mind is to be like a wife. She should not be the head of the home. But she should not be killed either!! Jesus is our husband and head. Our mind should be submissive to Him through our heart.

In a nutshell then, here is a bit of sane advice on "tongues":

"If God gives you the gift of tongues, receive it and exercise it. Speak forth the syllables from your heart to God when you are alone with Him - anywhere - and especially when your heart is under pressure (through discouragement) or overflowing with joy. If you don't have the gift, don't worry about it. But be open to the Lord to receive it, at all times. Don't be against it and don't get into a frenzy to receive it. God will give it to you, if He wants you to have it, without any frenzy on your part. At the same time, don't believe that everything you see and hear in Christendom is inspired by the Holy Spirit. Test everything. Use your God-given faculties of discernment. If you don't have the gift of tongues, don't consider yourself inferior to those who have it. And if you do have the gift, don't imagine that it makes you spiritual or superior to those who don't have it. (Paul and the Corinthian Christians both spoke in tongues. But Paul was a spiritual giant, while the Corinthians were carnal!!)."

What Is Absolutely Essential

What is absolutely essential for all of us is to be endued with the Holy Spirit's power. It is power and not speaking in tongues that is the evidence of the baptism in the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8).

The Holy Spirit is to be received by faith (Jn.7:37-39), just as we received the forgiveness of our sins - on the basis of Christ's merit alone, and not on our own merit. We do not receive the Gift of the Spirit by fasting or praying or by any other work. It is a Gift (Acts 2:38).

We ask and receive - immediately by faith - and go forth believing in God's promise that He gives the Holy Spirit more readily to those who ask Him, than any earthly father would give food to a hungry son (Lk.11:13). If we are unsure about having received the Spirit, we can ask God to give us an assurance. He will not deny us such an assurance.

But we need to be filled with the Spirit continually (because we are leaky vessels - Eph.5:18), just like we need to be forgiven continually (because we sin - often without knowing it - Matt.6:12).

The devotion of our heart to Christ is far more important than our speaking in tongues. "Do you love Me more than everything else?", was our Lord's question to Peter, before commissioning him for His service. Arguments about "speaking in tongues" are therefore a diversion arranged by Satan to sidetrack believers from total devotion to Christ.

The greatest Christians in the world have been those who loved the Lord Jesus supremely - whether they spoke in tongues or not. Some like Peter, James, John and Paul spoke in tongues. Others like John Wesley, Charles Finney, D.L.Moody, A.B.Simpson, William Booth, C.T.Studd and Watchman Nee never spoke in tongues (as far as we know). But they all received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, they all loved the Lord with all their hearts and they ALL walked the way of the cross. These truths were central in their lives. Other things were secondary.

Let us follow their example and we won't go wrong..

He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

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How to be an Anchor in the Storm (Copyright 2017) by Brenda Branson (Hanson, Kentucky)

One of the reasons a battered woman is finally able to leave an abusive relationship is because she has someone who acts as her anchor in the storm.

"For a battered woman, having an anchor can mean the difference between helplessness and empowerment to work toward a solution," says Susan Brewster, author of "To be an Anchor in the Storm." She compares the role of friends and relatives of battered women to the anchor of a ship. The anchor:

- * is made of the strongest steel which is able to withstand corrosive elements around it
- * is grounded and unwavering against the strain of the tide
- * stabilizes the ship, but does not control it
- * does not rescue the ship or cut the line

It is not easy to be an anchor for someone who seeks your help one minute and then withdraws from you completely the next. However frustrating the situation becomes, the "anchor" needs to remain stable and available. It is tough to be the victim of abuse, and the more you can learn about the dynamics of domestic violence the greater help you will be to her.

It may be maddening to offer to help get the victim out of the situation, only to have her become angry at you and strongly defend the abuser. You may feel she deserves what she gets if she goes back to the abuser.

If you have never been involved in domestic violence situations, you may think the victim is over-reacting. However, her life may depend on you understanding that she is probably allowing you to see only the tip of the iceberg. If she is in a physically abusive relationship, her life could be in danger!

If you feel confused and overwhelmed at what action to take, think about what the victim feels as she looks at options which may turn her whole world upside down.

An "anchor" must overcome some of the obstacles and myths that block the way to helping a victim. Sometimes family members really don't want to know the truth because they won't know what to do with it. They might have to face certain realities and problems which are uncomfortable and shameful.

Anger at the victim's decision to stay with or return to her abuser is another obstacle for an anchor. A victim may also be extremely needy and clingy, and it is frustrating to hear her story over and over again while she refuses to heed your advice and get help.

An anchor may also be repulsed by the victim and her unwillingness to stand up to her abuser. Before one can become an effective anchor, these negative feelings must be overcome.

Things an anchor should do:

Listen and ask questions. You should assume that she is revealing only the tip of the iceberg, and the situation is usually much worse than she describes. Be prepared to hear her say the same things over and over and let her know that you believe her. Ask probing questions that invite her to share more with you, but do not immediately use words like "abuse" or label her spouse as an "abuser." She may not be ready to admit that she is the victim of domestic violence.

Educate yourself with the facts about domestic violence so you won't alienate the victim or give her harmful advice. Get in touch with experts in domestic violence issues or read books on the subject to help you understand what she is experiencing and feeling, how the cycle of abuse works, and how to determine whether she is in imminent danger and needs immediate intervention.

Learn the signs of abuse (imbalance of power and control) so you will be aware of her situation even before she tells

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you what is really going on. Batterers often give themselves away by intimidating or verbally controlling their partners. A victim may also be isolated from friends and family. She may check with him often when she is away from him and will not make even minor decisions without consulting him. She may put herself down and seem sad or depressed most of the time. If you see obvious signs of physical abuse, be aware that this is probably not the first time. Be aware of less obvious signs of physical abuse such as holes in walls, torn clothing, broken furniture, and financial control.

Things an anchor should not do:

Control the victim. Offering to help the victim only if she leaves the abuser is another form of control. You may have good intentions, but your control will create distance and mistrust. The victim can be guided and advised about her options, but trying to force or control her further demoralizes her. Respect her right to make her own decisions.

Rescue the victim. Unless she has asked you to intervene, rescuing a victim can result in making her feel criticized and treated like a child. A battered woman returns more often to her abuser when she has been rescued (without her total approval) by well-meaning friends and family members. A rescuer’s focus is on changing the victim. An anchor’s focus is on getting themselves into a position to help the victim when she is ready.

An anchor is one who hears, stays alert for non-verbal cues, and pro-actively educates herself to understand the dynamics of domestic violence. She helps the victim sort out the truth, look for realistic options, and encourages her in wise decision making.

In her book, “To Be An Anchor In The Storm,” author Susan Brewster lists 12 principles which can be applied when a battered woman shares her story of abuse with you.

1. Believe her! Most women minimize the extent of their abuse; very few lie or exaggerate the truth. It is very important for you to validate what she tells you as the truth. It is not as important to determine the precise facts of the abuse when she first tells you her story as it is to assure her you believe her. Sometimes it is hard for the battered woman to believe what is happening to her, and she needs to know that someone else believes that her perceptions and experiences are real.
2. Take her abuse seriously! Listen carefully to what she tells you and don’t minimize the seriousness of the situation. Her life is in danger if she is living with an abuser who continues to batter her physically. She is also in danger if she leaves him. Women who leave their abusers are at 75% greater risk of being killed than those who stay. A woman who is being physically battered should never be advised to go back home to the abuser until it has been proven through his actions and by the advice of a therapist who has expertise in domestic violence cases that he has truly changed. Returning too soon could be her death sentence.
3. Remain neutral; don’t take sides. Even if she says she hates him and never wants to see him again, don’t fall into the trap of agreeing with her and talking badly about him. She may change her mind about him several times as she remembers the good times and minimizes the abuse. On the average, women leave and return to their abusers up to seven times before they leave for good. You can provide support by reminding her of the facts when she wavers, and being a good listener when she needs to talk.
4. Respect her decisions; don’t judge her. You don’t have to agree with all of her decisions, but you must respect her right to make them. It may be very hard to watch her make the decision to return to the abuser but focus on what she does well rather than what you determine to be her failures. After all, you aren’t walking in her shoes, and you don’t have all the facts about her situation as she does.
5. Honor her feelings. Whether you feel her feelings are right or wrong, simply acknowledge them as her feelings. Give her the freedom to express them and let her know that you sometimes have uncomfortable feelings. Don’t condemn her when she says she hates the abuser. Ask her questions to clarify how she feels and realize that she may detach from her feelings in order to numb the pain and stay in the relationship.
6. Don’t give advice! Don’t preach to her or say, “If it were me, I would . . .” She has been controlled by her abuser and does not need for you to become another person who judges and controls her. She may have lost confidence in her ability to make good decisions and may ask you to tell her what to do. Instead of giving your advice, offer

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several options and ask her questions to help her make choices that will be best for her. In cases of life-and-death situations, intervention may be necessary that overrides this principle.

