

PROPHECY FLASH!

A magazine of insight and understanding of Biblical truth and prophecy for our time.

Vol.28, No.6 Triumph Prophetic Ministries PO Box 842, Omak WA 98841 Jan.-Feb. 2015

Telephone: (509) 826-7997; E-mail: triumphpro@aol.com

APOSTATE!

**What Is the Synagogue of
Satan?**

**The Great Apostasy and the
Perfect Storm!**

A Nation Divided

Prophecy Flash! (USPS 18-324) is published bi-monthly by Triumph Prophetic Ministries (Church of God) at 141 Johnson Creek Road, Omak, WA 98841. Periodicals Postage paid at Omak, WA and additional mailing offices. Telephone: (509) 826-7997. Email: triumphpro@aol.com
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Triumph, Box 842, Omak WA 98841.

Editor
William F. Dankenbring

A Voice in the Wilderness

God tells His servants in His Word, “Cry aloud, spare not. Lift up your voice like a trumpet and declare to My people their transgression and to the house of Jacob their sins!” (Isa.58:1, Parallel Amplified Bible).

God also declares: “Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to the heart of Jerusalem, and cry to her that her time of service and her warfare are ended, that [her punishment is accepted and] her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received [punishment] from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.”

We are living in a world gone berserk with anger and rage. “Why do the nations rage?” (Psalm 2:1). Answer – because they don’t know the true God, and are in rebellion against His laws and teachings and the true way of life and peace!

Isaiah wrote: “A voice of one who cries: *Prepare in the wilderness the way of the Lord* [clear away the obstacles]; make straight and smooth a highway for our God. . . . And the glory (majesty and splendor) of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it” (Isaiah 40:3-5).

The Messiah is coming very SOON! Its time to prepare to MEET Him! “Surely the Lord will do nothing without revealing His secret to His servants the prophets” (Amos 3:7). The purpose of this magazine is to warn the world of what lies ahead, and to help prepare people to get ready to meet the Messiah, when He returns to restore all things (Acts 3:19-21), put an end to wars, and usher in the Kingdom of God! The prophet Amos declared, “*Prepare to meet your God, O Israel*” (Amos 4:12). No matter is more urgent, today!

Table of Contents

APOSTATE! What Is the Synagogue of Satan?	3
The Great Apostasy and the Perfect Storm!	23
A Nation Divided Cannot Stand	31
Contact Us	38
Prophecy Briefs	39
New Articles	46
America’s Identity in Prophecy	49
Letters from Our Readers	50

More Warning Flags Flying

The year 2015 promises to be a major year of pivotal changes, continuing collapse and confrontation, around the world, with catastrophic escalating financial troubles and perhaps the demise of the dollar as a standard of world currency. But it also promises to be a year of GREAT RELIGIOUS CONFLICT – APOSTASY!

God is watching mankind from heaven, with dismay and even disgust, as He sees nations going at each other’s throats, wars escalating, divisions ripping nations apart, terrorism increasing, with massive and horrendous RELIGIOUS CONFLICTS – WARS – increasing everywhere you look! Apostasy – turning from the truth – has seized the world everywhere. America and the whole world are being weighed in the divine balances, and found wanting. The handwriting of impending judgment is being written rapidly on the wall!

-- William F. Dankenbring

APOSTATE!

What Is the *Real* Synagogue of Satan?

Reader beware! This article faces head-on the spiritual forces that leveled a full-out attack on the Christian faith in the Western world. On the one hand, it is a story of demonic possession, insanity, suicide, mass murder, adultery, homosexuality, cultural and social revolutions and unbridled, maniacal apostasy. It is the story of apostasy on a massive scale.

William F. Dankengring

Whatever happened to the teachings of the first century Church of God – the Church Jesus built?

Jesus said, “I will build My church; and the gates of hell will not prevail against it” (Matt.16:18).

Whatever happened to that pure, pristine, spiritual church?

Somehow, Christian influence has lost ground in every cultural area of leadership and influence in Europe and America since 1700. This is an undeniable fact. The modern “remnant”, remaining Christians are divided, split up into countless sects, cults, and divisions – each claiming to represent Christ – yet each denying everyone else! America, originally settled by pilgrims seeking freedom to live by God’s Word and their Christian conscience, has been transmogrified into an apostate, secular, worldly kingdom of political cronyism, chicanery, avarice and religious despotism.

Many, seeing the sad state of affairs, search for an explanation. They seek answers. They want to know how it happened. The Church somehow was blindsided – hijacked – by the forces of evil. Our forefathers believed in a Creator God, and that He rules in the affairs of men. But modern leaders believe in Darwinian evolutionary theory, secular education, progressivism, and God’s Word has been jettisoned from the public square, courtrooms, and abortion has replaced the right to life!

What happened? How did it happen? Where did we go wrong?

The Great Falling Away

Jeremiah prophesied of the flagrant End-Time rebellion that would occur within the very Church of God at the close of the age, before the coming of the Messiah. He was inspired to write: “A horrible and shocking thing has happened in the land: The prophets prophesy lies, the priests rule by their own authority [pretending it is ‘God’s Authority’!], and my people LOVE IT THIS WAY. But what will you do in the end?” (Jer.5:30-31).

Thousands today put their trust in "Church authority." They believe smugly that their church is “the ONLY Church of God.” They confidently trust their ministry never to mislead them. They think to themselves, “If there is wrong in the Church, God will correct it in due time. I don’t have to worry about it God would never let the ministry go astray, or lead us astray. Why, after all, this is God’s own Church!”

Jeremiah prophesied that people would make that very boast, during the End Time! He wrote: “This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Reform your ways and your actions, and I will let you live in this place. Do not trust in deceptive words and say, ‘This is the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord!’ If you REALLY change your ways and your actions and deal with each other justly, if you do not oppress the alien, the fatherless or the widow and do not shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not follow other gods, to your own harm, then I will let you live in this place, in the land I gave your forefathers for ever and ever. But look, you are TRUSTING IN DECEPTIVE WORDS that are worthless” (Jer.7:3-8).

Modern Church Idolatry

People who have the attitude, “This is the Church of God, the Church of God, the Church of God!” and who put their trust in the “Church of God” are foolish and, as God Himself says, are “trusting in deceptive words.” God thunders, “Behold, ye trust in LYING WORDS, that cannot profit” (Jer.7:8, King James Version).

The apostle Paul gave us a similar warning. He declared, “Now the Spirit clearly says that in later times some will ABANDON the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. Such teachings come through HYPOCRITICAL LIARS, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron” (I Tim. 4:1-2). The Greek word for liars or lies, as used in this verse, is *pseudologos* – and this is the only place it is used in the New Testament. The usual word for “lies” is *pseudos*. But this is talking about “lying words” or speech in the context of hypocrisy – something which conveys the subtlety of very cunning lies and deceptions, something beyond just normal run-of-the-mill “lies.”

These "lies" are carefully thought out and arranged and orchestrated clever DECEPTIONS, which seem close to the truth, and may even appear true, at first glance, or to the superficial observer. But these "lies" are Satan's subtle misinformation, his clever alterations, and cunning hiding of the truth under a covering that SEEMS right on the surface. It may even SOUND like the truth – but is not! Something is not quite correct – something is very cleverly altered, to deceive and delude people! To trust in such lies leads to DEATH!

In other words, Satan gives the truth a little "spin." He "shades" the truth ever so slightly, to alter the meaning and emphasis. The lies that are hardest to detect are those that are slight twists or variations on the truth. So slight that they may still sound like the truth, and may seem virtually indistinguishable from it! But they are COUNTERFEITS of the real truth, and lead people into apostasy and spiritual error! Satan knows that by injecting little "shadings" of the truth, he can eventually change entire doctrines and major beliefs, in time – he can inject sufficient error to cause God to frown upon His erring people, and have to punish them. Satan knows that blatant lies would be rejected by most people, so he is very assiduous and subtle in his approach!

To assume that you are protected from Satan's deceptions just because you are a physical PART of the Church, is a dangerous assumption! Adam and Eve may have assumed that they were in no danger, because they were right in Paradise – the Garden of Eden! But the serpent's cunning still caught Eve off her guard, and she was deceived rather easily and quickly! God warns us, "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (I Cor.10:12).

God says of His End Time Church, "The shepherds are senseless and do not inquire of the LORD; so they do not prosper *and all their flock is SCATTERED*" (Jer.10:21). Yes, scattered through hundreds or even thousands of denominations, sects, cults, and victimized and ravaged by spiritual WOLVES in sheep's clothing!

What Really Happened?

The Roman Catholic Church keeps Sunday, the first day of the week as a day of rest and calls it the Lord's Day, as do most Protestant churches around the world and they are not keeping the faith once delivered to the early church and are misdirected away from the truth of God into error.

"To turn aside the justice due a man before the face of the Most High, or subvert a man in his cause—the Lord does not approve" (Lamentations 3:35-36). The greatest subverter (deceiver) in all history is Satan the devil, and he does this in many different ways. "So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the devil and Satan, who *deceives the whole world*; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him" (Rev.12:9).

Satan the devil exists, and he is the prince and god of this world. He has deceived all the nations, one way or another. This why God tells us “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error” (I John 4:1-6).

The apostle Paul foretold, “And you (Christians) He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others” (Ephesians 2:1-3).

The Beginning of Apostasy

Millions put their trust in the various Christian churches of God which claim to teach the Word of God. It is like a “mother” to them. Yes they will be punished and destroyed, God says, for the large professing churches are no longer truly His Church because of sins and compromises with the truth and perversions of true doctrine.

The prophet Hosea writes, “YOU stumble day and night and the prophets STUMBLE with you. So I will DESTROY YOUR MOTHER [the Church, which is the “mother of us all” – Gal.4:26]; my people are DESTROYED from lack of knowledge. Because you have REJECTED KNOWLEDGE, I also reject you as my priests [“ministers”]; because you have ignored the LAW of your God, I also will ignore your children. The more the priests increased [the more the End Time Churches of God grew and increased in numbers and size], the MORE THEY SINNED AGAINST ME.”

God warns; “they exchanged their Glory for something disgraceful. They feed on the sins of my people and relish their wickedness. And it will be: Like people, like priests. I will punish both of them for their ways and repay them for their deeds. They will eat but not have enough; they will engage in PROSTITUTION [whoring with the civil governments of the world, the world's educational accreditation committees, and committing spiritual “incest” with the world's churches!] but not increase [their growth and income will suffer], because they have deserted the LORD to give themselves to PROSTITUTION, to old wine [old pagan erroneous doctrines] and new [bizarre new interpretations], which take away the UNDERSTANDING of my people . . . *A spirit of prostitution leads them astray; they are unfaithful to their God*” (Hos.4:5-12).

We have been called out of the world and our former lives where we were wrapped up in sinful attitudes and evil practices and walking according to the course of this world—according to the prince of the power of the air—Satan the devil who now works actively in the sons of disobedience. Now God has made us alive in Christ, even though we were dead in spirit. All of those who serve God are called to be in his church.

But our Adversary, the Devil, stands in our way. As Peter wrote, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour” (I Peter 5:8).

The Lions of Tsavo

The mention of a roaring lion brings back to my memory a book I read entitled *Man-eaters of Tsavo* written by John Henry Patterson in 1907 that recounts his experiences while overseeing the construction of a railroad bridge in what would become Kenya. The Tsavo man-eater attacks occurred while working on the Uganda Railway. The nearest large city to the man-eater attacks was Mombasa, the largest city then and second largest city now in Kenya. The railway reached Lake Victoria at Port Florence, now Kisumu, which at that time was in Uganda territory. Patterson, a Lieutenant Colonel in the British army and trained as an engineer was hired. He was also an experienced big-game hunter.

While he is working on this, two man-eating lions known as the [Tsavo man-eaters](#) showed up. They would stop at nothing for a bite of human flesh and the first attempts to stalk, capture or keep them out of the camp fail. They attack the camp hospital and kill a patient. Even after the hospital is moved, one lion penetrates the thick, thorn fence called a [boma](#) built to protect it and drags the water carrier away to his death. Eventually, the first lion is defeated by baiting it with a tethered goat while Patterson keeps watch from an elevated stand – though for a few tense moments Patterson himself becomes the hunted. The lions are not the only challenge to completing the bridge project. Tensions between native workers and Sikhs brought in from British East India to work on the project (coolies) threaten to stop the project. The railway project was controversial and the British Press referred to it as “The Lunatic Express”, as critics considered it a waste of funds, while supporters argued it was necessary for transportation of goods.

After Patterson completes the bridge, he learns that a lion has been trying to destroy the train station. When he goes to see, he finds big bloodstains where the lion was trying to slash the roof. There were three men in one compartment and an uncertain number of coolies in another. Two of the men had been sleeping on the floor when the lion gained entrance. The lion was on one of the men while trying to attack another. The third man, in an effort to get to the other section, which the coolies had been holding shut with their turbans, leapt on to the lion’s back, and tried desperately to get through. The coolies opened the door just wide enough for him to get through, and then tied it shut again. As for the other men, one got carried off and eaten by the lion, while the other man lay very still, probably saving his own life. Hearing this, Patterson decides to go after this lion and eventually kills it.

Satan is likened to one of those man-eating lions, seeking whom he may devour. The apostle Peter says we must “*resist* Satan, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. To Him be glory and the dominion forever and ever.” (I Peter 5:9-11).

How does Satan deceive the world? He is the master of deception. He sends false ministers, disguised as ministers of righteousness, and creates false churches with false, pagan doctrines, to mislead the multitudes!

Prophesied Long Ago

Peter warned the church, even in his day, “There were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you (brethren), who will secretly bring in destructive heresies (doctrines), even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber” (II Peter 2:1-3).

Even in the days of Moses there was Korah’s rebellion against the Lord and he gathered the entire congregation against Moses and Aaron at the door of the tabernacle of meeting as recounted in Numbers 16. In the time of Abraham there was Ishmael who scorned Isaac so he and his mother Hagar were sent away. In Jacob’s day Esau went astray and hated his brother seeking to kill him. In our day, Peter says many will follow their destructive and deceitful ways. Because of them the truth of God will be blasphemed and people will not accept God’s truth or correction.

The apostle Paul warns us about people in the last days who “do not like to retain God in their knowledge. God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving unmerciful; who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also *approve of those who practice them.*” (Romans 1:28-32).

These people will try to deceive you with their deceptive words and ways. Declares Peter, “By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber” (II Peter 2:3). Their destruction is coming. We need to beware, so we are not led astray from the way of the truth of God.

This falling away is also described in the second letter to the Thessalonians. Who is Paul talking about here? He is including all these churches today and the splits away from the Churches from A to Z where the ministers go on radio and television preaching their gospel (money-making, feel-good, gospel of success, purpose-filled—(whatever they choose), but do not preach the full salvation and gospel of Jesus Christ and the kingdom of God. They say they do, but they subvert the truth.

Paul says in I Thessalonians 5:21, “PROVE, [TEST, EXAMINE] ALL THINGS; hold fast that which is good [true].” Paul praised the church in Berea, saying, “The Bereans were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica in that *they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so*. Therefore many of them believed and also not a few of the Greeks, prominent women as well as men” (Acts 17:11-12).

The Course of Apostasy

Paul had great concern for the faithfulness of the Corinthians, during the first century. He saw them making mistakes, going off into splits and divisions. So he wrote to them, saying: “Oh that you would bear with me in a little folly; and indeed you do bear with me. For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you may well put up with it!” (II Cor.11:1-4).

The gospel of the kingdom in one sense is simple. It is not complicated and hard for anyone to understand. It is written so that anyone who comes in a prayerful attitude of mind will understand.