7. Control yourself, not her. Don't tell your friend you won't help her anymore if she returns to her abuser. That is just another form of control and just makes the situation worse. It is not up to you to punish or condemn when you feel the woman has acted foolishly or made unwise decisions. Instead of becoming more punitive and controlling, work on controlling yourself and your own feelings.
8. Show her your reality. Remind her of who she used to be before the abusive relationship. Help her move beyond the distorted perceptions of her abuser. Let her know that she is not the one at fault for her partner's abuse. Remind her that she isn't responsible for his behavior, and that nothing she could do deserves a violent response.
9. Try to empathize with her while maintaining your objectivity. It won't help at all if you become as emotional as she is. She needs a safe person to go to who won't fall apart or become uncontrollably enraged when she tells her story. She may be so overwhelmed at the problems and decisions facing her that she talks a mile a minute and constantly repeats the same things over and over. She needs you to help her stay focused on a particular topic and one problem at a time until she is able to make rational decisions.
10. Be a good model; fulfill your own needs. You may need to take a day off from dealing with your friend's problems, so your own emotional energy is not depleted. You may also need a friend in which to confide about your own feelings. Make sure that your occasional breaks don't permanently distance you from the one who needs you.
11. Let her know how you can and cannot help. Be honest about what you are willing to do and what your limits are. Set healthy boundaries and communicate them clearly. When you are unable to help her yourself, help her find other options available in the community.
12. Suggest ways of helping her which don't have strings attached—you don't expect anything in return. Some people will only offer help if she leaves the abuser. She needs to know that your help is simply because you care for her.

If you decide to become an anchor for someone who is in an abusive situation, you will be giving someone a valuable gift—the gift of compassion. But it won't be easy. You'll need all the endurance and patience you can get. Start by educating yourself about domestic violence so you can recognize the signs of abuse, learn how to deal with the batterer, and understand the tangled web of confusion from which the battered women is struggling to get free.

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A Matter of Life and Death
(Copyright 04-05-2025) by Warren Zehrung (Little Rock, Arkansas)

Day of Atonement 2024
(Sermon Notes) by Warren Zehrung October 12, 2024
Yom Kippur

We have come to the tenth day of Tishri, the seventh month of the Sacred Hebrew calendar. Today is the Day of Atonement. The Day of Atonement remains an enigmatic concept for the Church of God: Fasting on a Feast day is mysterious, and the emphasis on no work, is difficult to interpret and understand. Today, we'll bring a little clarity to the matter.

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The Day of Atonement is a wonderful day in the Plan of God picturing the reconciliation of God and man. It also brings thoughts of a world at peace because this day also pictures the reconciliation and brotherhood of mankind.

Offertory

We begin with the Amish, good folks, but they are stuck in history – they cannot or will not use an automobile—it is against their faith. I fear that **much of our** Church of God is also stuck in time and space.

When Herbert W Armstrong and Mrs. Loma first kept the Feasts of the Lord in 1934 – they were only being obedient to God – and they understood **next to nothing** about the meanings of the Feast days and their fulfillment in the Plan of God. As a matter of fact, we are still learning.

Herbert Armstrong warned us of human inadequacy when he stated: “*Don’t believe me*—BELIEVE YOUR BIBLE—BELIEVE GOD!”

After adamantly preaching a Monday observance of Pentecost for nearly forty years, he changed—basically turning on a dime—to keep it on a Sunday as soon as God lifted the veil.

Editor’s Note:

Herbert Armstrong originally kept Pentecost on Sivan 6 as scripture teaches us to do. Apparently, Herbert Armstrong was confused as to what day Pentecost was to be kept on. The day you are to start counting from is the 16th of Nisan which is the day after Passover. It will always take you to Sivan 6. Laura Lee

He saw he had misunderstood the Hebrew meaning of a single word.

That minor tweak was all it took to make God’s intention clear.

Mr. Armstrong followed his own advice—an example all should note—and believed the Bible rather than himself. For him, the Bible—the Word of God—overruled his teachings, thoughts, and traditions, no matter how long or firmly held.

Editor’s Note:

The entire church should follow that directive and study scripture rather than men such as Herbert Armstrong. Laura Lee

Brethren, I am corresponding with a man who considers himself to be a “Loyalist – to Herbert Armstrong.” He still keeps Pentecost on Monday.

Mr. Herbert Armstrong knew that it was possible for him to make **mistakes** – and that God would straighten them out:

The truth is not revealed in one fell swoop, as noted by Herbert Armstrong on page 28 of his “Personal from Herbert W. Armstrong” in The Good News of December 1976: And I quote:

“I did not say ten years ago—twenty years ago—forty years ago—that God had revealed THE ENTIRETY of His TRUTH to me instantaneously, even before He conferred on me His GREAT COMMISSION.

“Always I have said, “God has revealed His TRUTH, little by little, a single bit of truth at a time.” Always I have said, “I am HUMAN—subject to MISTAKES.”

“Every man God ever chose and used was the same. David was a man after God’s own heart BECAUSE he confessed errors, mistakes and sins—REPENTED, and turned from the wrong to what God showed him was right. (Emphasis in the original. There was no **bold** type in those days)

God is working with very fallible men. Human beings can be quite thick-headed in overcoming habits, traditions, and biases developed over many years and need heavy persuasion to change their minds, especially over serious matters like doctrine.

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“But God works with astounding patience in revealing His truth—even truths that should be obvious—to the church, spurring understanding by His Spirit when the time is right.” END: HWA

Mr. Armstrong knew that it was possible for him to make **mistakes**.

Brethren, I am bringing this up on this Holy Day of Atonement because there is a rift in the Church that is beginning to be erroneously, “set in stone.”

In the early days of the Radio Church of God, which became the Worldwide Church of God, a significant error was made in our understanding of the Biblical Atonement – an understanding partially inherited from non-scriptural Jewish tradition, Talmudic and Kabbalistic interpretations, apocryphal books not in the Biblical canon such as the apocryphal Book of Enoch, Muslim tradition from the Koran, none of which could be considered valid, as well as Arabic and Jewish mythology and folklore which have become the traditions of men’s religions.

We allowed false teachings to enter into our doctrine—it was a mistake on our part. That error has to do with the true meaning of the two goats of Leviticus 16. It goes back to Herbert W. Armstrong, and before, and it has to do with Leviticus 16 – the main chapter used to explain the meaning of this Day of Atonement.

One of Herbert W. Armstrong’s favorite Bibles was The James Moffatt Translation that incorrectly refers to **azazel as a demon**.

This is a totally spurious translation because “*demon*” is not in the Hebrew text:

Leviticus 16:8 Aaron shall cast lots over the goats, one lot for the Eternal and the other for ‘azâ’zêl the *demon*.
[The James Moffatt Translation]

Before HWA came along – much of the world had already concluded that *azazel* was a demon. And it has only gotten worse – even as some in the Church of God are now **doubling down** on this misunderstanding.

They too, feel that they are “loyalists – after so long a time.” Some will not consider what the clear Scriptures teach. They feel threatened by the truth of the meaning of the two goats of Leviticus 16. Brethren, here is the Truth:

Atonement is not a Feast that focuses on Satan’s actions.

Satan is **not** mentioned, referred to, or even alluded to in Leviticus 16!

There are a few translations that are wrong and spurious, like The James Moffatt Translation—but they are not of God—and you need to mark them as wrong and spurious.

It is **not** my purpose in today’s sermon to explain the two goats of Leviticus 16 in great detail.

Suffice it to say that there were two identical goats – for **one** sin offering.

One goat would not work – because it could not be brought back to life after being slain:

Two goats were needed to represent the two-fold work of Christ.

Leviticus 16:9-10 Aaron shall bring the goat upon which the LORD’S lot fell, and offer [sacrifice] him for a sin offering. But the goat, on which the lot fell to be the **azazel**, shall be presented **alive** before the LORD...

Alive – that is the key word!

At the end of the ceremony, one goat was **dead** and the other was **alive**.

(repeat)

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One goat was **dead** and the other was **alive** – just like Jesus – dead and resurrected!

That is the main theme of Leviticus 16.

I'll refer to that fact in today's sermon – but I will not **belabor** the fact.

Herbert W. Armstrong died in 1986 and things began to change as he predicted they would.

It was like when Paul warned the elders of the church at Miletus:

Acts 20:29 For I know this, that after my **departing** shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

A lifetime of his work of bringing the Gospel to the world was rapidly being **derailed**.

Only eight years after Herbert W. Armstrong died, when men from Pasadena Headquarters were getting advanced degrees from Azusa Pacific University an article came out – first in the **Pastor General's Report** to the ministry, and then in **The Worldwide News**, that read, “**Jesus Raised Himself.**”

It was an **article** based on Catholic Doctrine that twisted Christ's words.

John 2:19, 21 Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple [of His body], and in three days **I will raise it up.**

Jesus did not mean by this that He would come back to life on His own, contradicting the other verses in this regard. Rather, He was referring to the fact that once God the Father made Him alive again in His tomb, He would stand up from where He lay dead—raising Himself from His lying position to then ascend from the grave.

John 10:17-18 [Jesus said] ... I lay down my life, that I might take it again. ... I have power to lay it down, and I have **power to take it again.**

Jesus meant that He had the **privilege** of being raised to life – because the Scriptures are clear, God the Father **raised Jesus back to life.**

So, brethren, I quickly delivered a message to the Little Rock congregation – numbering over 800 brethren in those days – **showing** in two dozen Scriptures where it was God the Father who **raised Jesus back to life.**

Immediately, Pasadena sent the **Regional Director** to speak to me about my “egregious actions.”

The Regional Director's comments after listening to my tape recording of services was, “Warren, that is the best explanation of John 2:19 I've ever heard! – but do you think this was the best time to speak on this subject?”

(I thought to myself, “When, except when doctrine was under attack?”)

While the Regional Director was at my home... (he and his wife had spent the night with Sharon and I), – I received a phone call from the Pasadena –**Head of Church Administration** – informing me that I was **fired** from the ministry.

Sharon and I were disfellowshipped a week later when we continued to attend Sabbath services with our congregation.

A few years later, after that Head of Church Administration had also left Worldwide and formed another church Organization, He told me, “Warren, you were the “First” man I fired. By then, hundreds of ministers had left the Worldwide Church of God.

In today's sermon, I will present many of those clear New Testament Scriptures showing that God the Father **raised Jesus back to life.**

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It has much to do with Jesus as the **azazel** goat.

We will now have Offertory Music: Blessed is the Nation God is For. – Track 25

Collection

A Matter of Life and Death

We have atonement because of the work of Jesus Christ. The Day of Atonement is about Jesus Christ. “Each feast is a Feast to the LORD.” Jesus is the object of each Holy Day.

In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve initially shared an intimate, unbroken fellowship with God, because there had been no rejection of God and His ways.

They were free from sin and able to openly interact until disobedience ruined their relationship with God. Sin entered the world.

There was a **breakdown** in that Godly relationship when man sinned causing a state of enmity and separation to exist between God and us—because sin cannot come into God’s Holy presence.

Atonement speaks of God's act of **covering** sin in order to reestablish the original relationship between God and man.

Isaiah 59:1-2 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your **iniquities** have **separated** between you and your God, and your **sins** have hid His face from you, that He will not hear.

Because of His Holy Dignity, God the Father must remain at a distance from **all the sin** and corruption of mankind.

It is **we** who have severed the relationship with our Creator by our sins and iniquity.

The entire world, all of mankind was cut off from God.

Sin and iniquity brought the Plan of God to a standstill.

Everyone was destined to **die** in sin.

There could be no children of God to expand God’s eternal family (Ephesians 3:15).

How could the Plan of God be put **back on course**? How could this travesty be remedied? It was a matter of **life** and **death**.

There was only one way to put the Plan of God back on course.

And there was only one way to save mankind from eternal death, because our sins and iniquities are **too** much for us to bear – they are a burden **too** heavy for us to carry – they bring death:

A key Scripture – that we all know by heart is:

Romans 6:23 For the **wages of sin is death**; but the gift of God is eternal **life** through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Only Jesus—creator of the universe— was worthy and able to pay the price of sin because His life is valued **more** than all the world.

He who created all things is worth more than that which He brought into existence.

Here is a good question, “How did Christ’s redemptive act of paying for our sins with His **death** on the cross make

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reconciliation with God the Father possible?

In death, Jesus Christ paid our penalty and covered our defilement – rendering us acceptable to the Father.

Galatians 1:4 [Jesus] **gave Himself for our sins**, that He might **deliver us** from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

After all, this Day of Atonement is bringing about the restoration of all things to a right relationship with God the Father.

Atonement also means that we need to **humble** ourselves before our great and Sovereign God.

Fasting today helps us realize that all good things originate with God.

Even if it were only the water, soil, seed and sun, He provides, we would not survive for an instant without God. We must realize that He alone possesses the Wisdom of what is good and right and choose His way over our own will.

It is necessary that we yield to God **in all things**.

We were totally **cut off** from God the Father because of our sins!

Atonement shows how we were cleansed of our sins and restored to a **right relationship** with our Father.

Here is how it works: Jesus was delivered unto **death** to pay for our offences, sins and transgressions, and He was **raised to life** again for our justification, exoneration, and acquittal.

Only then are we declared to be **righteous** before the Father, and innocent of sin through Jesus Christ.

Jesus Atoning sacrifice and resurrection made it as though we had never been sinners— so that our relationship with the Father might be restored.

Here’s a technicality that we must not forget:

Our being sinless does not grant us, earn us eternal life.

As we just saw in Romans 6:23: **eternal life** is a gift of God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus prophesied of His Atonement work:

Jeremiah 33:8 And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity, whereby they have sinned against me; and I will pardon all their iniquities, whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against me.

Please Turn to The Reconciliation Chapter - 2 Corinthians 5

Here is how it works: Jesus would have to **die** for the sins of the world—and His Father would have to **restore** Him to **life** and glory!

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a **new creation**: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Spiritually, it is like the **new creation** relationship with God that Adam and Eve once enjoyed in the Garden of Eden.

With Atonement, God is replacing our **sinful flesh** with a New Creation – a new heart and a new mind like His!

Philippians 2:5 Let this **mind** be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

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So, we can see that for reconciliation between man and God to be restored requires a **monumental** work on **God the Father’s part**:

2 Corinthians 5:18 All things are of **God** [the Father], who **has reconciled us to Himself** by Jesus Christ, and has given to us the ministry of reconciliation... [not only toward God, but with all the brethren as well].

Only God [the Father] can restore a right relationship to Himself. **Only God** is able to reconcile this sinful world back to Himself. Atonement is the answer.

... “given to **us** the ministry of reconciliation” ...

God fully expects us to follow in His steps and be reconciled to others.

The ‘ministry of reconciliation’ means that our reconciliation to the Father must extend to **all the brethren** as well. We pray, “Our Father,” not “You and me Lord.” A lot of people do not practice this. It is very difficult!

This is a great sin in the Church of God today – the separation of corporate organizations, and the people of God from one another.

It is incumbent on us that **we restore right relationships with others** – as we are able, especially in the household of God. [Church brethren]

An important Point: God worked **through** Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to Himself. The Father did **not** work through anyone else to reconcile the world to Himself.

2 Corinthians 5:19 To wit, that God [the Father] was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

“not imputing their trespasses unto them,” We are no longer held guilty, nor are we blamed. Remember, that our trespasses were placed on Christ’s head? Our sins were carried away! [borne away by Christ, John 1:29]

2 Corinthians 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God.

Notice **closely** the meaning of this Day of Atonement:

2 Corinthians 5:21 For He [God the Father] has made Him [Jesus Christ] **to be sin** for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made **the righteousness of God** in Him.

Jesus bore our sins. **Jesus became sin**. God the Father had to turn **His back on sin**, represented by Jesus, and allow Him to stand alone; to die alone.

Jesus Christ willingly submitted to that estrangement.

Hanging on the stake at Passover, Jesus said, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? That is to say, My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” (Matthew 27:46) in **Hebrew**, Mark 15:34 has this quote in Chaldee or Aramaic, “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani”

God the Father had **turned away** from Jesus to let Him stand alone and die alone – because He had become “sin” personified.

Title: A Matter of Life and Death. That is a well-known phrase that involves decisions that will determine whether someone **lives** or **dies**.

Jesus must be the **enthroned** Savior on the throne of God for **reconciliation** to be entire and complete (Ephesians

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1:20, Revelation 3:21).

Had He remained **dead** after dying to cover our sins—He would be **no** Savior at all. There is no such thing as a dead Savior.

How could we rise in the clouds – and who would we meet there – if Jesus were not alive?

1 Thessalonians 4:14 For if we believe that Jesus **died** and **rose again**, even so them [the Church brethren] also which sleep in **Jesus** will God bring with Him. [Jesus Christ is **alive** again.]

1 Thessalonians 4:17 Then we who are **alive**, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to **meet the Lord** in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

In Romans 5, there is a most important Scripture that drives home to us the meaning of Atonement. Had Jesus **remained** dead after **dying** to cover our sins—He would be **no** Savior at all. Over and over in today’s sermon we will see in the Scriptures that Jesus **died** and then He **lives** again!

Paul wrote about this matter of the **life** and **death of Jesus** in this way:

Romans 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were **reconciled** to God by the **death** of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be **saved** by His **life**.