Paul continues: “For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted – you may well put up with it!” (II Corinthians 11:4). Then he adds: “But what I do, I will also continue to do, that I may cut off the opportunity from those who desire an opportunity to be regarded just as we are in the things of which they boast. For such are **false apostles**, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. *Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works*” (verses 12-15).

Paul was amazed at how gullible the Corinthians were. He said in palpable unbelief, “For you put up with fools gladly, since you yourselves are wise! For you put up with it if one brings you into bondage, if one devours you, if one takes from you, if one exalts himself, if one strikes you on the face. To our shame I say that we were too

weak for that! But in whatever anyone is bold – I speak foolishly – I am bold also.” (verses 19-21).

End-Time Deception

“But know this, that in the last days *perilous times* will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, Always learning but *never able to come to the knowledge of the truth*” (II Timothy 3:1-7).

“Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith; but they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also was” (v.8-9).

Paul continues his warning: “But you have *carefully followed* my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra, what persecutions I endured. And out of them all, the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus” (II Timothy 3:10-15).

How can we steer clear of the massive great deception all around us, today? The great swindle – the gigantic hoax? Paul pinpoints the truth, saying: “All Scripture 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” (v.16-17).

Turned to Fables

Paul continues in the next chapter, describing conditions in the church in the end time. He relates, “For the time is coming when people will not tolerate (endure) sound and wholesome instruction, but, having ears itching [for something pleasing and gratifying], they will gather to themselves one teacher after another to a considerable number, chosen to satisfy their own liking and to foster the errors they hold, and will turn aside from hearing the truth and wander off into myths and man-made fictions” (II Tim.4:3-4, Amplified Bible).

The apostle John also wrote on the problem facing the church in these times. He declared, “Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. [These antichrists are teaching replacement theology, their own interpretation of Scripture coupled with their own ideas, instead of preaching the gospel of Christ that He brought from God the Father]. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they

had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out *that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us*" (I John 2:18-19).

The Words of Ezekiel

Ezekiel the prophet was inspired also to warn us in advance of latter-day ministers, churches, and preachers, who claim to represent Christ and serve God: "And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who prophesy, and say to *those who prophesy out of their own heart*, "Hear the word of the LORD." Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Because you have spoken nonsense and envisioned lies, therefore I am indeed against you,' says the Lord GOD. My hand will be against the prophets who envision futility and who divine lies; they shall not be in the assembly of my people, nor be written in the record of the house of Israel, nor shall they enter into the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the Lord GOD" (Ezekiel 12:1-2, 8-9).

All these ministers out there today who rise up and claim, "I am a servant of God, an apostle, a prophet" and so forth and so on – need to heed what God says. Notice! Isaiah says where they should look, for doctrine and teaching – "*To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them*" Isaiah 8:20). The WORD OF GOD, HIS LAW AND TEACHING – TESTIMONY – IS OUR *TRUE STANDARD TO EVALUATE EVERYTHING!*

Ezekiel goes on: "And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'Son of man, prophesy against the *prophets of Israel* who prophesy, and say to those who prophesy out of their own heart, "Hear the word of the Lord.'" Thus says the Lord GOD: 'Woe to the foolish prophets, who follow their own spirit and have seen nothing! O Israel, your prophets are like foxes in the deserts. You have not gone up into the gaps to build a wall for the house of Israel to stand in battle on the day of the LORD. They have envisioned futility and false divination, saying, "Thus says the LORD!" But the *LORD has not sent them*; yet they hope that the word may be confirmed. Have you not seen a futile vision, and have you not spoken false divination? You say, "The Lord says," *but I have not spoken.*"' (Ezekiel 13:1-7).

"Because, indeed, because they have seduced My people, saying, 'Peace!' when there is no peace—and one builds a wall, and they plaster it with untempered *mortar*—say to those who plaster it with untempered *mortar* that it will fall. There will be flooding rain, and you, O great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind shall tear it down. Surely, when the wall has fallen, will it not be said to you, 'Where is the mortar with which you plastered it?'"

"Therefore thus says the Lord God: 'I will cause a stormy wind to break forth in my fury; and there shall be a flooding rain in my anger, and great hailstones in fury to consume it. So I will break down the wall you have plastered with untempered mortar, and bring it down to the ground, so that its foundation will be uncovered; it will fall, and you shall be consumed in the midst of it. Then you shall know that I am the Lord.' Thus will I accomplish my wrath on the wall and on those who have plastered it with untempered mortar; and I will say to you, 'The wall is no more, nor those who plastered it, that is, the prophets of Israel who prophesy concerning Jerusalem,

and who see visions of peace for her *when there is no peace,*' says the Lord GOD. Likewise, son of man, set your face *against the daughters* of your people, *who prophesy out of their own heart*; prophesy against them, and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Woe to the women who sew magic charms on their sleeves and make veils for the heads of people of every height to hunt souls! Will you hunt the souls of my people, and keep yourselves alive? And will you profane me among my people for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread, killing people who should not die, and keeping people alive who should not live, *by your lying* to my people who listen to lies?"'" (Ezek.13:8-19).

Who is God against? All these prophets, prognosticators, soothsayers, and ministerial liars who dominate the earth and fill its churches today are primarily churches of the devil, not the church of God which is widely scattered. We need to wake up to the danger that is around us in this world.

A Final Warning Against the Churches

"And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy and say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD to the shepherds: *Woe to the shepherds of Israel who feed themselves!* Should not the shepherds feed the flocks? You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool; you slaughter the fatlings, but *you do not feed the flock.* The weak you have not strengthened, nor have you healed those who were sick, nor bound up the broken nor brought back what was driven away, nor sought what was lost; but with force and cruelty you have ruled them. So they were scattered because there was no shepherd; and they became food for all the beasts of the field when they were scattered. My sheep wandered through all the mountains, and on every high hill; yes, my flock was scattered over the whole face of the earth, and no one was seeking or searching for them'"'"(Ezekiel 34:1-6).

"Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: 'As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'surely because My flock became a prey, and my flock became food for every beast of the field, because there was no shepherd, nor did my shepherds search for my flock, but the shepherds fed themselves and did not feed my flock,' therefore, O shepherds, hear the word of the Lord! Thus says the Lord GOD: 'Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will require my flock at their hand; I will cause them to cease feeding the sheep, and the shepherds shall feed themselves no more; for I will deliver my flock from their mouths, that they may no longer be food for them' " (verses 7-10).

God declares, "Therefore I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be a prey; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will establish one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them. I will make a covenant of peace with them. They shall be safe in their land; and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke and delivered them from the hand of those who enslaved them. And they shall no longer be a prey for the nations, nor shall beasts of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and no one shall make them afraid. Thus they shall know that I, the LORD their God, am with them, and they, the house of Israel, are my people, says the Lord GOD." (verses 22-30).

The Synagogue or Church of Satan

The great false church is all around us, today. The whole world has been led astray from the truth.

Jesus Christ warned, “And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, ‘These things says He who is holy, He who is true, He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens: ‘I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have *kept my word*, and have *not denied my name*. Indeed I will make *those of the synagogue of Satan*, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie; indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you. Because you have kept my command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my God. And I will write on him my new name.’ He, who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches” (Revelation 3:7-13).

Satan’s great false “church” masquerading as “Christian” is called the synagogue of Satan. Notice again! “To the angel of the church in Smyrna write, These things says the First and the Last, who was dead, and came to life: ‘I know your works, tribulation, and poverty (but you are rich); and I know the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are *a synagogue of Satan*. Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death” (Revelation 2:8-11).

The warning is clear. The Greek word for “synagogue” in these verses is *sunagoge*, meaning *sun*, “together,” and *ago*, “to bring” – which denotes “a gathering of things, a collection,” then, “of persons, an assembling, of Jewish religious gatherings” (Vine’s Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words). It literally means “an assembly,” for religious purposes, as in a church service, Bible Study group, or such. A “synagogue of Satan” would be one “dominated by the power and activity of Satan” (Vine’s). Says *Thayer’s Greek English Lexicon*, “a bringing together, gathering,” “an assembling together of men where Satan governs.” The term was first applied to Sabbath meetings and festival conclaves of the Jews, but then was also applied to the “assembly of Christians formally gathered for religious purposes”, says Thayer.

Today, let’s face it: The great majority of churches have become literal “synagogues of Satan”! We live in an APOSTATE WORLD. Let’s walk carefully. Be VERY sure of your faith. Do not be DECEIVED! Do not be a member of the “synagogue of Satan” or a part of his great religious deception which is all around us.

The Laodicean Generation

Jesus Himself rebukes this End Time Church of God, calling it the “Laodicean Church” generation and age – the FINAL prophesied Church era to appear in the world, shortly before His second coming! He declared: "To the angel of the Church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness [because

they are not faithful and true], the ruler of God's creation. I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are LUKEWARM – neither hot nor cold – I am about to SPIT YOU OUT OF MY MOUTH.

“You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’ But you do not realize that you are WRETCHED, PITIFUL, POOR, BLIND AND NAKED. I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So BE IN EARNEST AND REPENT. Here I stand at the door and knock. If ANYONE [He is appealing to individuals, not entire church groups, but one by one to individual persons, one by one] hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches” (Rev.3:14-22).

Notice! This account describes the vast, whole, ENTIRE REMNANT CHURCH OF GOD! It is the LAST GENERATION! It is spiritually blind and naked, but thinks it is rich and very spiritual, proud of its supposed “knowledge,” but really pitiful in God's sight It is so far removed from the ways and true paths of God, that Christ is not even INSIDE this “Church” – He is pictured as standing OUTSIDE “looking in” – KNOCKING ON THE DOOR, hoping that someone, at least a few, may open the door and let him into their own individual homes!

The Laodicean Church is proud of its apparent wealth. It also is a Church which highly values its own human or church traditions. Interestingly, there are only two Greek words in the New Testament, which, when their letters are added up, they each add up to the number 666 – the number of the Beast (Rev.13:18). Those two words are – tradition, and wealth. The Laodicean Church, therefore, has characteristics which are very similar and close to the very MARK OF THE BEAST of Revelation! It has allowed its wealth and tradition to get in the way of God's Laws, and serving God out of a pure and undefiled heart and mind! The love of money leads to all kinds of perversions, and putting tradition ahead of and above the very LAWS of God leads to sin, and wickedness.

Thus the Laodicean End-Time Church of God is in VERY BAD SPIRITUAL SHAPE! Jeremiah describes this Church generation, saying, “Concerning the prophets: My heart is broken within me; all my bones tremble. I am like a drunken man, like a man overcome by wine, because of the LORD and his holy words. The land is full of adulterers. The prophets follow an EVIL COURSE and *use their power unjustly*. Both prophet and priest are godless; EVEN IN MY TEMPLE [even in God's CHURCH, the “Temple of God” – Eph.2:21] I find their wickedness,’ declares the Lord. ‘Therefore their path will become slippery; they will be banished to darkness and there they will fall. I

will bring disaster on them in the year they are punished,' declares the Lord. 'Among the prophets of Samaria [the United States, where most of the End Time Churches of God are head-quartered!] I saw this repulsive thing: They prophesied by BAAL and led my people Israel astray'" (Jer.23:9-13).

The Oppression and Slavery of Gods People

Isaiah the prophet thunders, "AWAKE, awake; put on thy strength [the whole armor of God – Ephesians 6:10], O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments" – the robes of righteousness (Isaiah 52:1, Rev.19:10-14). "Now therefore, what have I here, saith the LORD, that my people is taken away for nought? *they that rule over them* [their shepherds or ministers] MAKE THEM TO *HOWL* . . . saith the Lord; and my name continually every day is *blasphemed*" (Isa.52:5).

They blaspheme God's name by their practices, their filthy deeds, their disfellowshippment procedures, their false doctrines, their calling God's TRUE servants and prophets "false prophets," "Satan-inspired," and other epithets, while they themselves claim to be "apostles," or "prophets," or "inspired men of God." But Jesus Christ said, in no uncertain words, "You will know them *by their FRUITS*" (Matt.7:20).. Such evil men blaspheme God by their every action and word, every day, as they abuse, beat, and browbeat the sheep under their control.

The prophet Ezekiel wrote, "The word of the LORD came to me: Son of man, prophesy against the SHEPHERDS of Israel; prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: WOE to the shepherds of Israel who only take care of themselves! Should not shepherds take care of the flock? You eat the curds, clothe yourselves with the wool and slaughter the choice animals, but you do not take care of the flock. You have not strengthened the weak or healed the sick or bound up the injured. You have not brought back the strays or searched for the lost. You have RULED THEM HARSHLY AND BRUTALLY. So they were scattered because there was no shepherd, and when they were scattered they became food for all the wild animals. My sheep wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill. They were scattered over the whole earth, and no one searched or looked for them'" {Ezek.34:1-6}.

God thunders, "I am against the shepherds and will hold them accountable for my flock. I will REMOVE them from tending the flock so that the shepherds can no longer feed themselves; I will RESCUE my flock from their mouths, and it will no longer be food for them" (verse 10).

God Himself will also judge between the sheep, individual Church members who have conflicts and who mistreat each other. He says, "As for you, my flock, this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will judge between one sheep and another, and between rams and goats. . . See, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you shove with flank and shoulder, butting all the weak sheep with your horns

until you have driven them away, I will save my flock, and they will no longer be **PLUNDERED**” (Ezek.34:17-22).

Almighty God, and Jesus Christ, both have a severe criticism and correction for the End Time Church of God generation – the people of God today. God says to His flock, His people, who have strayed into the paths of sin and Laodicean compromise and error: “Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your **INIQUITIES** have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. For your hands are stained with blood, your fingers with guilt Your lips have spoken **LIES**, and your tongue uttered wicked things. No one calls for justice; no one pleads his case with integrity. They rely on empty arguments and speak lies; they conceive trouble and give birth to evil. They hatch the eggs of vipers and spin a spider's web. Whoever eats their eggs will die, and when one is broken, an adder is hatched.

“Their **COBWEBS** are useless for clothing [rendering people “naked” spiritually!]; they cannot cover themselves with what they make. Their deeds are evil deeds, and acts of violence are in their hands. Their feet rush into sin; they are swift to shed innocent blood [to disfellowship so-called “dissidents”!]. Their thoughts are evil thoughts; ruin and destruction mark their ways. The way of peace they do not know; there is no justice in their paths [they “cover up” the sins of the ministry , and refuse to judge individual cases with righteousness, but always support the “minister,” right or wrong!]. They have turned them into **CROOKED ROADS**; no one who walks in them will know peace” (Isa.59: 1-8).

God’s Rebuke and Warning

This is a very serious rebuke and stern correction. This is a description of the End Time Laodicean Church, with all its glory and wickedness! The oppressed sheep of this Church cry out, “So justice is far from us, and righteousness does not reach us. We look for light, but all is darkness; for brightness, but we walk in deep shadows. **LIKE THE BLIND**” – Laodiceans are “**BLIND**,” remember – “we grope along the wall, feeling our way like **MEN WITHOUT EYES**. At midday we stumble as if it were twilight; among the strong, we are like the **DEAD**. We all growl like bears; we moan mournfully like doves. We look for justice, but find none; for deliverance, but it is far away” (Isa.59:9-11).

In the middle of Great Tribulation, many of the people of this remnant Church will finally cry out to God, confessing their sins and wickedness. They will pray, and say, “For our offenses are many in your sight, and our sins testify against us. Our offenses are ever with us, and we acknowledge our iniquities, rebellion and treachery against the Lord, turning our backs on our God, fomenting oppression and revolt, uttering lies our hearts have conceived. So justice is driven back, and righteousness stands at a distance;

TRUTH has stumbled in the streets, honesty cannot enter. TRUTH is nowhere to be found, and whoever shuns evil becomes a prey” (Isa.59:12-15).