Brethren, please **mark** that verse in your Bible, because Paul **clearly** says that Atonement takes **both – death and life—**because it is salvational!

It takes... Jesus **death**, to pay the penalty of the sins of the world, and Jesus resurrection to **life**, for our salvation. The beloved apostle John described **salvation in Jesus Christ**, this way:

John 11:25-26 Jesus said unto [Martha], I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believes in me, though he were **dead**, yet shall he **live** ... and shall never die.

2Timothy 2:11 It is a faithful saying: For if we be **dead** with Him, we shall also **live** with Him:

On the Day of Atonement the sins of the entire nation of Israel were transferred to the *azazel* goat of departure. Let me give you an **exact picture** of the second goat – the goat of departure going away in fulfillment of prophecy. It was a **sad day** for Jesus’ disciples when Jesus told them that He must **depart** from them:

Jesus is the fulfilment of the *Azazel* goat of departure in His own words.

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is to your advantage that I **go away**: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I **depart**, I will send [the Holy Spirit] unto you.

Jesus did not use the word **depart** accidentally or casually. Jesus was driving a point home to us! The roots of the Hebrew word **azazel**, indicate a goat of “**departure**,” or “**going away**.”

That is a picture of the second goat—being **alive** and **departing**.

The Old Testament offerings are **about** Jesus – because, unknown to the world, all the Levitical offerings are about Jesus – they point to Jesus or have to do with Jesus and His work. There are no exceptions to this rule.

That is why there are **two** goats in Leviticus 16—one had to **die**—and one had to **live**.

The first goat had to **die** for cleansing;

The second goat, the *azazel* goat had to remain **alive** for bearing the sins away and removing them **from God's**

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presence.

To **properly** represent Jesus Christ, the Messiah, in Leviticus 16, in the Old Testament, it was necessary that an animal be sacrificed to represent Jesus Christ that could both **die** and then **live** again. [That is impossible! It takes two identical goats.]

The first goat in Leviticus 16 – selected by the LORD - represents Jesus Christ **dying** for our sins.

This is very clear...

Leviticus 16:9 And Aaron [the High Priest] shall bring the goat upon which the LORD'S lot fell, and **offer him for a sin offering.**

That first goat offered, represents Jesus Christ **dying** for our sins.

But, please remember that Jesus **died**, and then rose **again**.

That is most important if we are going to see the picture God is presenting to us.

The **first goat** being offered is **only a part** of the picture – the part the world understands - Jesus **died** for our sins.

To **properly** represent Jesus Christ, the Messiah, in Leviticus 16, it was necessary that an animal be sacrificed to represent Jesus Christ that could both **die** and then **live** again.

Where do you get an animal like that? The answer is, “You don’t.”

Unfortunately, there is no animal that could meet those qualifications.

The solution to this dilemma was to use **two** precisely identical goats for a **single sin offering**.

There is no being comparable to Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the (only occurrence in KJV) **atonement** / reconciliation is also correct [being restored to favor with God, being made right with God].

1Peter 2:24 [Jesus] Who His own self **bare our sins in His own body** on the tree, that we, being **dead** to sins [we buried the old man of sin], should **live** unto righteousness:

Not to be redundant – this theme of **death to life** is ubiquitous in the Holy Scriptures.

Colossians 1:19 For it pleased the **Father** that in Him [Jesus] should all fullness dwell;

Colossians 1:20-22 And, having made peace through the blood of His cross, through [Jesus] God **reconciled** all things unto Himself; by Him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath He **reconciled** in the body of His [Jesus] flesh through **death**, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in His sight:

The Day of Atonement pictures our being cleansed from sin and the **reconciliation** of all mankind to God.

Atonement comes in two stages: First to the brethren who are called by God, and **then** the rest of the world when God’s Spirit will be poured out on them.

...At that final fulfillment of the Day of Atonement – just prior to the Millennium.

As the Plan of God is unfolding, the realization of the Day of Atonement shows how God the Father will make

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reconciliation to Himself, possible for all the sinful world.

Joel 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will **pour out my Spirit** upon all flesh;

Christ's death on His last Passover on earth has made **reconciliation** possible for those called to be Children of God **at this time**.

We in God's Church have been **atoned for** – and have direct access to God the Father. The world, living in sin, has **not yet** been atoned for.

That is what this Day pictures—the atonement of the World.

Passover and the Day of Atonement **each** teach us about the **forgiveness** of sin and our **reconciliation** to God through Christ's sacrifice.

Brethren, we in God's Church have been reconciled to God the Father—the world awaits its justification at a soon coming Atonement Day.

For those who have **not yet** been called and receive God's Spirit, this Day of Atonement looks forward to the time shortly after Jesus has returned to this earth, and just prior to the Kingdom of God being set up in the Millennium.

It is God's intent that all men be reconciled to Him and ultimately be saved.

Hebrews 2:9 But we see Jesus, ... crowned with glory and honor; that He by the grace of God should **taste death for every man**.

John 3:17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that **the world** through Him might be saved.

1Timothy 2:3-4 ... God our Savior will have all men to be saved.

After His **death** on the cross, Jesus was **raised to life** by His Father that we might be saved.

This often repeated truth is one of the most repeated facts in the Bible.

It was prophesied in Leviticus 16, where two indistinguishable goats representing Jesus Christ were being offered.

At the end of the ceremony – one goat is **dead** and the other is **alive** (:10).

On Atonement God desired to have a sin offering that would be **sacrificed** and yet **live** to represent both the **sacrificed** Jesus Christ, and the **resurrected** Jesus Christ—the two aspects of the Day of Atonement.

The resurrection to eternal spiritual life of Jesus was the greatest miracle ever worked by God the Father.

Jesus had been **dead** and **lifeless** in His grave for three days and three nights when, as Paul said:

Ephesians 1:17-20 [I always pray] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the **Father** of glory, enlighten your eyes to the understanding of what is the hope of His calling [which is our resurrection to **life**], and what the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and what His mighty and **exceeding greatness of His power toward us**, the same power which He worked in Christ, when He **raised Him from the dead**, and **seated Him** at His own right hand in the heavenly places. {excerpted paraphrase}

After Jesus' sacrificial **death** on the cross in **payment of our sins**, God the Father, in the single greatest act of miraculous power, **raised** Jesus to eternal spiritual **life**, and glory that He possessed before the creation of the world (John 17:5) so that we might be saved.

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After His life's work on earth, God the Father enthroned Jesus at His own right hand in the heavenly places. There is a place saved there for us also: Jesus said:

Revelation 3:21: To the one who overcomes, I will grant to him to **sit with me on my throne**, just as I also overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne.

Paul compared Christ's resurrection to our resurrection:

1 Corinthians 6:14 And **God** hath both **raised up the Lord**, and will also raise up **us** by His own power.

Ephesians 2:5 Even when we were **dead** in sins, [God] hath **quickened** us together **with Christ**

Can we even begin to realize that incredible power that it took to raise the **dead** Jesus back to **life**?

That, is the **same** incredible power that God is presently using in us to bring us to the point of being His eternal Children in the Family of God?

Ephesians 1:19 What is the exceeding greatness of His power **toward us** who believe, according to the working of His mighty power,

The principle method of interpretation in God's church has always been that Scripture interprets Scripture, and that a doctrine, definition of a word, or a pattern requires at least **two or more** substantiating Scriptures.

What if a doctrine is mentioned **a few dozen times**? That shows God's **intense** emphasis on what is written.

There is a preponderance of Scripture showing that God the Father **raised** Jesus from the **dead**. *Azazel* is **alive!**

Let's look at a few more among two-dozen Scriptures indicating that Jesus Christ was **raised** from **death to life** by God the Father: Please notice how much this one single point is emphasized and driven home to us.

In Peter's sermon at Pentecost he said of Jesus:

Acts 2:24 Whom **God has raised up [to life]**, having loosed the pains of **death**: because it was not possible that He should be holden of it.

Acts 2:32 This Jesus hath **God raised up**, whereof we all are witnesses.

Peter speaking of the atoning covenant God made with Abraham saying: And in thy seed [Jesus] shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.

Acts 3:15 And killed the Prince of life [Jesus], whom **God hath raised from the dead**; whereof we are witnesses.

Acts 3:26 Unto you first **God**, having **raised up His Son Jesus**, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said:

Acts 4:10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom **God raised from the dead**, even by Him doth this man stand here before you whole.

Acts 5:29-30 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men. The **God** of our fathers **raised up Jesus**, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree.

Peter opened his mouth and said:

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Acts 10:40 Him [Jesus] **God raised up** the third day, and shewed him openly;

Paul and Barnabas at Antioch taught:

Acts 13:29-30 ... they laid Jesus in a sepulcher. But **God raised Him** from the **dead**:

Acts 13:33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that He hath **raised up Jesus** again [to **life**];

Acts 13:34 And as concerning that [God] **raised Him up** from the **dead**, now no more to return to corruption,

Acts 13:37 But He, whom **God raised** again [to **life**]; saw no corruption.