In their distress they will finally call on God, in deep remorse and repentance for their sins, and God will forgive them, and wipe away their iniquities. He will deliver them from the Great Tribulation, those who remain alive, and Christ Himself will rescue them (verses 16-18). “From the west, men will fear the name of the *LORD*, and from the rising of the sun, they will REVERE his glory .For he will come like a pent-up flood that the breath of the *LORD* drives along. The Redeemer will come to Zion [the remnant Church in captivity], to those in Jacob who REPENT of their sins” (Isa.59:19-20).

What about you? Will you repent now? Or will you have to experience the pangs of bitter travail and Great Tribulation to bring you to your senses?

God tells His people, “I have posted WATCHMEN on your walls, O Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night You who call on the *LORD*, give yourselves NO REST, and give Him no rest, till He establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth” (Isa.62:6-7).

God's WATCHMEN

What about you? Will you repent now? Or will you have to experience the pangs of bitter travail and Great Tribulation to bring you to your senses?

God has called prophets and watchmen to WARN His erring, sinning, straying people to RETURN to HIM, before it is too late! That cry and warning is going out!

God thunders to us, “Shout it aloud, do not hold back. Raise your voice LIKE A TRUMPET. Declare to my people their REBELLION and to the house of Jacob their SINS” (Isa.58:1).

God tells His people, “I have posted WATCHMEN on your walls, O Jerusalem [the Church]; they will never be silent day or night. You who call on the LORD, *give yourselves NO REST, and give Him no rest*, till He establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth” (Isa.62:6-7).

God says to His modern day watchmen,

“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; so hear the word that I speak and GIVE THEM WARNING FROM ME. When I say to a wicked man, 'You will surely die,' and you do not warn him or SPEAK OUT TO DISSUADE HIM from his evil ways in order to save his life, that wicked man will die for his sin, and I will hold you accountable for his blood. But if you do warn the wicked man and he does not turn from his wickedness or from his evil ways, he will die for his sin; but you

will have saved yourself” (Ezekiel 3:17-19).

God also warns us of the alternative:

“Again, when a righteous man turns from his righteousness and does evil, and I put a stumbling block before him, he will die. Since you did not warn him, he will die for his sin. The righteous things he did will not be remembered, and I will hold you accountable for his blood. But IF YOU DO WARN the righteous man not to sin and he does not sin, he will surely live because he TOOK WARNING, and you will have saved yourself” (Ezek.3:20-21).

If the wicked repent, and turn from their sins, God will forgive them. But if they are warned, and refuse to repent, their blood is upon their own head -- they are responsible (Ezek.18:14-23). On the other hand, if the righteous man "turns from his righteousness and commits sin and does the same detestable things the wicked man does, will he live? NONE of the righteous things he has done will be remembered. Because of the unfaithfulness he is GUILTY of and the SINS he has committed, he will DIE" (Ezek.18:24).

End-Time Apostasy and You

The apostle Paul warns us that many will be deceived and carried away by this terrible, end-time apostasy. Speaking of the second coming of Christ, Paul declares, “Let no one deceive or beguile you in any way, for that day will not come except THE APOSTASY COMES FIRST [unless the predicted great falling away of those who have professed to be Christians has come], and the man of lawlessness (sin) is revealed, who is the son of doom (of perdition)” (II Thess.2:3).

The world will embrace this “lawless one,” Paul says. “The coming [of the lawless one, the antichrist] is through the activity and working of Satan and will be attended by great power and with all sorts of [pretended] miracles and signs and delusive marvels—[all of them] lying wonders—and by unlimited seduction to evil and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing (going to perdition) because they did not welcome the Truth but refused to love it that they might be saved” (II Thess.2:9-10, Amplified Bible).

The world is set for massive deception – the greatest apostasy in all history! Why? “because they refused to *love the truth* and so be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe THE LIE and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness” (verses 10-12).

What is “the lie” which these people will swallow, hook, line and sinker? It is not just any old lie – it is THE lie – the very lie that Satan deceived Adam and Eve with in the Garden of Eden! It is the lie that God lied when He told Adam the day he sinned he

would die. It is the lie that if we follow Satan's ways we will become as “gods” to know good and evil (Genesis 3:4-5). It is the lie that Satan brings truth and God is a liar, the Word of God cannot be trusted, that the doctrines of the Bible are false, that we can change them and still be saved! It is the lie that we should believe a NEW gospel – the gospel of “human salvation” instead of the “kingdom of God,” which Jesus and the apostles all preached! It is the LIE that we are “born again” at conversion, when we “accept Christ,” rather than at the resurrection, when our bodies are changed to SPIRIT!

The Phillips Translation has this passage, “The lawless man is produced by the spirit of evil and armed with all the force, wonders and signs that falsehood can devise. To those involved in this dying world he will come with *evil's undiluted power to deceive*, for they have *refused to love the truth* which could have saved them. God sends upon them, therefore, the full force of evil's delusion, so that *they put their faith in an UTTER FRAUD* and meet the inevitable judgment of all who have refused to believe the truth and who have made evil their playfellow” (II Thess.2:9-12).

What about you? Do you still have the “love of the truth”? Or have you “lost your first love,” like the Church of Ephesus? (Rev.2:4).

How important is TRUTH and doctrinal purity to you? Does it make any difference? Are you willing to compromise “a little bit,” with error and falsehood? Are you willing to stand by and accept doctrinal “changes” which you have not “tested,” or “proven”?

The apostle Paul exhorts each one of us, “Continue to WORK OUT YOUR SALVATION with fear and trembling” (Phil.2:12). Peter exhorts, “Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to MAKE YOUR CALLING AND ELECTION SURE. For *if you do these things*, you will never fall, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (II Pet.1:10-11).

“COME OUT from among Them!”

In the midst of all the apostasy occurring all around us, where do you stand? What are YOU going to do about it? Your own eternal salvation – and that of your family and children – is at stake!

God gives us perfectly clear instructions on handling such matters in His Word. Some try to tell us, today, that the appropriate action is to *do nothing – stay right where you are – and WAIT for God to CHANGE the “church of God” and bring it back to the Truth!*

Is that what *God* says?

God commands us to have *nothing whatever to do with apostates!* Solomon wrote, “CEASE, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to ERR from the words of knowledge” (Prov.19:27). How can you *cease* to hear such instruction *if you continue*

to listen to it every week?

God commands us further: “My son, fear thou the LORD and the king: and *MEDDLE NOT with them that are given to CHANGE*: For their calamity shall rise suddenly; and who knoweth the ruin of them both?” (Prov.24:21-22).

The Curse of Totalitarianism

On September 23, 1800, Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the youthful United States, wrote a letter to Dr. Benjamin Rush in which he declared the immortal words:

“I have sworn upon the altar of God hostility toward every form of tyranny over the mind of man.”

There is a mental and religious, or spiritual, tyranny, as well as physical or political tyranny. The word “tyranny” is defined as “cruel and unjust use of power”; “oppression, harshness, despotism.” A “tyrant” is “a person who uses his power cruelly or unjustly,” a “cruel master.” In ancient Egypt the Egyptians tyrannized over the Israelite slaves, forcing them to work inhuman hours slaving over manufacturing bricks. This cruel bondage and wicked use of power occurs in political societies, such as Nazi Germany and Communist Russia, and often occurs in religious institutions or organizations. In the last days, just before the return of Christ, it was prophesied to occur within the very Church of God, and to be characteristic of the “Laodicean” phase of God's Church!

The word “totalitarian” is closely related to “tyranny.” It means “a government which suppresses all opposition, often with force, and which controls many aspects of people’s lives” including “what books the people may read, and other severe controls on private life.” A totalitarian government in Church or politics, seeks absolute control over individuals in the church or state.

God is not a totalitarian. His law is a law of “liberty” (James 2:12). As Christians, under God's government, we are “as FREE,” but “not using your *LIBERTY* for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God” (I Pet.2:16).

Obeying the word or law of God is the true way to personal freedom for everybody - the way of love, mercy, kindness, gentleness, meekness, and goodness. But totalitarian government denies personal freedom; it seeks to enslave people. A religious hierarchy which seeks to perpetuate itself and to dominate over people is a tyrannical form of totalitarian government diametrically opposed to the way of God!

Unfortunately, within the Church of God during the past 50+ years there has been a serious problem with misuse and abuse of government – a Pharisaical form of totalitarianism. Ministers would delve into the personal, private lives of members and would-be members with a fine tooth comb. They used to scrutinize carefully their marital history and sex lives. They would spy on the “tithing records” of people, by using computer lists to determine who was and wasn't "tithing" in the way they sought. Many people were disfellowshipped for nothing more than what some minister

interpreted as a "bad attitude" – i.e., any attitude which stood up to the minister, or questioned a decision he made, or which disagreed with him on some point or issue, or refused to “bow and scrape”!

Sadly, many ministers seem to have the attitude of Haman in the book of Esther. He was very upset when Mordecai, a Jew, would not bow and do him obeisance when he passed by. This infuriated him, so he hatched a plot to eradicate himself of this “pest,” and all his Jewish countrymen and women as well!

God Almighty condemns this kind of government. He hates and abhors and detests it with all His supreme being! It is an abomination to Him, even as the slavery of ancient Egypt was. It is a form of slavery, something God never sanctioned or intended. It is the way of Satan the devil, his system, his methodology, his government!

God is the author of perfect Freedom within His law of love. He is the author of eternal Liberty, justice, and goodness for all. With Him there is and never has been any "respect of persons" (Rom.2:11). He is completely and totally "fair."

Why is it, then, that even true Christians sometimes become mesmerized by a totalitarian system of Church government which they *assume* comes from God?

Why do even true Christians allow various men and ministers to rule over them with tyranny, absolute control, and “fear” the ministry?

The apostle Paul wrote of this very problem in the Church of God during his day, in Corinth. He wrote to the brethren at Corinth, “For ye suffer *FOOLS* gladly, seeing ye yourselves are wise. For ye suffer, if a man bring you into *BONDAGE*, if a man *DEVOUR* you, if a man *TAKE OF YOU*, if a man *EXALT HIMSELF*, if a man *SMITE YOU* on the face” (II Cor.11:19-20).

The *LIVING BIBLE* makes this even plainer: “You think you are so wise – yet you listen gladly to those fools; you don't mind at all when they make you their slaves and take everything you have, and take advantage of you, and put on airs, and slap you in the face.”

Is that the way Church government is supposed to be? Assuredly not! Paul went on, in gentle sarcasm, “I'm ashamed to say that I'm not strong and daring like that!” (verse 21, TLB)” God condemns tyranny. God never intended the ministry to “lord it over” the flock (I Pet.5:1-3). “Don't be tyrants,” he said to the elders (same verse, TLB).

Why, then, do people allow it? Many fear that if they voiced their opinions, they would be disfellowshipped, or put out of the Church. So they keep silent even when they see wrong being committed. For shame!

God Almighty, in His Law, commands each one of us, “Thou shalt not follow a multitude (even a whole Church!) to do evil” (Exodus 23:2). He thunders, “Ye shall do

no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shalt not respect the person of the poor, nor honour the person of the mighty (or wealthy): but in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbor . . . Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise *REBUKE*, and not suffer SIN upon him” (Leviticus 19:15,17).

God does not want us to simply “follow along,” like blind, dumb sheep, when we see error and evil being committed, or wrong decisions or judgments being made. He commands us to **STAND UP FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS**, to **REBUKE** the error or sin, even if it is committed by a minister in a high office! We ought to be fearless, and to be willing to suffer the consequences – whatever they may be. God says of the righteous: “The wicked flee when no man pursueth; but the righteous is as **BOLD AS A LION**” (Prov.28:1).

Do you understand that principle? Many people today fear mere MEN – when they ought to fear GOD!

The apostle Jude warned, “Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should **EARNESTLY CONTEND**” – that is, fight, struggle, wrestle, with fury and vigor – “**FOR THE FAITH** which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are *certain men CREPT IN UNAWARES*, who were before of old ordained to this **CONDEMNATION**, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and **DENYING** the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ” (Jude 3-4).

It may seem strange to many, but just such an end-time Apostasy from the truth of God, by the visible, extant Church of God, was **PREDICTED** in the Bible! Jesus Christ warned, “**WATCH OUT** that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name [acting like His ministers], claiming, 'I am the Christ' [admitting Jesus is the Messiah, but changing His message!], and will **DECEIVE MANY**” (Matt.24:4-5).

In fact, Jesus went so far as to warn, “All this I have told you so that you will **NOT** go astray. They will **PUT YOU OUT OF THE SYNAGOGUES [CHURCHES!!!]**, in fact, a time is coming when anyone who **KILLS** you will think he is offering service to God. They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me. I have told you this so that when the time comes you will remember that I warned you” (John 16:1-4).

The Great Apostasy and the Perfect Storm!

What happened to the original church Christ built? How did apostasy rear its ugly head and take over the mainstream churches? Where is the apostasy leading? What about the weekly Sabbath? Does a “perfect storm” of Great Tribulation lie ahead?

William F. Dankenbring

Adam Clarke's Bible Commentary declares, “The Church of Christ was considered an *enclosure*; a *field* or *vineyard*, well hedged or walled. Those who were not members of the church, were considered without—that is, not under that special defense and protection which the true followers of Christ had. Being a Christian was essential to the salvation of the soul, so being in the Church of Christ was essential to being a Christian: therefore, it was concluded there was no salvation outside of the Church. Now this is true in all places where the doctrines of Christianity are preached; but when one description of people professing Christianity, with their own peculiar mode of worship and creed, arrogate to themselves, *exclusive of all others*, the title of *The Church* and that there is no church besides (on that premise), *then* you must be one of them, believe as they believe, and worship as they worship, or you will be infallibly damned; I say, *when this is asserted*, every man who feels he has an immortal spirit is called on to examine the pretensions of such spiritual monopolists. Now, as the church of Christ is formed on the foundation of the prophets and apostles, Jesus Christ being the chief corner stone, the doctrines of this Christian Church must be sought for in the sacred Scriptures; the Bible alone must decide.”

Do we do like the Bereans did and search the scriptures daily to ascertain the truth.? (Act 17:11).

Clarke continues. “The church, which has been so hasty to condemn all others by its own self-constituted authority, to make itself the determiner of the fates of men dealing out the mansions of glory to its partisans, and the abodes of endless miseries to all those who are out of its antichristian and inhuman enclosure has been brought to this standard; and is proved by the Scriptures to be fallen from the faith of God’s elect, and to be most awfully and dangerously corrupt. Those within its influence endanger their

salvation. Yet, even in it many sincere and upright persons may be found, who in spirit and practice, belong to the true Church of Christ.”

If you belong to an “exclusive” church like that one, you better watch out for your salvation, it is endangered by such self-righteous teaching. The true Church of God is a *spiritual* organization. Not an “incorporated” body of men with human leadership!

The Perfect Storm

I ordered a booklet called *The Perfect Storm is Coming!* Apparently it is from a breakaway Seventh Day Adventist ministry and the booklet is simplified and adapted from *The Great Controversy*, a nineteenth century Christian classic by E. G. White. I am not against E. G. White; who was one of the early leaders of the S.D.A. Church. Some things she wrote were very good, even though she made mistakes. Printed on its cover is, “War, Economic Collapse and Moral Decay – Is America Headed for Armageddon?”

Page three quotes E.G. White: “A storm is coming, relentless in its fury. Thinking men and women have their attention fixed upon the events taking place about us. They are watching the relations that exist among the nations. They observe the intensity taking possession of every earthly element, and recognize that something great and decisive is about to take place—that the world is on the verge of a stupendous crisis.”

Those words make a very provocative beginning. The booklet covers some of the outline of prophecies, and signs of the end times that Jesus told us to be watching out for in **Matthew 24**. These are signs that will be rampant on the earth immediately before His second coming. So it caught my attention and I have read what it had to say. It warns: “Let men beware lest they neglect the lesson conveyed to them in the words of Christ. As He warned His disciples of Jerusalem’s destruction, giving them a sign of the approaching ruin, that they might escape, so He has warned the world of the day of final destruction, and has given men tokens of its approach, that all that will may flee from the wrath to come.” Are we striving with God’s help to flee from the wrath to come?

Beginning of Persecution and Apostasy

In the first century a great number of Christians were burned alive, thrown to wild beasts in Roman amphitheaters as crowds looked on in fiendish delight saying “death to the Christians”. This booklet points out that the people did not want to suffer persecution, death and martyrdom and many compromises began to be made. In the days of Emperor Constantine in the early part of the fourth century, he claimed to be a Christian and converted to Christianity and passed an edict of toleration of Christianity in the Roman Empire. At this time to compromise with pagan Rome, the devil raised up new leaders to lead a perversion of Christianity. “Instead of having the ‘humble simplicity of Christ’ and the apostles, it was replaced by the pomp and pride of pagan priests and rulers. In place of the requirements of God, Rome substituted human theories and traditions.” When the Roman Emperor Constantine “converted” to Christianity, many people rejoiced; and “the world, cloaked with a form or righteousness, marched into the church. Now the work of

corruption progressed rapidly. Paganism became the conqueror. The paganism spirit, doctrines, ceremonies, and superstitions were incorporated into the faith and worship of Christians. A union was formed between Christianity and paganism primarily emanating from Rome itself. False doctrines, superstitious rites, and idolatrous ceremonies were soon incorporated into Christian faith and worship.”

Sunday and the Sabbath

“In 321 A.D., the Roman Emperor Constantine issued a decree making Sunday a public festival throughout the Empire. The ‘day of the sun’ was already revered by his subjects and soon began being honored by ‘Christians’: “it was the Emperor’s policy to unite the conflicting interests of heathenism and Christianity” to create ecumenical union merging all the faiths into one. There is a big movement in the world today to do the same thing.

“The Biblical Sabbath which God blessed and sanctified (Genesis 2:2-3) was set aside. In its stead the festival observed by the heathen as ‘the venerable day of the sun’: was exalted. That the attention of the people might be called to the “Sun” day, it was made a festival (by the Roman Catholic Church) in honor of the resurrection of Christ. Nowhere in scriptures are we authorized to observe Sunday as a weekly day of rest or worship. It is purely a Roman Catholic ‘dispensation’ (doctrine) instituted by Satan the devil to lead people into paganism disguised as Christianity. “That was a time of deep anguish for the faithful followers of Christ. Wearing the cloak of pretended Christianity, Satan artfully insinuated himself into the church, corrupting faith. In time, most Christians consented to lower their standard.”

“Even in her best estate, the church was not composed entirely of the true, pure, and sincere. It required a desperate struggle for those who would remain faithful to stand firm against the deceptions and abominations being introduced into the church.”

The same thing happened in the Worldwide Church of God at the death of Herbert Armstrong. His successors introduced deceptions and abominations into the church and the whole church went along with these until it got so bad the Sabbath was rejected and meetings were being held on Sunday with the approval of Christmas and Easter and finally the church split. Out of it came the United Church and others. But they just came out of it and continued following the traditions of H.W. Armstrong, right or wrong. The leaders did not get back to the faith once delivered to the saints and follow what the apostle Jude said in **Jude 1:3** (get back to the faith once delivered to the saints) and search the scriptures for solid truth.

“The early church was induced to yield allegiance to the bishop of Rome. Roman emperors, claiming to be gods, now exchanged roles with Roman prelates.” The new pope claimed to be God in the flesh, (God on the earth in the place of Christ). And a

leading doctrine of Romanism was adopted; declaring that the pope is the visible head of the universal church of Christ and is invested with supreme authority over bishops and pastors in all parts of the world. Some of the blasphemous things that were said by the Catholic Church were unbelievable! “To provide converts from heathenism a substitute for their worship of idols, and promote their minimal acceptance of Christianity, the adoration of images and relics was gradually introduced into Christian worship. The decree of a general council (Second Council of Nice, A.D. 787) finally established this system of idolatry.”

“The early Roman Catholic Church presumed to erase the second commandment from the law of God, which forbids worship of images and divided the tenth commandment (thou shall not covet) into two commandments in order to preserve the number (*ten*). Thus the ninth commandment says thou shall not covet and tenth commandment, thou shall not covet thy neighbor’s wife or possessions belonging to your neighbor. This early compromise between paganism and Christianity resulted in a gigantic system of false religion foreshadowing Satan’s final efforts to seat himself upon the throne and rule the earth according to his will.”

“The accession of the Roman Church to power marked the beginning of the Dark Ages. As her power increased, darkness deepened and descended upon the nations of the west. The very titles of Deity were claimed for the pope. He styled himself ‘Lord God the Pope,’ *assumed infallibility*, and demanded that all men pay him homage.” Faith was transferred from Christ the true foundation to believing in the Pope of Rome. Instead of trusting in and asking God for the forgiveness of sins for eternal salvation, the people were instructed to look to the pope and his priests to whom he delegated authority. The people were taught to make their confessions to their priests instead of to God through Christ in prayer. The people were taught that the pope was their earthly mediator, and none could approach God except through the papacy. People *came to believe that the pope stood in the place of God, and therefore was to be implicitly obeyed.*

Dark, Dark Ages

“Any deviation from the Pope’s exactions was sufficient cause for the severest punishment to be visited upon the bodies and souls of offenders. Through this error the people were turned from God to fallible, erring men. Thus the pope came to be almost universally acknowledged as the vicegerent of God on earth, endowed with authority over church and state. The doctrine of papal supremacy is directly opposed to the teachings of Scripture. Christ said: Call no man your father (Pope, Papa, and Spiritual Father) upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.” Matthew 23:9. Thou shall worship the Lord thy God, and him only shall you serve” Luke 4:8.

As a consequence, “for hundreds of years people were forbidden to read the Bible or to have it in their houses, while undisciplined priests and prelates interpreted its teachings to sustain their pretensions.” Adam Clarke described this “one and only church claim” which fenced in the sheep (followers) keeping them away from reading the Scriptures and salvation teaching perverted doctrines. See **Jude 1:1-4 (NIV)**. We need to *contend earnestly* by studying the Scriptures, praying over them as we study them. As I study the books of the Scriptures (as John, Jude, words of Christ, Apostle Paul, James), I can’t help but read those verses and pray over the verses— almost one by one—applying them to me, asking God to help me to walk worthy of the faith, and have my words seasoned with salt and redeem the time. I ask Him to give me more grace that I might know how to answer each person that they will listen and not be offended. I pray that God will help me to labor fervently for you in prayers as Epaphras did with great zeal. Colossians 4:12-- that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. I pray that we all will stand zealous for the word and truth of God.

“In the thirteenth century was established that most terrible of all the machinations of the papacy—the Inquisition. In their secret councils, the minds of evil men invented tortures too horrible for human eyes to behold. The mangled forms of millions of martyrs cried out to God for vengeance (Revelation 6).”

How Martin Luther came upon the scene.

Martin Luther was ignorant of the existence of the Bible until he discovered a Latin Bible in the university library one day and for the first time looked upon the whole of the word of God. In his deep desire for peace and to be free from sin, he devoted himself to a monastic life where he did his best to root sin out of his life with fasting, vigils, and scourging to subdue the evils of his nature. He was led to visit Rome to visit the seat of the Catholic Church, and he wondered at the wealth, magnificence and luxury that he witnessed.

The monks lived in splendid apartments, attired themselves in the richest and most costly robes, and feasted at sumptuous tables. He contrasted this scene with the self-denial and hardship of his own life. Today, many ministers also live high above the laymen in some churches, similar to the Catholic monks.

“Luther was a true son of the papal church, but everywhere he visited in the city he saw scenes that filled him with astonishment and revulsion. He saw that iniquity existed among all classes of the clergy. He was filled with horror at the indecent jokes and awful profanity of the prelates, even during mass. No one can imagine, he wrote, ‘what sins and infamous actions are committed in Rome; they must be seen and heard to be believed. Thus they are in the habit of saying, “If there is a hell, Rome is built over it: it is an abyss whence issues every kind of sin.”’”

“The Roman Church made merchandise of the grace of God. Under the plea of raising funds for the erection of St. Peter’s Church at Rome, indulgences for sin were publicly offered for sale by authority of the pope. By the price of crime a temple was to be built for God’s worship—the cornerstone was laid with the wages of iniquity. It was this heresy that aroused Luther and led to the battle which shook the papal throne. One of the great salesmen of the pope (appointed to conduct the sale of indulgences in Germany) was the German, Tetzl. Tetzl declared that by virtue of his certificates of pardon, all the sins which the purchaser should afterward desire to commit would be forgiven him, and that ‘not even repentance is necessary’. More than this, he assured his hearers that the indulgences had power *to save not only the living but the dead* (See K. R. Hagenbach, *History of the Reformation*, Vol. 1, p. 96).”

“Many in Luther’s congregation purchased certificates of pardon, and came to their pastor confessing their sins, and expecting absolution *on the ground of the indulgence, not because* they were penitent and wished to reform. Luther refused them absolution. They confronted Tetzl who was filled with rage and revenge when some boldly demanded that their money be returned and a division occurred. Luther nailed his 95 propositions against the doctrine of indulgences on the door of the Church of Wittenberg on All Saints Day (Halloween) which had many visitors on holy days. These propositions attracted universal attention, and were read and reread and repeated in every direction. His appeal was rapidly circulated throughout Germany, and exerted a powerful influence upon the people. Luther was threatened with excommunication if he did not recant, but Luther would not recant—the pope was wrong. After a terrible struggle, Luther decided upon final separation from the Roman Catholic Church; thus began the contest between Scripture and the traditions of men; between Protestantism and Roman Catholicism.”

Just as the pope excommunicated Martin Luther, the Worldwide Church of God in 1987 offered me absolution if I would crawl back on my hands and knees before the ministry and recant of publishing books. When I would not recant, they put me out of the church and marked me so that members were not allowed to associate or talk to me. Where is the real heresy, brethren? We of the truth of God, let’s love it and hold fast and not deny it, nor allow ourselves to be separated from the truth of God.

The Impending Conflict

Psalms 119:89—“Forever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven.” Matthew 5:18—Christ said: “For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. “ Psalms 111:7-8— “the works of his hands are verity and judgment; all his commandments are sure.”

SATAN rejects the law of God, and his ministers cast aside the law of God, but the results will ultimately be the same. James 2:10—“For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.” The man who offends in one point manifests contempt for the whole law (and God himself the author of His law) and he becomes ‘guilty of all’.

Continuing from *The Perfect Storm*, pg.48—“The great deceiver has cast contempt upon the divine statutes. The last great conflict between truth and error is but the final struggle of the long standing controversy concerning the law of God. Upon this battle we are now entering—a battle between the laws of men and the precepts of God, between the religion of the Bible and the religion of fable and tradition (of men).”

God’s appointed holy days and how to calculate and when to keep them are important because all the commandments stand together. The Adventists keep the weekly Sabbath day, but reject the eternal foundational everlasting festivals of the annual holy days. Almighty God is held in contempt by the person who knows and does not keep God’s law.

“Too many ministers are teaching their people, and too many professors and teachers are instructing their students, that the law of God has been changed or abrogated; and that those who regard its requirements as still valid and to be literally obeyed, deserve only ridicule or contempt.”

The SDA’s may be condemning themselves, by not keeping the annual holy days. 1 John 3:4—“Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.”

“Wherever the divine precepts are rejected, sin ceases to appear sinful, or righteousness desirable. Already the doctrine that men are released from obedience to God’s requirements has weakened the force of moral obligation, and opened the floodgates of iniquity.” This is the world that we see around us today.

“Lawlessness, intemperance, and corruption are sweeping in upon us like an overwhelming tide. In the family, Satan is at work. His banner waves, even in professedly Christian households. The line of distinction between professed Christians and the ungodly is now hardly distinguishable. Church members love what the world loves.”

Many religious teachers assert that Christ by His death abolished the law, and men are henceforth free from its requirements. There are some who represent the law as a grievous yoke, and in contrast to the bondage of the law, they present the liberty to be enjoyed under the gospel (freedom to live and do as you please). But the prophets and apostles do not agree with this assertion regarding the Law of God. **James 2:8, 1:25**--- refers to God’s law as the ‘royal law,’ and the ‘perfect law of liberty’. Revelation

22:14—pronounces a blessing on those “that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.”

Isaiah 42:21--Christ came to make God’s law manifest (magnify the law)—“the Lord is well pleased for his righteousness’ sake; he will magnify the law, and make it honorable.” Matthew 5:17—“Think not that I came to destroy the Law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.”

In Revelation 14 –herein are the redeemed from among men (without fault) being the first fruits unto God and to the Lamb.

Angel 1—flies in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to all that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people. “Fear God and give glory to Him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters”.

Ecclesiastes 12:13—“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man.”

Angel 2 follows angel #1 saying: “Babylon (world’s false religious system) is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication (spiritual adultery).”

Angel 3 follows angel #2 saying: IF any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb. Here IS the PATIENCE (steadfastness) of the saints: here are they that KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF God and the FAITH of Jesus.” These are the believers who persevere and hold fast (tightly) to their faith, continue to keep God’s commandments and laws, who do not deny Christ, and endure (maintain obedience to God regardless) to the end.

Let’s be sure that we are in that special number as part of the body of Christ and one of the first fruits in the kingdom of God. I pray that God will help each one of us take our calling seriously and strive to live by every word of God exercising the faith of Yeshua given us to keep His commandments and endure to the end. **Revelation 22:14.**

A Nation Divided Cannot Stand!

Race riots in Ferguson, Missouri, New York City, and elsewhere. What is happening to America? Where is the brotherly love and compassion which has been the characteristic and honor of the American people? What Are the solutions to our growing national peril and escalating woes?

William F. Dankenbring

Even as race conflict dramatically increases between police and minorities, President Obama announced that we are less racially divided than when he assumed office.

“President Obama says that race relations in the U.S. have improved during his six years in the White House . . . Obama suggested in the aftermath of the shooting of Michael Brown – an unarmed black teen who was killed by a white police officer in August in Ferguson, Missouri – that race relations in America have improved in the past 40 or 50 years” (Fox News, Dec.28, 2014).

“The death of Brown and Eric Garner in July has sparked widespread protests and concerns about how police officers interact with members of black communities across the country.”

This statement seems oddly at variance with the truth of the worsening race relations within America. At least that is the perception and in politics, perception is everything! Remember, the Illuminati plans for a race war to begin once the global war starts that is designed to stage Antichrist on the world scene.

Seeds are being sown right now that will one day produce a catastrophic civil catastrophe in America leading to religious, class and racial war.

Saul Alinsky

It all goes back to Saul Alinsky. Saul Alinsky, a left wing guru of community organizers, was a Satan worshipper. He dedicated his book, *Rules for Radicals* to Lucifer. Lucifer is the fallen angel who rebelled against God, and his name was changed to Satan. In other words he dedicated his book to Satan the devil. He was quoted as saying that he so admired Satan that, “I would rather go to hell than heaven.”

Saul Alinsky died about 43 years ago, but his writings influenced those in political control of our nation today. Recall that Hillary did her college thesis on his writings and Obama writes about him in his books.