Acts 17:31 ... [God] hath **raised Him from the dead**.

Paul explains **why** Jesus Christ encompasses **both** aspects of **death** and **life**:

Romans 4:24-25 But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on [God the Father] who **raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead**; Who was delivered [unto **death**] for our offences [sins and transgressions], and was **raised [to life]** again for our justification [exoneration / acquittal / declared righteous before the Father, and innocent of sin through in Jesus Christ].

Over and over we find Paul explaining the nature of Leviticus 16's two goats.

Paul wrote about the two-fold process of atonement, and Christ's resurrection to life, beautifully:

Romans 6:4 Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into **death**: that like as **Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father**, even so we also should walk in **newness of life**.

"Walk in newness of life" has two meanings. Yes, we are to live our lives as the sinless Christ lived His life.

But, it also means that just as Christ lives eternally, we will **live** also. Our **death** penalty has been taken away, and we have **salvation** through Christ's **life** and resurrection.

Romans 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

Romans 6:7 For he that is dead is freed from sin. [Christ paid our cost.]

Romans 6:8 Now if we be **dead** with Christ, we believe that we shall also **live** with Him

Romans 6:9 Knowing that Christ being **raised from the dead** dies no more; death hath no more dominion over him.

Romans 6:10 In that [Christ] died, He **died** once unto sin: but in that He lives, He **lives** [continuously] unto God.

Romans 6:11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be **dead** indeed unto sin, but **alive** unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6:13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are **alive** from the **dead**, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

Man had sinned and the price of sin is the death of mankind.

Jesus died to pay that price in our stead.

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Interestingly enough, a great deal of the world understands that concept.

God became a man with a nature like man's sinful nature, to condemn sin in the flesh (Romans 8:3).

Paul mentions Christ's resurrection, and **ours**, to life in this single verse:

Romans 8:11 If the Spirit of Him [God the Father] who **raised Jesus from the dead** dwells in you, He who **raised Christ from the dead** will give **life** to your mortal bodies also through His Spirit that dwells in you.

Paul describes what it takes for a Christian to be saved:

Romans 10:9 That if thou shalt confess (verbally acknowledge, even covenanting with Him in obedience) with thy mouth the Lord Jesus (That He is LORD and recognizing His Power, Authority and Majesty as God), and shalt believe in thine heart that **God hath raised Him from the dead**, thou shalt be saved.

In the resurrection chapter Paul commented:

1 Corinthians 15:15 Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of **God** that He **raised up Christ** [from the **dead**]: whom He raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. [*But, they do.*]

2 Corinthians 5:15 And that He [Jesus] **died** for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but [**live**] unto Him who died for them, and rose again.

Paul trusted in God:

2 Corinthians 1:9 But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in **God who raises the dead**:

2 Corinthians 13:4 For though [Jesus] was crucified through weakness, yet **He lives by the power** (*dunamis*) **of God**.

Yes, that **power of God** is the same power we saw in Ephesians where the Father in **exceeding great power raised Jesus from the dead** and set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places.

Paul's very first words to the Galatians were:

Galatians 1:1 Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and **God the Father, who raised Him from the dead**).

Ephesians 2:5-6 Even when we were **dead** in sins, hath **quickened** us together **with Christ** [made alive, 2:1], ... And hath **raised us up** together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

Philippians 2:8-9 And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto **death**, even the **death of the cross**. Wherefore God also hath **raised Him to the highest position**, and given Him a name which is above every name:

Over and over, Paul ties our resurrection to that of Christ:

Colossians 2:12-13 Buried with Him in baptism, wherein also ye are **risen with Him** through the faith of the operation of **God**, who has **raised Him from the dead**. And you, being **dead** in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, has He **quickened** (made alive) **together with Him**, having forgiven you all trespasses.

1 Thessalonians 1:10 And to wait for [**God's**] Son from heaven, whom **He raised from the dead**, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

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1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us *again* unto a **lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead**,

Peter’s writings here are some of the most profound in the Scriptures...

1 Peter 1:18-21 [We are] redeemed ... with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, Who by Him do believe in **God**, that **raised Him up from the dead**, and gave Him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might **bring us** to God, being **put to death** in the flesh, but quickened [made **alive**] by the Spirit [of **God**].

Hebrews 5:7 In the days of His flesh, when [Jesus] had offered up [exacting] prayers and [urgent] supplications with strong crying and tears [for that which He needed] unto [**God** the Father] who was able to save Him from **death** [through the resurrection to **life**], and was heard because of His reverent submission toward God [His sinlessness and His unfailing determination to do the Father’s will]. (Amplified Bible paraphrased)

Hebrews 13:20 Now the **God** of peace, that **brought again from the dead** our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant.

That **payment of our sins** reconciled us to the Father, paving the way for us to be His eternal Children.

The Day of Atonement pictures two things Jesus does for us:

He **paid** the price of sin for us;

He **removes** the guilt of sin from us so that we can appear before His Father.

Hebrews 9:12-14 not only shows Jesus’ fulfillment of the first goat with His own blood, but also how **superior His shed blood was**, even to the point of cleansing consciences:

God the Father then declares us legally innocent of all charges.

We are completely innocent and exonerated before the High Court of heaven.

Paul writing to Roman Christians expounded on how Jesus Christ first **died** – but then He was **raised alive** again: Paul, writing of Jesus:

Romans 4:25 Who was delivered for our offences and was **raised again** [to secure] our justification.

Atonement encompasses getting right with God, and it takes both the **death** and **life** of Jesus.

With John 3:16 in mind, “God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son,” Paul wrote:

Romans 5:8 God commended His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ **died** for us.

A major theme of Paul’s writings is the **Death to Life** aspect of Jesus Christ’s life, death and resurrection.

Ephesians 2:5 Even when we were **dead** in sins, hath quickened us together [made us **alive**] with Christ, by (grace ye are saved;)

Ephesians 2:6 And [God] hath raised us up together,[Jesus and us – resurrected together] and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

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Ephesians 2:7 That **in the ages to come** He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 53:6 ... the LORD hath laid on Him [Jesus] the iniquity of us all.

The world raves about the resurrection of Jesus to life—not knowing when it took place or the significance of it:

Before our baptism, God the Father knew what sinners we had been – and why would He want to have anything to do with us? He knows good and well that we are actually guilty of sinning against Him. At that point, why would He give us the gift of eternal life?

When Jesus has paid the death sentence penalty for our sins, called for by God’s law (Romans 6:23), He purged our conscience—giving us a good reputation with our Father.

Isaiah 43:25 (Jesus speaking:) I, even I, am he that blots out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

Psalm 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us.

Jesus announced Himself to the apostle John:

Revelation 1:18 I am He who **lives**, and was **dead**; and behold, I am **alive** for evermore.

Romans 5:21 As sin has reigned unto **death**, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal **life** by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 8:6 To be carnally minded is **death**; but to be spiritually minded is **life** and peace. [Sin brings death (Romans 6:23)].

Romans 6:5 If we have been buried together in the likeness of His **death**, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection [to **life**]:

Is Paul belaboring the point? I think not!

Paul is making a vital point.

We have seen clearly in Leviticus 16:5 where Paul finds his inspiration for Christ’s two-fold, **life/death** combination, which is necessary for our reconciliation with God to take place.

In Leviticus 16 the two goats begin by being indistinguishable, but by the end of the ceremony - one is **dead** and the other is **alive**.

The two goats comprise **one offering**—two goats for a [single] sin offering (Leviticus 16:5).

God satisfied the single-sin-offering by requiring two identical goats be used to represent each of two characteristics of Atonement.

One goat’s life was sacrificed so its blood could be used to cleanse.

The second goat was left **alive** and set free, representing the living resurrected Jesus seated at the right hand of God the Father in heaven.

Romans 5:17 For if by one man’s [Adam’s] offence **death** reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in **life** by one, Jesus Christ.

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Romans 6:5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his **death**, we shall be also in the likeness of His **resurrection** [to Life]:

Isaiah 53:6 is a Biblical witness that it is **Jesus** upon whom the LORD hath laid the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:11 He shall ... justify many; for He shall **bear their iniquities**.

Isaiah 53:12 Therefore will I divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong; because He hath poured out His soul unto death: and He was numbered with the transgressors; and **He bare the sin of many**, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Again, only Jesus **bears away** our sins (John 1:29).

God satisfied the single-sin-offering by requiring two **identical** goats be used to represent each of two characteristics of Atonement.

One goat was sacrificed unto **death** – as Jesus Christ was, – and the **live** goat bore the iniquities of mankind away as Jesus Christ also does.

End: A Matter of Life and Death

For more information on this important subject, I've attached two sermons by David C. Grabbe:

<https://www.cgg.org/index.cfm/library/sermon/id/5549/azazel-beginnings.htm>

and

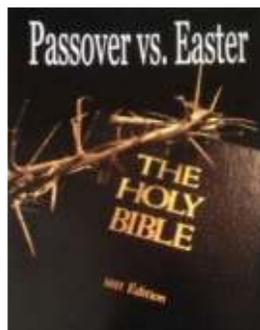
<https://www.cgg.org/index.cfm/library/sermon/id/5571/azazel-endings.htm>

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Passover vs. Easter

(Copyright 04-19-2025) by Gary C. Miller (Pocahontas, Arkansas)

WHICH ONE DO YOU OBSERVE? AND WHY?



ONE IS SCRIPTURAL AND ONE IS PAGAN The Messiah and His Disciples kept One. Pagans kept the Other.

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The Bible commands One be Observed.

Pagans kept the Other.
The True Church observed One.

Pagans kept the Other.
One is the Gateway to Eternal Life. The Pagans kept the Other.

WHICH ONE IS WHICH? DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

Messiah: “...I will keep the Passover...with my Disciples.” (Matt. 26:18)

“...This do in remembrance of Me...” (Lk. 22:19)

Disciples: Polycarp of Smyrna [Rev. 2:8-11] always observed the Passover with John, the disciple of Yahshua, and the rest of the Apostles. (Eusebius’ *“Ecclesiastical History”*, Bk. V, Ch. XXIV)

Pagans: In 159 A.D., Polycarp urged Anicetus, the bishop of the see at Rome, to observe the tradition he had received from the Apostles of observing the Passover on the 14th day of the first month. Anicetus declined. (*“The Apostolic Fathers,”* Part 2, Vol. 1, p. 450)

Bible: “In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is Yahweh’s Passover.” (Lev. 23:5)

Pagans: In 197 A.D. Passover was again discussed between Polycrates, bishop of Ephesus (Rev. 2:1-7), and Victor, bishop of Rome. (*Lightfoot*, Vol. 1, p. 393)

Victor demanded that all should adopt the usage prevailing at Rome. (*Encyclopedia Britannica*, 11 ed., vo. VIII, pp. 828-829)

True Church: “The festival, of which we read in Church history, under the Name of Easter, in the third and fourth centuries...was **not known...as Easter**. It was called **“Pasch,” or the Passover**... That festival agreed...with the time of the Jewish Passover [14th]... was...observed by many professing Christians... Was **not idolatrous**, and it was preceded by **no Lent**.” (*“The Two Babylons”*, Alexander Hislop, p. 104)

Paul: “The Messiah our Passover was sacrificed for us. Let us...keep the Feast [“Holy Day”: KJV margin; Passover].” (I Cor. 5:7,8)

Pagans: The apostasy spread until the pagan Easter was adopted at the Council of Nice in A.D. 325:

“The decision of the council was unanimous that Easter [not Passover] was to be kept on Sunday...and that none hereafter should follow the blindness of the Jews [not observe Passover on the 14th].” (*Encyclopedia Britannica*, 11 ed., vol. VIII, pp. 829)

Passover: Gateway to Eternal Life: “...Yahshua took bread... and said, Take eat; This is my Body. and He took the cup, ... saying, Drink you all of it; for this is My Blood in the New Covenant.” (Matt. 26:26-28)

“...**Except you eat the Flesh of the Son of man, and drink His Blood, you have no life in you**. Whoso eats My flesh, and drinks My blood, **has Eternal Life**; and I will raise him up at the last day.” (Jn. 6:53-54)

Pagans: Continue to observe the pagan Easter and miss Eternal Life.

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From Eden to AI – The Spiritual Cost of Trying to Play God (Copyright 04-21-2025) by David Rives (Lewisburg, Tennessee)

We’ve explored the idea that while AI is revolutionary, it remains a product of human design, devoid of organic intelligence or morality. Today, we discuss the topic of transhumanism, and the dangers of this AI cult.

Artificial Intelligence has potential for both good and evil. But its potential for harm stems from its reliance on algorithms and logic, often neglecting moral and ethical considerations. And certainly, since AI is not created in the image of God, it can’t have a true conscience or sense of morality. This leads us to the question: Where does that leave humanity in our relationship with this powerful technology?

Russell Brand, a notable podcaster and recent confessor of the Christian faith, articulated this sentiment in a social media post, stating: *“When they say ‘Science,’ they mean ‘Scientism.’ In other words, a new way of god.”* Brand’s words reflect a deeper concern that many creators of AI lack faith in any higher power beyond the constructs they are attempting to create.

Where is this godless scientism leading? Perhaps to humanity’s suicide? I know that sounds a little extreme, but there seem to be enough science fiction movies to go around that show the perils of worshiping technology and forgetting our moral compass. But this isn’t science fiction.

For example, Elon Musk recounted having a conversation with Larry Page, the founder of Google. During their talk Musk asserted that we needed to favor humans over AI. Sounds like a pretty straightforward idea, right? Regarding the development of AI, Musk said, *“We need to make sure humanity is okay.”* But instead, Larry Page said Musk was discriminating against machines! *“He called me a speciesist,”* says Musk. So, Larry Page, one of the most powerful people on earth, questioned the idea of viewing humanity as something to safeguard. And this tees up the war going on within the Artificial Intelligence community. Some believe, like Musk, we must slow down with the way we approach AI. But those like Bill Gates and Larry Page say it should be *“full steam ahead!”*

The problem is that we don’t know the consequences—we are truly in uncharted territory. Some scholars have even begun to propose that the Antichrist will eventually use AI to do signs and wonders. This leads us to the concept of transhumanism.

Many of these technologists, who believe in something called *“transhumanism”* believe in a melding of humanity with technology. They seem to think that it will lead to eternal life. The Oxford dictionary defines transhumanism like this: *“The belief or theory that the human race can evolve beyond its current physical and mental limitations, especially by means of science and technology.”*

Whichever definition you want to go with, these tech titans and self-proclaimed innovators, and CEOs of companies like Google, Neuralink (which is Elon Musk’s invention), and Biohack.me are part of a movement that envisions a Transhumanist utopia.

And this leads to things like the wild but true story of biohacker Bryan Johnson getting blood transfusions from his own son! Bryan Johnson says this, *“I will never die!”* As you can imagine, if you dig down that rabbit hole, Johnson may be mental, but people like Johnson believe that through AI and the fusion of technology with our human souls, we can transcend our biological limitations and reach toward the divine.

Zoltan Istvan, a prominent advocate of the Transhumanist political party (Yes, there really is a transhumanist political party) wrote in his article *Why I Advocate for Becoming a Machine: Biology is simply not the best system out there for our species’ evolution. It’s frail, terminal, and needs to be upgraded. In fact, even machines may be upgraded in the future too, and rendered as junk as our intelligences figure out ways to become beings of pure organized energy.*

While humanity is undeniably intelligent—celebrating our greatest athletes, brilliant engineers, and those who conquer

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the extremes—this aspiration to evolve into immortal machines creates a modern-day Tower of Babel. And notice that they relate this entire field to evolution.

This endeavor raises critical questions about morality, ethics, and the imperative to be guided not by what we can achieve, but by what we should achieve. The potential for self-destruction, much like the fate of the Tower of Babel, looms large.

Most would agree that technologies that provide biotech limbs for amputees or organs for those in need of a transplant are beneficial. When AI is applied thoughtfully and ethically, it has the power to improve countless lives. However, we must remain vigilant and not be deceived by the allure of technological omnipotence.

AI is not God, and we have to resist the age-old temptation of believing we can become like gods ourselves. This is, after all, what the serpent offered to Adam and Eve in the Garden, is it not?

So, when it comes to AI, we should keep a balanced approach that prioritizes ethical considerations and human values over unbridled ambition. This is essential to ensuring that our technological advancements serve to uplift humanity rather than lead to its downfall. We will, after all, give an account to the Supreme Creator about how we use the time that we have on Earth.

I'm David Rives,
Truly, the heavens declare the glory of God.

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To learn more, visit: <https://davidrivesministries.org/>

Nehemiah is Free

(Copyright 04-19-2025) by William P. Goff (Tuckerton, New Jersey)

Greetings Brethren,

Here we are on this Last Day of Unleavened Bread. And again, we thank you for your prayers. Nehemiah has been released, and with no harm done to him.

Kenya can be a very dangerous place, but our Creator always gets us through all of it thanks to your prayers. In (Acts 14:22) we are told *“through much tribulation enter into the Kingdom of God”*. There is no lack of tribulation in Kenya.

We thank those of you who donated, enabling us to begin moving forward on these projects. As long as we continue to address these issues like the “gate” and “rerouting the drain water from the kitchen” the authorities will leave us alone.