According to Alinsky, there eight Rules for Radicals, to subvert a nation. All eight rules are currently in play

How to Create a Social State by Saul Alinsky

There are eight rules that must be obtained before you are able to create a social state. The first is the most important.

- 1) Healthcare. Control healthcare and you control the people
- 2) Poverty. Increase the Poverty level as high as possible, poor people are easier to control and will not fight back if you are providing everything for them to live.
- 3) Debt. Increase the debt to an unsustainable level. That way you are able to increase taxes, and this will produce more poverty.
- 4) Gun Control. Remove the ability to defend themselves from the Government. That way you are able to create a police state.
- 5) Welfare. Take control of every aspect of their lives (Food, Housing, and Income)
- 6) Education. Take control of what people read and listen to □take control of what children learn in school.
- 7) Religion. Remove the belief in the God from the Government and schools
- 8) Class Warfare. Divide the people into the wealthy and the poor. This will cause more discontent and it will be easier to take (Tax) the wealthy with the support of the poor.

Do all these things, and you will succeed in destroying a once mighty nation!

Does any of this sound like what is happening to the United States ?

Alinsky merely simplified Vladimir Lenin's original scheme for world conquest by communism, under Russian rule. Stalin described his converts as “Useful Idiots.” The Useful Idiots have destroyed every nation in which they have seized power and control. It is presently happening at an alarming rate in the U.S.

Sadly, tragically, America is following Alinsky’s Rule for Radicals, right down to the letter! We are way past the “tipping point.” Our momentum is increasing, and our velocity, as we hurtle down the plunging path to oblivion and great tribulation.

Division in America

America is becoming divided. The last time we have been this divided was 1861-1865 during the Civil War. Today it is black against white, Muslim against Christian, Communist infiltration in our government.

“But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: ‘Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand.’” (Matthew 12:25).

Our leaders are divided against themselves. The same lesson is repeated in Mark. “So He called them to Himself and said to them in parables: ‘How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. And if *Satan has risen up against himself, and is divided, he cannot stand, but has an end.* No one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. And then he will plunder his house’” (Mark 3:23-27).

A third time this lesson is driven home. Jesus said to them: “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house divided against a house falls. If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? Because you say I cast out demons by Beelzebub. And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace. But when a stronger than he comes upon him and overcomes him, he takes from him all his armor in which he trusted, and divides his spoils. He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me scatters.” (Luke 11:17-23).

We are seeing divisive cracks increasing, like opening cracks along a fault line.

Righteousness Exalts a Nation

What is the solution to America’s manifest, growing problems and increasing troubles? What is the solution to restoring the American Dream?

Wise king Solomon gave the answer in Scripture. He wrote in Proverbs: “Righteousness exalts a nation: but sin is a reproach (disgrace) to any people.” (Proverbs 14:34).

These things are happening to America today because of our sins – turning aside to the temptations of sin (lusts, idolatry, greed, and drunkenness) from God’s laws – lawlessness and the path of pain and death. If we want to regain our national health, strength, fortitude and prestige we need to repent of our sins and lawlessness and become righteous. Righteousness is what exalts a nation.

What is righteousness?

“My tongue shall speak of thy word: for *all thy commandments are righteousness*. I have longed for thy salvation, O LORD; and thy law is my delight. Let my soul live, and it shall praise thee; and let thy judgments help me. I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy servant; for I do not forget thy commandments” (Psalm 119:172-176). Keeping God’s commandments is righteousness. David adds, “Great peace have they who love thy law: and nothing shall offend them (cause them to stumble)” (verse 165).

There is no other answer to America’s problems and soaring debt and unemployment and world diminishment. We have rejected the laws of God, and turned to other pursuits, religions, and personal narcissism. As a result, we are hurtling on a trajectory which will end in destruction and catastrophe.

Religious Division

America is also growing apart along religious lines. Founded as a Christian nation, by Christians fleeing from persecution in Europe, it quickly became a haven or refuge for all kinds of people, and its Christian heritage became buried under an avalanche of pagan idolatries, secular pursuits, and fleshly lusts and desires.

Today, after the end of World War II, America has sold its soul to the Arab oil-producing states in the Middle East, especially Saudi Arabia, to control the world through control of the flow of oil. We have allowed the evil of the Muslim religion to come to America, and sow division and jihad on our shores and within our cities. But embracing the devil will only lead to our demise and destruction!

Broken Cisterns

The Word of God thunders, “Hear ye the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the LORD, What iniquity have your fathers found in me, that they are gone far from me, and have walked after vanity, and are become vain? Neither said they, ‘Where is the LORD that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, that led us through the wilderness, through a land of deserts and of pits, through a land of drought, and of the shadow of death, through a land that no man passed through, and where no man dwelt?’ And I brought you into a plentiful country, to eat the fruit thereof and the goodness thereof; but when you entered, you defiled my land, and made mine heritage an abomination. The priests said not, ‘Where is the LORD?’ and they that handle the law *knew me not*: the pastors also transgressed against me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal, and walked after things that do not profit” (Jeremiah 2:4-8).

These were priests of God who did not know Him. Yet they were allegedly teaching the laws of God, and saying “the Lord (Baal) says this and that.” Bottom line, they were liars. “Wherefore I will yet plead with you, says the LORD, and with your children's children will I plead” (Jeremiah 2:9).

Look around, consider diligently – do other nations invite foreign gods into their land, and willingly accept alien religions into their midst? Yet the United States, Britain, Canada, and Europe have been inviting Muslim fanatics to dwell in their midst!

God says, “Yet my people have changed their glory for that which does not profit”— knowledge of the true God for false gods and strange doctrines. “For my people have committed two evils; they have *forsaken me* the fountain of living waters, and

hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water” (Jer.2:11, 13). Broken cisterns are utterly worthless.

People have hewn themselves out false doctrines, false teachings that can hold no water. This is the state that the churches are in today.

Isaiah’s Warning

Almighty God declares, “Woe to the rebellious children, says the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin:”

“Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever: That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, ‘Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits: Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us’ ” (Isaiah 30:1, 8-11).

Unless we return to God, and His laws and commandments, we will suffer the consequences of great horrific punishment, and doom. We are bringing it upon ourselves.

Ezekiel’s Warning

God does not hate the sinner who is willing to repent and change his evil ways. God declares: “But if a wicked man turns from all his sins which he has committed, keeps all My statutes, and does what is lawful and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die. None of the transgressions which he has committed shall be remembered against him; because of the righteousness which he has done, he shall live. Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? Says the Lord GOD, and not that he should turn from his ways and live?” (Ezek.18:21-23).

God’s Word thunders, “Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies, says the Lord GOD. Therefore turn and live!” (Ezek.18:30-32).

Jeremiah’s Warning

God looks upon our generation with great alarm and concern. He inspired Jeremiah the prophet to write, “This is what the LORD says: ‘When men fall down, do they not get up?’ When a man turns away, does he not return? Why then have these people turned away? They cling to deceit; they refuse to return. I have listened attentively but they do not say what is right. No one repents of his wickedness, saying,

‘What have I done?’ Each pursues his own course, like a horse charging into battle” (Jeremiah 8:4-6).

God declares, “From the least to the greatest, all are greedy for gain; prophets and priests alike, all practice deceit. They dress the wound of my people as though it were not serious. ‘Peace, peace’, they say, when there is no peace. Are they ashamed of their loathsome conduct? No, they have no shame at all; they do not even know how to blush. So they will fall among the fallen; they will be brought down when they are punished, says the LORD” (Jer.8:10-12).

God says of his people today, will they fall and not rise again? End-time Israel, including the “lost ten tribes,” Ephraim-America and Great Britain-Manasseh, have backslidden and remain in a perpetual backsliding holding fast to deceit, refusing to return. Deception abounds everywhere.

“I listen and heard that they do not speak right. No man repents of his wickedness—saying “WHAT HAVE I DONE?” (Jer.8:6).

We Have Forgotten God

The prophet Isaiah lays it on the line for our modern nations. He says, “Alas, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a brood of evildoers, children who are corrupters! They have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked to anger the Holy One of Israel, they have turned away backward. Why should you be stricken again? You will revolt more and more. The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faints. From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it. But wounds and bruises and putrefying sores; they have not been closed or bound up, or soothed with ointment” (Isaiah 1:4-6).

God has had enough. He says, “Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow. ‘Come now, and let us reason together,’ says the LORD, ‘Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land’” (Isaiah 1:16-19).

Time to get Right with God

What can we do to prepare for the terrifying days that are coming soon?

Jesus Christ, Yeshua the Messiah, said: “But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a SNARE on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man” (Luke 21:34-36, NKJV).

“But take heed to yourselves and be on your guard, lest your hearts be overburdened and depressed (weighed down) with the giddiness and headache and nausea of self-indulgence, drunkenness, and worldly worries and cares pertaining to [the business of] this life, and [lest] that day come upon you suddenly like a trap or a noose; for it will come upon all who live upon the face of the entire earth. Keep awake then and watch at all times [be discreet, attentive, and ready], praying that you may have the full strength and ability and be accounted worthy to escape all these things [taken together] and to stand in the presence of the Son of Man” (*Amplified Parallel Bible*).

Do the will of our Father which is in heaven with active and enduring faith.

The apostle Paul asserts, “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles [schemings] of the devil” (Ephesians 6:10-11). “In conclusion, be strong in the Lord [be empowered through your union with Him]; draw your strength from Him [that strength which His boundless might provides]. Put on God’s whole armor [the armor of a heavy-armed soldier which God supplies], that you may be able successfully to stand up against [all] the strategies and the deceits of the devil” (*Amplified Parallel Bible*).

“See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit” (Eph.5:15-18).

Paul adds: “Look carefully then how you walk! Live purposefully and worthily and accurately, not as the unwise and witless, but as wise (sensible, intelligent people), making the very most of the time [buying up each opportunity], because the days are evil. Therefore do not be vague and thoughtless and foolish, but understanding and firmly grasping what the will of the Lord is, and do not get drunk with wine for that is debauchery; but ever be filled and stimulated with the [Holy] Spirit” (Eph.5:15-18, *Amplified*).

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Prophecy Briefs

New Banking Laws Could Create Havoc

“The G20 Just Stole Your Bank Account.” New rules that went into effect November 16, 2014. These new rules mean that your bank deposits are no longer backed by insurance. Your bank account has no protection. All nations belonging to the G20 will no longer recognize your deposits as money.

“The bank deposits are just part of commercial banks’ capital structure, and also that they are far from the most senior portion of that structure.” Pay close attention America, this means that following a bank failure, “a bank deposit is no longer money in the way a banknote is.”

Russell Napier of Electronic Enterprise says that November 16 is “the day that money died.” He declares, “Bank deposits are just part of commercial banks’ capital structure. This means that you and I as depositors will go to the end of the compensation line and could soon lose an entire life savings if it is in a bank.”

As of 11-12-14 your bank account is not really money and your bank account is no longer in your control.

This reminds me of a film entitled “the Matrix” starring Keanu Reeves. It depicts a dystopian future in which reality as perceived by most humans is actually a simulated reality called “the Matrix”, created by sentient machines to subdue the human population, while their bodies’ heat and electrical activity are used as an energy source. Computer programmer “Neo” learns this truth and is drawn into a rebellion against the machines, which involves other people who have been freed from the “dream world.”

When banks use your money to bolster their gambling on economic issues, and investments, it’s time to watch closely your assets and make

wise preparations. As Solomon wrote, “Be diligent to know the state of your flocks, and attend to your herds; for riches are not forever, nor does a crown endure to all generations” (Prov.27:23-24).

ISIS Closing in on Israel

The war against ISIS is taking a dangerous, perhaps inevitable turn. The terror organization has been keen to expand to southern Syria and the Syrian capital of Damascus. Now it says it has recruited three Syrian rebel groups operating in the south of the country in an area bordering the Israeli occupied Golan Heights — that have switched their loyalties to ISIS.

This switch means that Israel, the U.S.’s closest ally in the Middle East, could be threatened from the southwest by the Egyptian ISIS group of Ansar Bait al-Maqdis in Sinai and by ISIS in southern Syria.

The ISIS war is not going well at all for the US-led alliance in Syria. ISIS and al-Nusra Front, al-Qaeda’s branch in Syria, are still the dominant rebel groups in the country. The U.S.-backed Free Syrian Army is still not a reliable fighting force.

The three rebel groups that just joined ISIS could make that situation even worse. Two of the groups are small in number, but the Yarmouk Martyrs Brigade has hundreds of fighters. The Yarmouk Brigades has been at odds with al-Nusra Front and switched now to join what leaders of all three groups believe is the future of Islam.

“If Israel was attacked by ISIS, America would expect a proportionate response by Israel, which is militarily capable of defending itself,” said Geoffrey Levin, a professor at New York University. “America would counsel against sustained Israeli involvement because it could threaten the tacit alliance between America, Iran,

Turkey, and several Arab states against ISIS.”

“More recent reports indicated a closer alliance with [the Islamic State] due to tensions with JN [al-Nusra Front],” said Jasmine Opperman, a researcher at Terrorism Research & Analysis Consortium (TRAC). She said al-Nusra attacked the headquarters of the Yarmouk Brigade in southern Syria in early December 2014 following clashes between the two groups.

Al-Yarmouk Martyrs Brigade controlled an area near the Jordan-Israel border in March 2013. That same month, the brigade took as hostages some of the United Nations peacekeeping mission soldiers. Even so, Israel reportedly allowed the brigade to have its wounded fighters treated in Israeli hospitals.

ISIS has been known for launching surprise attacks and opening new battlefronts when it seems to be losing. ISIS also has been criticized by many Arabs and Muslims for not taking its fight to Israel and instead fighting fellow Arabs and Muslims. An attack aimed at Israel may boost ISIS’s popularity in the Arab world and refresh its recruitment and funding efforts.

On the other hand, some of ISIS’s top military commanders were former officers in Saddam Hussein’s army, and they may resort to what Saddam did in the 1991 Gulf War when he attacked Israel with mid-range rockets, hoping to drag the Israelis into a conflict that he was losing.

An Israeli retaliation in 1991 could have jeopardized the U.S.-led coalition that then included Arab countries like Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia. The same is true now.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Despite some recent tensions between the countries, Israel remains America’s closest ally in the Middle East. Attacks on Israel by ISIS or affiliated groups could further escalate war in the region, or they could further strain ties between the Obama administration and the Israeli government.

“It would be more likely a sign of desperation, as were Saddam’s attempts to lure Israel into the 1991 war as a way of breaking the Arab coalition against him,” said NYU’s Levin. At that time, continuous pressure from the first Bush

administration and the installation of the Patriot anti-rocket system convinced the Israelis to refrain from reacting to Saddam’s attack.

Israel could launch a preemptive attack to destroy or significantly damage these ISIS-affiliated units whether by air or by ground forces. Israel used its advanced air force to launch attacks in Syria several times since the beginning of Syrian civil war in 2011.

Meanwhile, Israel has recently boosted its defenses in the Golan Heights, saying its main concern was to prevent any major weapon transfer from Syria to Hezbollah, the Lebanese guerrilla organization that has engaged in several rounds of war with the Israelis since the 1980s. (December 29, 2014 | Riyadh Mohammed).

They Have Blood on Their Hands

“Former New York City Police Commissioner Bernard Kerik told Newsmax that Saturday’s execution-style shooting of two uniformed police officers was ultimately encouraged by Mayor Bill de Blasio and the Rev. Al Sharpton — and “they have blood on their hands.”

“de Blasio, Sharpton and all those who encouraged this anti-cop, racist mentality all have blood on their hands,” he said. “They have blood on their hands.”

The two officers were shot about 3 p.m. while sitting in their marked car in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn by a man identified as Ismaaiyl Brinsley.