But we haven't reached the amount needed to finish. So let us continue praying for others to join hands with us in helping these precious orphans and widows in their many afflictions. (James 1:27).

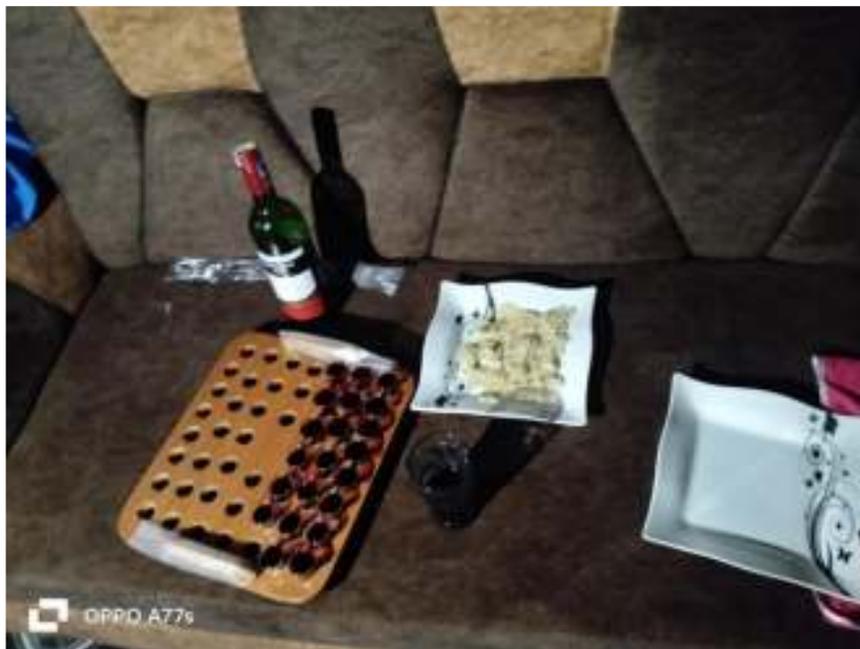
Also, no reply yet from “LifeNets” concerning help from them in paying the school fees. So please pray about that too.

We thank all of you for helping our Kenyan Brethren have a Spiritual Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread. I received the following from Dauglas today:

“Today we have just concluded the service, marking the last day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. We thank you for your wonderful support. May our Heavenly Father bless you abundantly. I was only able to distribute enough food to sustain the orphans and widows for today. I continue to pray for God's provision so that we may receive enough supplies

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to support all our brethren who are going through a difficult time, especially the orphans and widows. Our gardens are doing well, but nothing is ready for harvest.
Dauglas Henry."



Passover at Getionko

Your brother in Christ.
Bill Goff

Website: <https://khofh.com/>

E-mail: goffb50@aol.com

Donate: <https://khofh.com/support-us/>

Kenya Hands of Hope, a 5013c charity founded in 2006 by William P. Goff

Website: [KHOFH – Kenya Hands of Hope](#)

Send Donations to:

Kenya Hands of Hope, 334 E. Main Street, Bldg. B Unit A-3, Tuckerton, NJ 08087

PayPal Donations: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=GYQKRX264EMNW

Please consider donating monthly by PayPal or e-checks scheduled through your bank.

For More Information:

Phone: (843) 447-0140

Email: goffb50@aol.com

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<https://khofh.org/>

Letters

(Copyright 05-18-2025) by Kasuba Manad (Luapula Province, Zambia)

05-05-2025

URGENT!!

MARK 16:15

Dearest Saints of our High Most God, SISTER LAURA LEE,
Warmest Christian greetings to each one of you all, your beloved families and all the dear brethren at your Church in the Precious Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Myself, my beloved families, the Orphans under my care and all the dear brethren at our Home Church we greet each one of you with so much Christian love.

How are you and your beloved families? It is my sincere hope and prayers that you are still expanding God's Kingdom in these last days of earth's history.

Our situation here may be very different from yours. Here we have so many areas where people they have never seen and have their own copy of the Bible. It is not easy to buy Bible here because it is expensive. So once again, I am here humbly requesting you all in the Precious Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, if you can buy us Bibles in the local language.. Scriptures are necessary to bring the Church to the destiny God has for it. Without Bibles, preachers and Christian find it hard to know.

The Bibles says in 2COR 9:7 " Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly; or of necessity for God loveth a cheerful giver"

We shall continue to pray for you, your beloved families, all the dear brethren at your Church and God's work you are faithfully doing. Please continue to pray for me, my beloved families, the Orphans under my care and God's work I am doing here.

It is more encouraging to hear from you soon again,
YOURS IN HIS SERVICE!
SHALOM, SHALOM,
ELDER KASUBA MANAD

05-18-2025

EZEKIEL 33:7-9

Dearest Saints of our Master Jesus Christ, SISTER LAURA LEE,
Warmest Christian greetings to each one of you all, your beloved families and all the dear brethren at your Church in the Precious Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

How are you and your beloved families? It is my sincere hope and prayers that you are doing God's work in this end of the world. May the Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless you more abundantly for the good work you are faithfully doing for the expansion of His Kingdom.

The following is my postal address.
ELDER KASUBA MANAD,
FEED MY LAMB MINISTRY: JOHN 21:15-17,
P.O.BOX 740009, NCHELENGE 740000,
LUAPULA PROVINCE, ZAMBIA.

The Bibles in the local language we are requesting is BEMBA 052(ICIBEMBA). Your cooperation in this regard will be

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highly appreciated.

We shall continue to pray for you, your beloved families, all the dear brethren at your Church and God's work you are faithfully doing. Please continue to pray for me, my beloved families, the Orphans under my care, all the dear brethren at our church and God's work I am doing here.

It is more encouraging to hear from you soon again,
SHALOM, SHALOM,
BRO.KASUBA MANAD

Response:

We are a Church of God Newsletter. We do not collect money from anyone, so therefore we do not have any money to use to donate bibles but some do that so maybe someone reading this newsletter will contact you.
Laura Lee

Letters

(Copyright 06-08-2025) by Obed Mambwe (Kawambwa, Zambia)

04-19-2025

Noted with thanks 🙏
Obed Mambwe

04-26-2025

Thank you for sharing and we learn more a lot 🙏
Mambwe obed

05-03-2025

Thank you very much and we are really much appreciated.
Mambwe obed

05-17-2025

Praise God and with
Together in God is work,
Obed

05-24-2025

Thank you for newsletter and we are much beneficiaries.
Together in God is work,
Mambwe obed

05-31-2025

Thank you for newsletter and we are much beneficiaries. Therefore, we are waiting for donations of funds for Bibles in our local languages. It's our prayers each and every time God will send many supporters because the demands are so great right now. Matthew 9:37-38. Thank you and it's more encouraging to hear from you soon.
Mambwe obed

06-08-2025

Thanks a lot 🙏
Obed

Countdown 464 – Inherit the Kingdom (Copyright 04-19-2025) by Warren Zehrung (Little Rock, Arkansas)

Dear Brethren,

Today is the Last Day of Unleavened Bread. God gives us His instructions for the Day, and says unto us:

Leviticus 23:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the **Feasts of the LORD**, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are My feasts.

Leviticus 23:4-8 These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons. In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD'S Passover. And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat **unleavened bread**. In the first day ye shall have an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein. But ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD seven days: in the **seventh day** [the Last Day of Unleavened Bread] is an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.

The Feasts of the Lord are rich in symbolism and meaning of which the world is blind—and they are commanded assemblies for the Children of God. In today's sermon we will be speaking on the important subject of **Inheriting the Kingdom**. Jesus is speaking here:

Matthew 25:34: Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, **Inherit the Kingdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

Let's begin with the story of Melchizedek and Abram because it takes place at the same time as the Feasts of the LORD, Passover and Unleavened Bread.

Genesis 14:18 And Melchizedek King of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and He was the priest of the most high God.

Yes, Melchizedek was Jesus Christ—priest of the most high God.

Genesis 14:19 And [Jesus] blessed [Abram], and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, **possessor of heaven and earth**: [God owns everything, and is able to give it to whomever He pleases.]

There is a subtle implication here—maybe not so subtle—is that Jesus Christ who possessed heaven and earth, would be able to bless Abraham immensely! Or, as in:

Genesis 15:1 ... I am thy shield, and **thy exceeding great reward**.

What was Abraham's take-away from his encounter with Jesus Christ on that early occasion at the time of the Passover and Unleavened Bread of Genesis 15? **First**, was the most important point that Abraham would produce a child in his old age. That would certainly be necessary when considering the subject of inheritance.

Genesis 15:2 And Abram said, Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless?
The subject being considered here is: "who will be **Abraham's heir**?"

Genesis 15:3 And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed [child]: and, lo, one born in my house is **mine heir**.