He wounded his girlfriend in a shooting in Baltimore before driving to New York and ambushing the officers, according to the *New York Daily News*.

Brinsley, who reportedly belonged to a gang, later killed himself on a crowded Brooklyn subway platform as police closed in on him. He bragged on his Instagram page just hours before that he wanted to kill police officers, the Daily News reports.

Investigators said that Brinsley was avenging the deaths of Eric Garner and Michael Brown by killing the officers.

Kerik told Newsmax that the officers’ deaths

resulted from a climate created by de Blasio, Sharpton and other New York City officials.

"This guy's intent — based on that Instagram post — was retribution for Eric Garner and Michael Brown," he told Newsmax. "The people who encouraged these protests — you had peaceful protesters who were screaming 'kill the cops' — the so-called peaceful protesters.

"Who was encouraging these protesters? De Blasio, Sharpton and other elected officials and community leaders. They encouraged this mentality. They encouraged this behavior.

"They encouraged it — and these two cops are dead because of people like them," Kerik said. "They don't owe the cops an apology.

"An apology isn't good enough. They have blood on their hands." (Newsmax, Dec.20, 2014).

He Was a Muslim Jihadist!

Ismaaiyl Brinsley the killer of the two cops in Brooklyn, NY, has two Muslim names "Ismaaiyl" and a middle name "Abdullah" (see mugshot bellow) which means "servant of Allah," is a fan of sheikh Yusuf Estes, who is not only neck deep in the Muslim Da'wa movement (the call to convert westerners to Islam) but Estes meets with both ISIS and Hamas financiers, and Brinsley loved the Koran, specifically Surah 8 on his own Facebook page, which calls for arming for preparation for Jihad war; it says all on what we need for motive as to why Brinsley shot the two officers. All that, accompanied with Hamas supporters, who were proven to have been behind the riots in Ferguson is a complete recipe for killing cops as we present the evidence in this article.

Brinsley is a jihad sympathizer who used the racial turmoil as an excuse to kill Americans. The Ferguson riots as we shall see here were pushed and organized by Muslim fundamentalists in America.

Firstly, the verse he likes to read is:

Against them make ready your strength to the utmost of your power, including steeds of war, to strike terror into (the hearts of) the enemies, of Allah and your enemies, and others besides, whom ye may not know, but whom Allah doth know. Whatever ye shall spend in the cause of

Allah, shall be repaid unto you, and ye shall not be treated unjustly.

Brinsley admitted himself that he was "Muslim" and also frequented Al-Farooq Mosque which had a long history of terror support going back more than 20 years which hosted Al-Qaeda co-founder, a Palestinian named Abdullah Azzam. Al-Farooq's imam was Gulshair Shukrijumah, was not only a regular translator for the Blind Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman, but his son, Adnan, became a top Al-Qaeda operative and was killed in a gun battle with Pakistani intelligence just a few weeks ago. Yet another mosque official, Sheikh Mohammed al-Moayad, was charged in 2003 with using the mosque as a front to raise \$20 million for Al-Qaeda. At the time, the *New York Times* noted the mosque's extensive connections to terrorism. All that plus NYPD Chief of Detectives Robert Boyce said he was "Muslim" but does not know if he was "radicalized". (Walid Shoebat, Dec.20, 2014).

Rats Taking Over Ground Zero, One World Center

Rats are taking over 1 World Trade Center, the glitzy new office tower built at Ground Zero. They're chewing through carpet, snacking on crumbs of food left on computer keyboards and generally terrorizing the building's anchor tenant – publishing house Condé Nast.

Stories have chronicled the reactions of editors and writers with Vogue, Vanity Fair, Glamour, Allure, Teen, Self, GQ, Bon Appétit and New Yorker magazines, all of which have recently moved into or at least toured their new digs at what was supposed to be the city's poshest new address.

Some might find humor in the thought of Vogue Editor Anna Wintour having to fight off a burly rodent to get to her morning coffee. Cream, sugar and a little vermin on the side, Anna?

But others have a decidedly more sober take on the stories coming out of the New York Post, New York Observer, the Daily News and other publications.

In fact, this news may be a signal, another “harbinger” of America’s decline as a result of turning its back on God and Judeo-Christian values, says Messianic Jewish Rabbi Jonathan Cahn.

Cahn, author of the New York Times-bestsellers “The Harbinger” and “The Mystery of the Shemitah,” says that since his first book was released in 2011, the harbingers he revealed have not stopped.

“They have continued to manifest and unfold,” he said.

What does that mean?

“The harbingers are warnings of coming judgment,” Cahn said. “Their continued manifestations are signs that America has not stopped in its departure from God but is continuing on a progression toward judgment.”

The pattern of national judgment spelled out in “The Harbinger” was set years before the nation’s destruction. In it, an attack takes place on the land, and a breach of the nation’s security is carried out by the nation’s enemies. It happened to ancient Israel in 732 B.C. It happened in America on Sept. 11, 2001.

The next stage is that instead of turning to God in repentance, the nation responds with defiance and a vow to come back stronger than before – without God. The vow Israel made is recorded in Isaiah 9:10: “The bricks have fallen, but we will rebuild with hewn stone. The sycamores have been cut down. But we will plant cedars in their place.”

The vow, the defiance and the nation’s attempt to come back stronger without God leads to judgment and destruction, Cahn believes.

All nine harbingers that appeared in ancient Israel have now manifested in America. The fourth harbinger is the rebuilding of the Tower of Ground Zero, also called 1 World Trade Center.

When the ancient rabbis translated Isaiah 9:10 into Greek in the Septuagint, they rendered it as

this: “The bricks have fallen, *come let us build for ourselves a tower.*”

In other words, a tower would rise up from the ruins of the destruction.

“That’s exactly what happened at Ground Zero,” Cahn said. “The Tower is a symbol of a nation’s defiance of God. It was conceived in the ruins of 9/11 as a symbol of America’s defiance and of its promise that it would rise up stronger than before – without God. The rabbis were using the words from Babel to translate Isaiah 9:10. Eerily, there was a scripture hidden in the ruins of Ground Zero. The scripture was ‘Come let us build for ourselves ... *a tower.*’”

Four of the nine harbingers concern the first warning of judgment. Five of them are signs of the nation’s defiance: the tower, the “stone of judgment,” the “erez” or cedar tree, the utterance and the prophecy.

“The strange thing is that it’s as if every one of the harbingers that stand for America’s defiance are under a curse,” Cahn said.

- Fifth Harbinger – The stone of judgment, which formed the cornerstone of the tower, was removed from Ground Zero and put into disuse.
- Seventh Harbinger – The erez tree, or biblical cedar, which was planted at the corner of Ground Zero to replace the fallen sycamore, and called the “Tree of Hope,” a symbol of America coming back stronger, has decayed, withered away and, just recently, died.
- Eighth Harbinger – The American leader who uttered the ancient vow of defiance of Isaiah 9:10, former Democrat Sen. John Edwards, fell from grace as a result of scandal.
- Ninth Harbinger – The other American leader who prophetically pronounced judgment on America in the form of the ancient vow, from the floor of the Capitol, the day after 9/11, was former Democrat Sen. Tom Daschle. He also fell from grace and from national life.

So what does all this have to do with rats overrunning the new tower at Ground Zero?

“The Fourth Harbinger, the tower, the symbol of the America’s defiance, America’s glory and, with a height of 1,776 feet, of America itself – is now overrun with rats,” Cahn said. “It’s not that everything that happens at Ground Zero must be significant – but for such a building, such a symbolic building, to be overrun with rats, is striking.”

Cahn said rats are a universal symbol of “uncleanness, decay, devouring, plague, disease, pestilence and destruction.”

According to an article in Women’s Wear Daily, the “rat problem” at One World Trade Center has gotten better after a few visits from pest control.

But the rat plague is only getting worse, according to a report by the Real Deal, a trusted source of real estate news in New York City.

In November, Vogue staffers – including the magazine’s matriarch, Anna Wintour – said they were avoiding their new offices due to a “rat infestation.” Now sources tell the New York Daily News that the rats have “taken over.” Employees have been told not to eat food at their desks, and a complaint has been filed with the city’s health department.

“A bunch ate through the ceiling of a sports editor’s office and crawled all over his desk and left poops on his keyboard,” one source told the Daily News. “They ate through his rug to fit under his door.”

When asked if he was disgusted by the rat problem, Vanity Fair Editor Graydon Carter said: “They’re rats! What do you think?”

Condé Nast is a subsidiary of Advance Publications, owned by S.I. “Si” Newhouse Jr. and his brother Donald. Si Newhouse has a net worth of \$9.5 billion and is the 10th richest resident of New York City and the 52nd richest person in the United States, according to Forbes. (Leo Hohmann, World Net Daily, Dec.18, 2014).

The rats are infesting the world’s new super trade center – how appropriate! Surely, this is another “SIGN OF THE TIMES”!

Saudi Arabia Makes New Law: If You Get Caught Bringing In Bibles You Will Be Executed

Saudi Arabia, according to some reports, has made a new law that if you get caught bringing in Bibles into their country, then you will face punishment, even death. According to Paul Washer of HeartCry Missionary Society,

“[T]he new law extends to the importing of all illegal drugs and ‘all publications that have a prejudice to any other religious beliefs other than Islam... In other words, anyone who attempts to bring Bibles or gospel literature into the country will have all materials confiscated and be imprisoned and sentenced to death.

According to Nina Shea, director of the Washington-based Hudson Institute’s Center for Religious Freedom,

Saudi Arabia is continuing the religious cleansing that has always been its official policy... It is the only nation state in the world with the official policy of banning all churches. This is enforced even though there are over 2 million Christian foreign workers in that country. Those victimized are typically poor, from Asian and African countries with weak governments.

The Saudi Arabian embassy in the US has refused to say anything on this. “Sometimes they don’t want to say anything [to the media],” said a Saudi Embassy worker. The silence of Saudi Arabia only shows what tyranny the Muslims there are planning against Christians. (by Theodore Shoebat, Dec.18, 2014).

Antichrist Arising? Catholic Church Ushering One World Religion?

Back when Jesus Christ walked on this earth, He told of a great time that would be like no other time the world will ever see or experience: The Great Tribulation. As of late, it has become a very popular topic in the media. Tim LaHaye and Jarry B. Jenkins have written many series on the Great Tribulation, especially with their Left Behind series. The series would then be adapted, straight-to-DVD, starring Kirk Cameron (*Unstoppable, Saving Christmas*) and later for a major Hollywood premier starring Nicholas

Cage (*Face Off*, *National Treasure*). And if that wasn't enough for film, Pure Flix Entertainment has contributed with *Jerusalem Countdown*, *The Mark*, and *Revelation Road: The Beginning of the End*.

It should also be noted that the central figure throughout the entirety of the Great Tribulation is the Antichrist, a man who rules the world within the seven years. In order to achieve this tyrannical monarchy, he accomplishes many feats in which one is described in the following quotes. The first is from 2 Thessalonians 2:4:

“Who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.”

And the second quote is from Revelation 13:15:

“And it was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.”

Summarized, the Antichrist will establish a one-world religion, making himself a divine entity. Presently, such a concept pertaining to a singular religion for the world to follow is unbelievable. Presently, there are twenty recognized religions worldwide. They are accompanied by hundreds – maybe thousands – of smaller sects. With those numbers, how could a one-world religion be ushered in?

The Holy Bible explains the existence of another man, an agent for the Antichrist to cement the one-world religion: the False Prophet. This man, given the moniker of “The Beast of the Earth,” will infiltrate the Church to destroy and deceive the Christian faith. In order for this to happen, the False Prophet has to be a figure, recognized by the majority of Christians as an authority for their faith. Eschatologists believe such a man already exists today, and he is the figurehead of the largest religious denomination in Christianity: the Roman Catholic Church.

Our current pope, Pope Francis, has done more in accordance to the “False Prophet” than any pope before him. (via Bing)



Now to be fair, I never wrote that Pope Francis is the False Prophet. If he is or not is something only God knows. I, along with other eschatologists, however, see a trend that is happening in the Roman Catholic Church, and Pope Francis so happens to be the man who is making more groundbreaking moves that are very False Prophet-like. So if Pope Francis so happens to be the False Prophet, he is implementing the one-world religion through three major moves.

The first move is the acceptance of other religions. Pope Francis has done more to push coexistence between religions, especially among the Abrahamic religions. In one example, the pope initiated prayers from both Christianity, Islam, and Judaism to take place in the Vatican. According to *Fox News* and *Patheos*, Israeli president Shimon Peres and Palestinian Authority president Mahmoud Abbas along with other Abrahamic religion leaders were invited to the popular city-state to participate in meditation and prayers among each other. It must be noted, this is the first time Islamic prayers were chanted at the Vatican within the city-state's history.

This follows us up to the second move in which Pope Francis is methodically assimilating religions into one, specifically Christianity and Islam. Prominent eschatologist pastor, Jack Van Impe, detailed this new religion, known as Chrislam (a portmanteau of Christianity and Islam). In it, the God in Christianity and Allah in the Koran are one and the same.

According to both *DW* and *Now The End Begins*, Pope Francis has ordered the Vatican to financially support a new Islamic art exhibition in the Emirate of Shajah. This was done as a means to promote good will between Christianity and Islam, but also push the agenda for

Chrislam. And guess what, Chrislam isn't alone in its alleged support. Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Church and author of *The Purpose-Driven Life* and *The Daniel Plan*, allegedly supports Chrislam too. As a matter of fact, back in November, Pope Francis invited Warren – along with many other religious leaders from other religions – to an Interfaith Convention to supposedly discuss commonality in marriage and family according to both *Flow of Wisdom* and *Christian News*.

Finally, the third move is probably the most dangerous because it is a direct attack towards the sovereign authority of Jesus Christ. Pope Francis has been quoted for saying the following pertaining to salvation according to *Now The End Begins*:

“Dear friends, let us ask the Lord, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, for the grace to never fall into the temptation of thinking we can make it without others, that we can get along without the Church, that we can save ourselves alone, of being Christians of the laboratory. On the contrary, you cannot love God without loving your brothers, you cannot love God outside of the Church; you cannot be in communion with God without being so in the Church.”

Now it is true that we cannot save ourselves alone. Only through Jesus Christ, can we attain salvation. It is a free gift by God, but the fact this statement does not specifically mention Jesus Christ is peculiar. By the most detailed critics, the above statement actually places more authority on the Roman Catholic Church as the authority of salvation. According to *Christian Beliefs (End Times Deception)*, this has been

their agenda for the longest time via explicit statement from Pope Eugene IV, in the Bull *Cantate Domino* in 1441, when he proclaimed ex cathedra.

“The Most Holy Roman Church firmly believes, professes and preaches that none of those existing outside the Catholic Church, not only pagans, also Jews, heretics, and schismatics can ever be partakers of eternal life, but that they are to go into the eternal fire ‘which was prepared for the devil and his angels’ unless before death they are joined with Her [Roman Catholic Church/Virgin Mary].”

“No one, let his alms giving be as great as it may, no one, even if he pour out his blood for the Name of Jesus Christ can be saved unless they abide within the bosom and unity of the Catholic Church.”

If Pope Francis follows the above statement from the Bull *Cantate Domino*, he may be violating its mantra by stating atheists who do good deeds are redeemed too, according to both *Huffington Post* and *Daily Mail*.

As time passes, what Pope Francis and the Roman Catholic Church are doing points to the possibility that eschatologists may be correct. However, we here at *Mad World News* know many of our readers are Catholic. Therefore, this article isn't just an investigative op-ed, but an open discussion. Do you think the Roman Catholic Church will play a role in favor for the Antichrist? Do you think Pope Francis is the False Prophet or at least setting things up for him? (Faith News, Jan Omega, Dec.15, 2014).

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- Four Special Bible Correspondence Course Lessons on PASSOVER!
- Pentecost (Shavuot) – The Mystery and Significance Revealed
- Pentecost – the FINAL Analysis!
- Pentecost – Sunday or Sivan 6?
- The Incredible Truth about Pentecost!
- How Should we COUNT Pentecost?
- Luke 6 – New Testament Proof on Pentecost
- Counting the Omer – Its Incredible Meaning
- Sefirat Ha Omer – a Key to Overcoming!
- Sadducees Vs. Pharisees – Who Controlled Temple Worship in the Time of Christ?
- A New Look at the Sadducees and Pharisees
- Amazing New Revelation on the Feast of Trumpets
- Fascinating New Understanding on the Feast of Tabernacles
- Secrets of the Sukkah – New Insight on the Fall Festival
- A New Look at Yom Kippur and the Azazel Goat
- Shemini Atzeret – a New Look at the “Eighth Day”
- The Mystery of Hoshana Rabbah Revealed
- What’s All This about Tithing?
- The Sacred Names of God
- Dinosaurs in the Time of Adam?
- Angels, Women,, Giants, UFOs and the Occult – Return of the Nephilim
- Christian-Messianic Passover Hagaddah
- The Birth, Ministry, Death, and Resurrection of Christ
- Is HELL Eternal?
- Is the Cross Christian?
- What Was the Mark of Cain?
- Is the Star of David Pagan?

End-Time Apostasy

- Was Herbert Armstrong the Elijah to Come?
- Where God’s Church Went Wrong!
- Prophetic Errors of Herbert W. Armstrong
- Back to Babylon
- How Are the Mighty Fallen!
- Joseph Tkach – Apostle or Apostate?
- Joseph Tkach – Saint or Monster?
- Gerald Flurry and the Philadelphia Church of God
- The House of Yahweh Exposed
- Apostasy in the End of Days
- Zechariah 11 and the End-Time Vultures

The Nature of GOD

- The Mystery of God – Who or What Was Christ Before His Human Birth?
- What Do You Mean, “The Only True God”?
- Was Jesus Christ “Created”?
- The Mystery of Lucifer and the Logos
- The Genesis Factor – Is God Reproducing Himself?
- The Pre-Existence of Christ – Fact or Fable?
- Is Jesus “God”?
- Is God a “Trinity”?
- The Origin of the Logos
- Did God Create a Devil?
- The Early Church Fathers and the Logos

Bible Prophecy

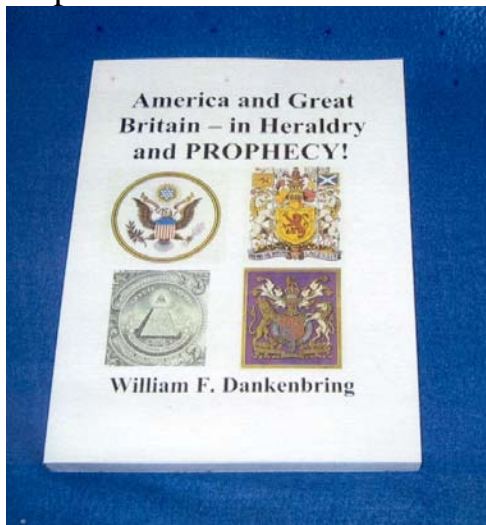
- Who Is the United States in Bible Prophecy?
- Israel in the Last Days – Is America Ephraim or Manasseh?
- Noah’s Universal Flood – a Warning to Our Generation?
- Coming: A Modern Roman Empire?
- Panorama of Prophecy
- What Is the “Mark” of the Beast?
- Will the Messiah Return in a “Jubilee Year”?
- China Taking Over Panama Canal & America in Prophecy
- Babylon the Great and the New World Order
- “END OF DAYS” – *Incredible New Insight* on End-Time Prophecy
- Where Are the Seven Churches of Revelation?
- The Last Days: Daniel 7 and the New World Order
- Daniel’s 2300 day Prophecy
- Daniel 8 and the End of Days
- Daniel 9 – Amazing PROOF Christ is the Promised Messiah!
- A New Look at Daniel 11
- Daniel 11 – FINAL Warning

- __ Daniel'2 1260, 1290, and 1335 Days
- __ The Book of Revelation Decoded
- __ God's Mysterious 6,000 Year Plan
- __ Far Beyond STAR WARS!
- __ A New Look at Bible Chronology and Prophecy
- __ Armageddon – How Much Longer?
- __ The “Time of Jacob’s Troubles” – Have They Begun?
- __ Planet “X” and Worlds in Collision!
- __ Who Is the 144,000 of Revelation?
- __ Who Are the Two Witnesses?
- __ Spiritual Breakthrough – Awesome Power of Faith, Prayer and Fasting
- __ Meditation – Hidden Key to Spiritual Growth
- __ 2012 and Beyond – End-Time Prophecies
- __ America at the Crossroads – Have We Passed the Point of No Return?
- __ Rothschild’s Choice – a Shocking Look at “Conspiracy Theory”
- __ The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse Ride Forth
- __ Simon Magus and the Greatest Conspiracy of All Time
- __ Sign of the Unicorn – Who is the Tribe of End-time Manasseh?
- __ Isaac Newton and the End-Time Prophecies of Daniel
- __ The Quartodeciman Passover Controversy and the Early Church\
- __ Was the “Lord’s Supper” Really the Passover?
- __ “How Can I Become a True Christian?”
- __ Countdown to the Messiah – How Much Longer?
- __ The 70 Years, Jubilee Cycles, Daniel’s 2300 Days, and Seven Times Prophecies
- __ How Many Times Did Peter Deny Christ?
- __ How Many Thieves Were Crucified with Christ?
- __ Whatever Happened to Enoch and Elijah?
- __ Mysteries of the Great Pyramid of Gizah
- __ What Is the Doctrine of the Antichrist?
- __ The Tribe of Dan and the Antichrist\
- __ Masonic Symbols and the Origin of America’s Great Seal
- __ Prophecy from the Zohar
- __ Just What Is Jewish “Kaballah”?
- __ Nimrod and the Tower of Babel Cataclysm
- __ Just Who Are the Modern Jewish People?
- __ The History of Apostasy and the Perfect Storm
- __ Origin of the 360 Day Year
- __ 40 Proofs on Counting Pentecost
- __ What Do You Mean, “Born Again”?
- __ Seven Proofs the Lord’s Supper Is NOT the Passover!
- __ Apollyon Rising, 2012 and the End of Time
- __ Should Christians Wear Make Up and Cosmetics?
- __ Hannukah and the Abomination of Desolation
- New Articles**
- __ As It Was in the Days of Noah -- The 120 Years Prophecy Revealed
- __ 2012, Quetzalcoatl, and the Wrath of Satan
- __ Is God Giving Us 15 Extra Years?
- __ The Stunning Future of America Revealed by the Isaiah 9:10 Effect
- __ Is the Antichrist Here Today?
- __ Who Will Win the White House -- Mitt Romney and the White Horse Prophecy
- __ Judgment Day – the 390 Day Prophecy
- __ Will the Antichrist be the Son of a Harlot?
- __ Traitors, Treason and the Enemy Within
- __ Should a Christian Vote?
- __ Is the Law of God Still in Force Today?
- __ Barack Obama’s Faustian Bargain with the Devil
- __ Cry for America, the Beloved Country!
- __ Daniel’s Image, the Four Beasts and the “King of Assyria”
- __ The Power of Living Faith
- __ Ancient Chronology and End-Time Prophecy
- __ A Voice in the Wilderness
- __ If John the Baptist Were Here Today
- __ “Elijah Shall Come and Restore All Things”
- __ The Astonishing Life of David
- __ Repentance and the Thirteen Attributes of God
- __ Signs of tke Antichrist!
- __ God’s Holy Days or Pagan Holidays – Which?

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Letters from Our Readers

“If Herbert W. Armstrong was so right on his teaching, then why did the Worldwide Church of God fall completely apart like it did? When it comes to Abraham and his faith and his works of obedience to God, Abraham could not have done what he did without his faith in God. It takes faith to serve God and to do what He commands us to do. Without faith we have nothing and we will surely lose in the end. Without faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ for the sins of the world, we will lose in the end. Yes, Abraham was justified by faith because like I said, without faith he could never have done what he did. Abraham had a deep, trusting faith in God—without that faith he could never have pleased God.

“You cannot keep the commandments of God without faith. When you have complete faith in Jesus Christ you have the desire to live by the commandments and help others that need help along life’s way. But, none of that can be done without faith.

“I lost faith in the Worldwide Church of God years ago. I can remember way back when that church was tearing families apart. I can remember how the minister of the Spokane, Washington group would not pray for my wife because she was not a member of the church. Would Jesus have done that? My wife died of cancer on the 12th of April 1982. She was just 40 years old. We had 4 young children. Our youngest was only 4 years old when her mother died. I was a member of the Worldwide Church of God. My wife was a Lutheran, but she didn’t go to church. For at least a year or more I took care of my wife in a rented hospital bed in our living room in Reardon, Washington. But they would not even pray for my wife during church services on Saturday, or any other time, because she was not a church member. The minister of the Spokane group came to our house in Reardon after he read her obituary in the newspaper. After he talked to me for a while, I asked him to leave my house and he stomped his feet as he walked out the door. I never ever went back to the Worldwide Church of God again.

“My wife spent her last 31 days of life in the Holy Family Hospital in Spokane. When she was home I took care of her and our 4 kids by myself. But after she had to go into the hospital, a book salesman came to our door. He was a Seventh Day Adventist and I told him what was going on. The next thing I knew the pastor from that church came knocking on my door. That church helped us out a lot.

“Also a woman that lived in Reardon came to our door and then after that she went to the Lutheran minister and the next thing I knew was people from that church took over my kids every day so I could go to the hospital and I would get back home at least by 5:00 pm and they would bring the kids home to me and serve us a hot meal.

“Also the minister from the Seventh Day church would come to the hospital every day to see how things were going. He was even there the day she died as I was standing by her bed holding her hand when she took her last breath. But the Worldwide Church would not reach out to us at all. I would come home from the hospital and find bags of food sitting on my back porch.

“The funeral services were held in the Lutheran Church in Reardon and the Seventh Day Adventist minister along with the Lutheran minister officiated at the funeral. There was 6 in the family so we were given 6 plots in the Reardon cemetery. Plus I don’t know who paid for the services and the bill for the funeral home, because I never got a bill, I did get a notice from them saying I owed nothing. Some day I plan to be buried there next to my wife in the Reardon cemetery. I am 81 years old now and if possible I want to make my way back to Washington state to live out the rest of my life. . . .

“When it comes to physical things the Worldwide Church of God would help no one, where other churches will. If a neighbor family was going hungry and in dire need the Worldwide Church of God would not help them.

Herbert W. Armstrong died a millionaire. He was rich in goods and lived high on the hog so to speak.

"I lost faith in him and his church and I have no faith in any of the off-shoots. There is a lot about Bible prophecy that they teach is yet to happen that has already taken place. But I will not go into that, except to say that Daniel was told to shut up the book until the time of the end. Well when Armstrong started his ministry we had not reached the end times yet so the book on prophecy was still closed. We are in the end times now and have been since 1967, but not before then. So much of prophecy that is being preached that is yet to take place has already come to pass.

"Yes, I have faith in Jesus Christ and by that faith I am able to keep the commandments of love for my fellow mankind. But it is not on my own strength; it is the strength of Jesus Christ that gives me that kind of faith.

"That's all I have to say at this time."

-- Arkansas

"After reading the latest PF about what Joan Rivers said about Obama and "Michael" I can only think that she was *taken out* like the others that were going or did blow the whistle on the life style of our current president. Notice that the drug was "propofol" - the same drug that was used on Michael Jackson. We have become as a nation evil and it makes me sick since I am a veteran of the Vietnam war. How sad."

-- Email

"Well, the dreaded election is finally over, and while it can be a foregone conclusion that career cronies in the Congress and Senate have been replaced by new ones, switching from a donkey (jackass) to an elephant does take on real significance once the putrid smell of politics goes away.

"Obama knows exactly what to do. To him there is no Congress or Senate. He looks at both branches of government as political hemorrhoids that must be bypassed and eliminated. He's become a dictator without the title. The American people are witnessing the dismantling of the House and Senate, and little is it realized far worse is yet to happen.

"Obama grew up with a Marxist ideology that was the political platform that put him in the White House. The warning signs were everywhere, but low information voters by the millions fell for his charisma and smooth reassuring words. He carried out a coup without a single shot fired. Obama's fate is ours as we naively follow the pied piper who is doing everything possible to create the country in his image. Because people are complacent and unaware of what treason is, the nation's dictator knows no one is going to stop him.

"Day after day all we heard on the news was Ebola and ISIS. Conservative talk show hosts on radio were alarmed. The media was tripping over itself as the dangers presented convinced us that either the deadly virus or a terrorist with a machete was about to strike. We are being manipulated, and how we've reacted is very telling. So what exactly is and isn't the truth? The election has been all that matters to the media who is clueless when it comes to what should be reported. Politics is the skunk in the box with shiny wrapping paper with a golden bow. Inside is a smell we say we hate, but we can't stay away from. Every two to four years we remove the lid and take a big whiff.

"The election was very important, as much as a person may hate to admit it. What has happened goes beyond just replacing old cronies with new ones. We may well be seeing our political system dying a painful death.

"B.O. will sign E.O.s like there's no tomorrow. With each Executive Order signed by Obama, he will state to the American people that the Republicans aren't cooperating, so his hand has been forced. The Democrats may have just received a political shellacking, but the Republicans are about to be tarred and feathered. People have expressed their frustration and anger by way of the ballot box, but by 2016 will Washington be so dysfunctional that our political system is seen in a far different light? Will there even be an election? It's a valid question when considering the tragic state of Sodom, D.C.

"To be taken from day after day coverage of Ebola and ISIS to election coverage, gives a person mental whiplash. We were kept in a state of crisis, only to find ourselves smothered in mediocrity once politics became the focus. Nov.6 has come and gone, and so where do we go from here? The unemployment rate has

reportedly dropped from 5.9% to 5.8%. Gasoline prices are dropping. The stock market is booming. An increasing number of economists are saying better days are ahead. Any astute person would see that cooking the books has fried the brains of those who live in the world of wishful thinking. I can't help but wonder if we are going to be assured and reassured that the economy is improving, and then the great lie is exposed and everything unravels. We may well be seeing psychological warfare at its best for the next few months, and people will be lulled into even greater complacency. It brings to mind I Thessalonians 5:3 – 'while people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape' (NIV). Repeat the magic words long enough, and people will nibble at the worm on the end of the hook. Lies are in, and the truth is out.

"To say we are close to the Great Tribulation is something so easily said that it loses its significance. What if it actually is in a matter of months, but the vast majority are lulled into total complacency? How much of the attitude will rub off onto the Churches of God? The media will be the instrument used because the government controls what we hear. In order for the beast system to grow, it will make sure we are lied to so we don't know what's really taking place.

"Thanks for the warning messages you continue to give, and I pray God continues to bless you, Cappy, and everyone involved in the work you are doing."

-- Richard Markland, Ohio

"I'm writing after what has been an all too familiar weekend. Football is not just mere entertainment, but an obsession as America's modern day gladiators are worshipped as virtual gods. Sports is a mental drug feeding the insatiable appetites of millions of crazed fans (fanatics) while the country collapses.