Jesus was pleased to give Abraham a sign that He would perform His promise to give Abraham children. Abraham understood that Christ would work out the salvation of the entire world through him. And Paul shows us that all who are baptized unto Christ, Jews and gentiles alike, are also Abraham's children and **heirs to God's promise**:

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Galatians 3:22 But the Scripture has concluded all under sin, that the promise [heirs according to the promise] by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that **believe**. [like Abraham believed]

Galatians 3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Galatians 3:29 And if you are Christ's [Jew nor Gentile, does not matter], then you are Abraham's seed, and **heirs according to the promise**.

Spoiler-Alert: Some people like to turn to the end of a book to see how everything winds up when all is said and done. On God's Holy Days we take a look at the Plan of God—and our part in it. What then, is in store for the **people of God** in the resurrection—and what will they **inherit** as the Children of God?

Revelation 21:7 He that overcomes shall **inherit all things**; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. [Eternal Children of God—possessing all Godly things!]

Back to those things Abraham was able to understand because of the Sacrificial Covenant of Genesis 15. **Secondly**, Abraham's take-away was that, not only would he have a child, but he would have thousands, millions, even billions of descendants **of heirs**— multiplied exceedingly!

Thirdly, Abraham found out that he was **going to die**—and yet see his offspring in the far distant future receive the **promised inheritance**.

Genesis 15:15 And thou shalt **go to thy fathers in peace**; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.

Fourth, Abraham's take-away was, Jesus' passing through the slain sacrifice indicated that Jesus was going to forfeit His life—but then be **raised** back to life.

Fifth, Abraham realized that if **all sinners died** for their sins, Jesus would not have been the Savior—the giver of Eternal Life in the resurrection. God promised Abraham with an irrefutable oath that he would become great — Abraham himself becoming the father of many nations (Genesis 12:2, :7; Galatians 3:16; Genesis 17:5).

Sixth, Abraham's take-away was that he knew that only God Himself could fulfill the Covenant He was making – and bring His **promises of inheritance** to fruition.

Seventh, Abraham discovered that Christ would work out the salvation of the entire world through him.

Every reader of the New Testament is admonished to diligently study the example of Israel coming out of Egyptian slavery. Jesus said,

Exodus 3:8 And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; [the Promised Land]

God certainly did His part to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians. At the end of the Days of Unleavened Bread Israel crossed the Red Sea—headed for the Promised Land—free at last! Probably many of them said to themselves, “We have it made now!” Brethren let's remember that our calling is a difficult, hard journey.

1Corinthians 10:1-6 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; And did all eat the same spiritual meat; And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that **Rock was Christ**. But with many of them God was **not well pleased**: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.

As we complete the Days of Unleavened Bread, let's realize that we too are heading out into a perilous wilderness — a world of many dangers. Our goal must be to draw ever near to God so that we may **Inherit the Kingdom**.

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Listen to Live Services at 2:00 PM Central Time on the Holy Days by calling the Free Conference Call dial-in number, (667) 770-1685 and entering the Participant access code: 696903# The playback number is (667) 770-1688. The playback Reference Number for the LDUB is 419#.

We wish everyone a spiritually fulfilling Last Day of Unleavened Bread.

Your brother in Christ,

Warren M. Zehrung

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God's Law is a Blessing
(Copyright 04-19-2025) by Rod Reynolds (Wentzville, Missouri)

The world as a whole is groping in darkness and blindness for a path to happiness, peace, safety and life. In the world many don't realize they can't see. They don't realize they are blind and walking in darkness. They think they are walking in light and that they know the path to a better, fuller, happier life. Yet, they keep falling into pits. They keep stumbling into snares. And the result is a world full of unhappiness, misery, suffering and death.

At the same time, they have nothing but contempt and scorn for the light that would show them the true path and lead them to safety and happiness. They, oddly enough, don't regard the light as a blessing, but rather as a curse. How about you. Do you know what is the true light? And do you regard it as a blessing or a curse?

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Sermon Link: [God's Law is a Blessing | COGMessenger](#)

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Miracles of World War II

(Copyright 06-14-2025) by Rod Reynolds (Wentzville, Missouri)

Dear Friends and Brethren,

June 14, 2025, is the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States Army, established officially by an act of the Continental Congress on June 14, 1775, less than two months after the Revolutionary War had begun with the battles of Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts.

Many individuals from that time to now have served sacrificially in times of peace and war, in the Army and other military services of the United States, nearly a million total estimated to have been killed in the nation's wars, with many more seriously wounded and maimed. Of course, many millions more have been killed and wounded in other wars among nations throughout mankind's history. God has allowed this, although had his laws been obeyed from the beginning none of this slaughter and suffering would have occurred.

God foresaw, however, that there would be such deadly conflict among nations, and that the people he had chosen, the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, would be opposed by enemies and that he would intervene for them near the end of this age to make his covenant promises of national greatness for the descendants of Israel, and particularly the descendants of Joseph, a reality. For more on this general subject I recommend you read "The United States and Britain in Prophecy" available at cogmessenger.org, and the sources mentioned in that article.

Jacob, or Israel, had prophesied of some of what would befall the descendants of the tribe of Joseph, which consisted of the descendants of his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh. "Joseph is a fruitful bough, A fruitful bough by a well; His branches run over the wall. The archers have bitterly grieved him, Shot at him and hated him. But his bow remained in strength, And the arms of his hands were made strong By the hands of the Mighty God of Jacob (From there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel)" (Genesis 49:22-24). Evidence indicates that the descendants of these two brothers are represented by the British peoples and the United States, though, of course, that doesn't mean every single individual in these nations are physical descendants of Ephraim or Manasseh. But the prophecy indicates that God would intervene in their affairs and in particular to help them prevail over enemies who hated them and would be at war with them.

Though in the Revolutionary war these two brother nations were at odds with one another, most of the period of their existence they have been allies and have supported one another, especially in the twentieth century wars of World War I and World War II. God does at times intervene in the affairs of mankind to work out his purpose, which is ultimately salvation and peace for the world at large, all nations and peoples included.

He intervened for Israel in ancient times to free them from slavery in Egypt, and to help them inherit the land of Canaan as he had promised to their forebears. Has he also intervened in modern times to help Britain and America to survive and prevail in desperate wars against enemies who sought to subjugate them, particularly in World War II? I, along with many others, including political and military leaders involved in those wars, believe he has.

For today's sermon, I suggest "[Miracles of World War II](#)," which provides a review of evidence that God has and does intervene in our affairs to work out his purposes.

In Christian love,
Rod Reynolds

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Countdown to WW III

(Copyright 06-06-2025) by Dwight Fleming (Orville, California)

In the days and weeks ahead, the world is holding its breath to see what Russia's response will be to the latest drone attack against their air bases hosting nuclear-capable strategic bombers. This unprecedented attack by Ukraine will not go unpunished. The degree and extent of Russia's retaliation will soon play out with dire consequences.

Are we headed for an eventual nuclear confrontation with Russia?

Scott Ritter, former UN weapons inspector, believes that we are on the cusp of World War III. His analysis of the drone attack against Russian bombers is chilling and eye-opening to how close we are to great loss of life via a pre-emptive nuclear strike against Europe and America.

The video of his interview by Judge Napolitano is linked below. Do not delay watching it. Russia's response may have already commenced by the time you receive this article. President Trump does not have much leverage in bringing a resolution to the Ukraine War.

Ritter believes that the UK supported and helped plan this attack against Russia's bombers with U.S. senators perhaps adding their unofficial and private endorsements. This means that American lives have been put in danger if Russia should ever believe that a pre-emptive strike against U.S. based missiles is their best option for survival.

Bible prophecy reveals that a nuclear attack against America won't occur until the first four trumpets begin to sound as described in Revelation eight. Before that happens, the Beast of Revelation 13 must arise. This future Beast will be a military and economic union of Russia, Germany, and the United Kingdom (Britain). It may not seem possible now. But this current Ukraine War, which is really a war between NATO and Russia, will eventually bring about some dramatic political changes in the geo-political landscape of Europe.

The economic cracks of America's financial empire are showing with an eminent collapse of America's current hegemony on the world stage. Without U.S. support, NATO eventually will dissolve. European countries that presently view Moscow as the "Big Bad Wolf," will realize just how much they need Russia as an ally to counter the American toxic foreign policies due to our economic turmoil.

"First of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgiving be offered for everyone—for kings and all those in authority—so that we may lead tranquil and quiet lives in all godliness and dignity. This is good and pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who wants everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:1-4).

Video links:

Scott Ritter: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5p_faUdJT3w

"Pray For Me!" music

video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQEHQOC2Mm4&pp=0gcJCbIJAYcqIYzv>

Holy Days 2025

Trumpets – September 23, 2025

Atonement – October 2, 2025

Tabernacles – October 7, 2025, to October 13, 2025

Last Great Day – October 14, 2025