"With illegal immigration and Ferguson in the news, we are a nation completely blind to the fact that we are turning on ourselves. Ferguson is just the beginning of embittered cities across the country. We can only talk about racism for so long. We've been trying to keep the beast in the cage, but the animal can't be tamed. Verbal bullets are about to be replaced by literal bullets

from the barrel of a gun once hatred is unleashed.

"Racism doesn't allow reason. There's an explosive atmosphere when having whites, Hispanics and blacks with opposing views discuss the issues of illegal immigration and Ferguson. The staging ground has been set for those who want to destroy the country. Radicals and extremists now see this as the point in time in which the Second American Revolution will be a nightmare for the American people, but a dream come true for the nation's enemies. Demonic hatred is about to light the fuse which is going to ignite the flames in cities across the country. The media is a huge contributor to how this will take place. Cameras only encourage those who protest and loot. Reports on Ferguson have been biased, and the truth has become a fatality along with Michael Brown. President Obama's endorsement of illegal immigration has been sugar-coated by reporters who have gone from mainstream to lamestream. Black on black crime is given next to no coverage, but we are constantly reminded that a white officer shot and killed an unarmed black man.

"We are at the point of no return as a country. Our military is being prepared for all out civil unrest. All branches of law enforcement will become America's Gestapo.

"We are a nation of complacent and guilt ridden whites, angry blacks who feel short-changed, and Hispanics and Latinos who demand legal status without the rule of law. We will collapse, only to open the gates for an invasion by our enemies from abroad.

"With evil growing and eating away at the heart and soul of the country, it's easy to be discouraged. We must always remember that God promises to protect those who obey Him. Psalm 91:7 – 'A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come near thee.'

"I pray God continues to bless you, Cappy, and everyone involved in the work you are doing."

-- Richard Markland, Ohio

"Thank you for your letter and information that you sent to me. I for one cannot be Herbert W. Armstrong's judge. But I do have the right to judge what I believe to be the truth of God's

Holy Word as I see it. I may not be right on everything, just as you may not be right on everything. I do not see The World Wide Church of God as being God's end time church here on this earth. A great many were and have been taken in by the teachings of Herbert W. Armstrong. He evidently brought in false teaching into the church to gain more income into his pocket. I myself at this time feel that Herbert W. Armstrong was a fraud right from the start and he went into the ministry for money. Even though he seemed to be preaching the truth and he brought many into the church. In my mind he was a fraud from the beginning of his ministry. He was also a mind control freak that controlled the minds of a great many people. Just how can a church like that be classified as God's Church when it was always under the control of Satan.

"In reading through what you sent to me, I can't see where Armstrong and the World Wide Church of God were mentioned in Bible Prophecy, As for me I have pushed aside everything that Armstrong taught out of my mind and hold none of it to be the truth. I can see that you still think that he opened up some truths to the people. But some of what you call truth was not meant for us today and 'MR' Armstrong brought them into the church to bring more money into his pocket. In my mind he was a fraud right from the start of his ministry and he bilked a lot of people out of their hard earned money. First, second, and third tithe, plus offerings on the Jewish Feast Days. God will be Herbert W. Armstrong's judge on how he lived his life.

"Now there have been and are others out there in this world that are just as bad as Herbert W. Armstrong. I can remember years ago of reading about an Assembly of God minister who was caught up in an incest affair with his Daughter. Sometimes I wonder when a Minister gets up and preaches to their congregation about the things they should not be doing and then he goes right out and does the very things he has preached against; I wonder if he really believes that the Bible is the true word of God, or is he in it just for the money. How many Preachers out there are living high on the hog with other peoples hard earned money?

"There are a lot of off shoots out there from the World Wide Church of God. There are also a great many off shoots from the off shoots out

there that are still teaching Armstrong. Some are just as bad or worse when it comes to strong arm tactics with their members, plus they are also living very high on the hog with the tithes and offerings that they are bringing in. One such group is The Restored Church of God run by one David C. Pack, a dangerous church to become involved in. I for one will not get involved with any of them. Another one to stay away from is Christian Biblical Church of God run by Fred R. Coulter. There are many more out there. So where does one go to find the truth?

"There was a time in my life that I felt the Bible was full of violence and I thought about going into Deism, but as I looked deeper into it I kind of backed away from it. Thomas Paine was Deist. So at one time I threw my Bible into the trash, but I still prayed to God of the Bible. Now, one thing that brought the Bible back to life in my life, was first the teachings of Teaching Faith Ministries. I do not recall ever ordering anything from them. But I search the internet a lot. One day I got a package in the mail from Teaching Faith Ministries and in it was 5 volumes on the end times series. I started reading through that and then I found out that what was being taught also there was end time prophecy taught by Ellis Skolfield. So I searched it out and down loaded Islam in the end times plus the False Prophet and the Abomination of Desolation plus the two Witnesses and other things and the Bible came alive to me like never before. Some of Ellis Skolfield's writings are out of print now. But I understand he is now 82 years old. You may not go along with what he has written, but with what I see going on in this world with ISIS and Islam I believe that his writings bring Bible Prophecy to light as never before. They go right a long with secular history and bring us up to where we are right now in Bible Prophecy.

"As I search and study I find that there are now at least 3000 Islamic Mosques here in the USA. Also that the Muslim brotherhood has infiltrated our government and our judicial system. Plus this common core that has infiltrated the public schools calls for the teaching of Islam in our public schools. Plus there has always been the question in my mind about President Obama being a Muslim and now in these end times we are staring Ebola in the face.

"If you down load Islam In The End times and the False Prophet and read through them, you will see just where we are in Bible Prophecy and

how Islam is involved in it. The down loads are free.

“As I read through the literature you sent to me, I can see that you have had quite an interesting life. My life can not even begin to compare with your life. You have had a lot of great experiences and you are a highly educated man. I thank God for people like you. But I have to back away from any teachings that come from Herbert W. Armstrong. I will also stay away from any splinter groups.

“I am 81 years old and getting close to being 82. I search the internet every day and do research on religion and many other subjects. I found the other day in my searching a PDF file of 1975 in Prophecy and downloaded it to my computer. Also at that same time I found some videos of Herbert W. Armstrong. I did not watch them or download them, but I believe he was talking about the 3rd world war. There is probably much more on the internet, but I stopped my search on Herbert W. Armstrong right there. But I also found an article that says that The United States is still a British Colony. Very Interesting. . . .

“When I was 16 I got a job working in a service station for \$1.00 an hour. I had no home to go to and no one to turn to. So I rented a room there in Snohomish. But before I got that job at the service station I can remember sleeping on the bare ground with only a news paper for a blanket. In January of 1952 I joined the Air Force to keep from going in the Army. I was 18 then getting close to being 19. I am surprised that they let me join the Air Force. I only weighed 105 lbs and didn't even have a 9th grade education. But the recruiter took pity on me and helped me get off of the streets and let me join the Air Force. The rest of my life is a very long story. I didn't graduate from High School, but I did get a GED diploma later on in my life. I did finally graduate from the school of hard knocks, but then I am still having a hard time in life.

“I am poor and I live in a low income senior housing complex in Gentry, Arkansas. Because of the memories I carry around with me, I have been a roamer for over 20 years. I have lived in this complex for the 7th time now. I lost the love of my life on the 12th of April 1982. Sometime after that I re-married. My youngest Daughter was just 4 years old when her mother died. We were living in Reardan, Washington at that time. I was a member of the World Wide Church of

God at that time. My wife was not a member. She was a Lutheran, but she never went to church. I still live with the memories of what we all went through when my wife was so sick with cancer. Those memories are what has kept me roaming around so much. Heading down the road would help for awhile and then it would start all over again and down the road I would go again. I can't do that anymore. She is buried in the Reardan Cemetery and after I die I want to be buried next to her.

“When she was so sick, she couldn't lay down in bed, so I rented a hospital bed and put it in our living room and I took care of her and our 4 kids there in our house in Reardan. The last 31 days of her life she spent in Holy Family Hospital in Spokane, Washington. I was standing by her bed holding her hand when she took her last breath. The minister of the Spokane group would not pray for her because she was not a member of the church. He finally came to our house in Reardan after he read the obituary in the news paper. I invited him in and let him sit down in our living room. He started talking, but I couldn't listen to what he had to say. I finally told him to leave my house and he stomped his feet as he walked out the door. I never ever went back to meetings of The World Wide Church of God ever again.

“Before my wife passed away, when she was in the hospital. A man came knocking on my door. It turned out that he was a book salesman from the Seventh Day Adventist Church. I told him what was going on, we talked for awhile and then he shook my hand and said good bye. Well the very next day a knock came on my door and it was the Minister from the Country Side Seventh Day Adventist Church. We talked for awhile and the next thing I knew I was getting some help from that church. They brought us food and helped take care of our kids while I went to spend time at the hospital with my wife. Every day for 31 days before my wife died the Minister from the Country Side Seventh Day Adventist Church came to the Hospital to see me and my wife. He was also there with us the day that she died. There were times when I would come home from the hospital that I would find sacks of food sitting on my back porch.

“During that time some of my kids were in school. Well there was a couple from the Lutheran church who would get my kids after school and watch over them until I got home

from the Hospital. I made it a point to be home by 6:00 PM and when I got home they would bring the kids home and along with them would be a home cooked meal for us. A young couple from the Seventh Day Adventist Church took my 4 year old daughter into their home and took care of her until after my wife's funeral. These were people that I didn't even know from a church that I never ever went to before. They reached out and helped me a stranger. But the World Wide Church of God would not even pray for my wife.

"Her funeral was held in the Lutheran Church in Reardan and the Seventh Day Adventist Minister was even there to help with that funeral. Now here I sit with tears running down my face as I write this. There isn't a day that goes by that I don't relive that all-over again in my mind as the tears roll down my face. I don't go to any church anymore. I do my study at home and talk to my neighbors about Jesus Christ. Some day I want to move back to Washington State because when I die I want to be buried in the Reardan Cemetery next to my wife. I know I can only live one day at a time. But if my life goes on, sometime within the next 2 years I want to find a place to move to up there in Washington. I can't afford to right now, besides that my car is broke down, but I am hoping to be able to get me a Chevy Astro Van sometime this next year. Then after that I will save for my trip back to Washington and find a place to move to up there before I ever move away from here. I know with prayer and faith in Jesus Christ that things will eventually come together for me so I can do what I want to do.

"Anyway I thank you for your letter and literature and for your concern. I will do my Bible study at home and not get involved with any church.."

-- Arkansas

More Calendar Madness

Note: Nehemiah Gordon, a Karaite Jew, has begun to waffle and vacillate on the calendar issue of "potential new moons" and whether local sighting is the correct procedure rather than the new moon as seen in Israel. This issue has just begun to boil over, or erupt. Nick Wood wrote to Nehemiah, asking about his apparent change in his beliefs. Nehemiah replied that he

is now changing his belief on these things. Nick wrote to me the following letter:

"I have just received a response from Nehemia Gordon, which is forwarded to you below. I have not yet replied back to him and will take my time and think about it carefully.

"He readily acknowledges there could be 28 day months by postponing an easily visible crescent due to cloud cover. Who makes the rules though? "If you can have a 28 day month then why not a 31 or 32 day month?"

"By accepting an upper limit of 30 days, he is already unwittingly acknowledging some form of 'potential visibility'. He may not see the new moon on either the 29th or 30th, so he automatically declares the new moon at the beginning of the 31st. If he is not very careful he will end up tying himself up in knots.

"Although I have no doubt that Nehemia is a decent, sincere man, we must remember he is a Karaite and more aligned with the Sadducees than the Pharisees. This is the very first time I have ever heard anybody, never mind a Jewish person, state that a Jewish month can have anything other than 29 or 30 days.

"Is he also being too dismissive of the ancients, making out that David would be totally ignorant of 'potential visibility'. I am not so sure, in fact I believe the exact opposite, that the ancients were far more advanced than most people give them credit for. We know from the Talmud and Mishnah that the Sanhedrin used to have back up calculations to check witnesses who reported seeing a new moon. Even the calculated Jewish calendar is usually accurate to within 1 or 2 days after nearly 2,000 years, so they must have been very well informed about the movements of the Moon.

"For me just simple logic says that if a new moon crescent is clearly visible and seen hundreds of miles east of Jerusalem, then it should be declared a new moon from Israel. Postponing a day, because of cloud cover seems ludicrous to me, if the new moon is visible in say Iraq. Of course, for those borderline cases, when there is no certainty of a sighting, I believe it would be logical and valid to postpone a day if there was cloud cover.

“None of this to me is ‘rocket science’, rather it is simple, commonsense logic. Let me know what you think Bill. I have started looking at the projected new moons for this year of 2015, which I will send to you soon. It looks as if the new moon of Abib will be certain while Tishri will be uncertain like last year. If there is cloud cover for the new moon of Abib there could be confusion ahead so we must be prepared.”

-- Nick Wood, England

COMMENT: It is time to re-visit these questions on the calendar of God, once again. Satan the devil is hard at work to lead people astray from the truth. Write for our literature, “What Is the REAL New Moon?”, “Should We Use Local New Moons to Determine the Months?”, “Was the Original Calendar Calculated?”, and “What’s All This about the New Moons?”, and “The Potential Visibility of New Moons.” They are free of charge.

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“I was reading Bob Thiel’s Website where he is debating Passover 14th or 15th Abib. I have long believed the COGs are dead wrong taking it the evening before. So I am glad to have found somebody sane enough to know that if the Jews were to kill the Passover lamb during the daylight hours of the 14th, it could not be eaten the evening before – unless it was killed on the 13th.

“The evening or twilight of the 14th immediately precedes the commencement of the 15th or first day of unleavened bread. This can be proven by Leviticus 23:32 where the day of atonement, or the 10th Tishri we are to afflict ourselves beginning the evening of the 9th through to evening of the tenth. Clearly the evening or twilight of the 9th is at the end of the ninth day which commences the 10th day. You are so right, Mr. Dankenbring – the first ex COG member I have found to see the light. This has kept me away from the COG, an obviously false teaching.

“Now if the 14th evening is in reality the 13th at evening, then the 13th at evening is the 12th at

evening is the 11th . . . Is the 10th . . . Is the 9th, and so on. Give me a break, Mr. Thiel. As Mr. Thiel invites no contact as you do, Mr. Dankenbring, and as he is attacking TPM and you, would you mind please passing this message of mine to you on to him if you are able to. I would like to discuss the COG calculation to Pentecost with you next time I write, and how it does not square with the Bible. It would be good if you already know.”

-- Email

COMMENT: You are right. They appear to be stuck in a spiritual time warp. And judgment is closing in, as the web is woven tighter and tighter. It seems that most people will not repent, as a whole, until the fist of judgment strikes – when Great Tribulation arrives. Perhaps they will take stock of themselves, and the truth of God’s Word, in the midst of the frightening Great Tribulation. Why not until then? Because they do not have “the love of the truth” that they might be saved (II Thess.2:8-10).

Most of the churches are also wrong on Pentecost. They follow the heresy of the Karaites Jews who follow the Sadducees of Christ’s day. The Orthodox Jews have counted correctly for 3,500 years, since the time of Moses. Christ Himself said they, not the Sadducees, “sat in Moses’ seat” (Matt.23:1-3). The various “churches of God” are in deep doo-doo, because they follow the Karaites on computing the day of Pentecost and misread the Passover as well.

I feel so sad for my once upon a time brethren who have been trapped in this spider’s web of deception. They need to drop on their knees, and humble themselves and repent to their innermost core of their being. As Peter wrote, “For the time [has arrived] for judgment to begin with the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will [be] the end of those who do not respect or believe or obey the good news (the Gospel) of God? And if the righteous are barely saved, what will become of the godless and wicked?” (I Pet.4:19, Amplified Bible).