

PROPHECY FLASH!

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

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Aftershock, Antichrist, Ariel and Habakkuk

Another Failed “Rapture” Prophecy – What Went Wrong?

Pentecost – a Day of Awesome Revelation!

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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!

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How Near Is the End?

The world is reeling and tottering with bad news and more bad news – earthquakes, storms, drought, unemployment, financial woes, wars around the globe – you name it! The stage is set for the rising up of the end-time “Antichrist” – also known as the “Beast” because of his bestial character and brutality. At the same time, ministers are predicting the “rapture of the saints” and getting many followers, and getting it all wrong! Why so much chaos, and confusion, falsehood and deception? It was all foretold, long ago, in the pages of Scripture!

The true understanding about the Feast of Pentecost clears away the falsehoods and errors of men and reveals the awesome truth about the Second Coming of Christ for His “firstfruits.”

-- William F. Dankenbring

Aftershock, Antichrist, Ariel, and Habakkuk

The world is marching into madness, with controversy over Israel at the center. Economic riptides, global fiscal whirlpools, political intrigues, plotting and subversion, set the stage for final global catastrophe and devastation. The Antichrist system is here now, and the Antichrist himself is rising up to the fore. How much longer? What should we do? What does the future hold for society and the world?

William F. Dankenbring

The apostle John wrote, almost 2,000 years ago, “Little children, as you have heard the *antichrist* is coming. Even now many antichrists have already come by which we know it is the last hour” (I John 2:18). John was writing this under the divine inspiration of God, as is the entire Bible. His words were not only written for the first century, but his words were meant above all for us today who are truly living in the last hour.

We truly need to be reminded of these things. Ponder, pray and meditate about these things.

John went on, “Some went out from among us, but were not truly of us, for if they had been they would have continued with us [endured and remained in God’s church body]. But they left that they might be made manifest”—that we might recognize them for what they really are---heretics, idolatrous, proud individuals.

John continues, “No lie is of the truth. Who is a liar but he that denies that Jesus is the Christ? Whoever denies the Father and the Son is antichrist’ (I John 2:21-22). The word “anti” means “against” or “in the place of” Christ.

Many Antichrists

In the days after the flood Nimrod, a black man, a son of Cush, who was a grandson of Noah, was the “antichrist” of that generation and led the whole world into apostasy what was called the “Babylonian mystery” system. Ironically the name Nimrod comes from a Hebrew root word *marad* meaning “he rebelled” or “rebel”. In these last

days, a final world-ruling “antichrist” is going to rise up and set himself up in the place of Christ and even claim to be the Messiah, the anointed One of God.

Antichrist teaches the opposite of the truth of God. President Obama has designated the month of June as gay pride month to honor homosexuals. God says He will not be mocked. It is interesting that the Secret Service code name for President Obama is *renegade*. Renegade means “rebel” or “one who rebels.”

Will you be taken in, and deceived, by the end-time “Antichrist” and his apologists, propagandists, and spokesmen? The apostle Paul warned, speaking of our days, the Day of the coming of the true Christ, or Messiah, will not come “unless the FALLING AWAY [APOSTASY] comes first, and the man of sin [lawlessness] is revealed, the son of perdition” – the Antichrist (II Thess.2:3).

Paul talks about the insidious, undercover plot to seize control of the world, in our days, by a “shadow government” working behind the scene. He says, “For the mystery of lawlessness is ALREADY at work” (v.7); “only He who now restrains will do so until He [or, “he,” margin] is taken out of the way. And then that lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming” (v.7-8).

Paul warns that his coming will be “with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous DECEPTION among those who perish, because they did not receive the *LOVE OF THE TRUTH*, that they might be saved [spared, protected]” (v.9-10).

The deception of this oncoming, world political and religious system will be so powerful and strong that, Christ Himself warned, “For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to DECEIVE, *if possible*, even the elect” (Matt.24:24).

Says the apostle Paul, “Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall” (I Cor.10:12). In other words, for truth stand tall, lest you completely fall! Remember Humpty Dumpty who sat on a wall, who had a great fall, and all the king’s horses and all the king’s men, couldn’t put poor Humpty together again!

End Time Deception

Jesus Christ speaks of what the times will be like before His second coming. There are things that we need to watch out for in the meantime, so that we will not become distracted, lose our focus, and become confused or perish. He warned, “Be careful that no one misleads you [deceiving you and leading you into error]. For many will come in (on the strength of) My name [appropriating the name which belongs to Me], saying, I am the Christ (the Messiah), and they will lead many astray” (Matt.24:4-5, Amplified Parallel Bible).

In other words, we should take every precaution, so that no one deceives us – no one. Many deceivers will rise up in the last days, most notably, the “Antichrist,” who

will claim that he is “God’s chosen one,” the “Anointed One,” the “Messiah” who will save the world – even while he plots its utter destruction and annihilation of all his enemies and those who do not bow before him and obey his dictates and orders!

Could you fall for such a man?

Some preach a fiction of a pre-tribulation rapture, some will claim the Law of God is done away, that the weekly Sabbath and annual festivals (Sabbaths) are not commanded today, that tithes and offerings are optional, and there is no “true calendar” or it doesn’t matter what calendar one uses.

The signs that we are living in the end times are all around us!

Economic Signs

Today’s chronic unemployment is worse than during the Great Depression. The US Government has \$61.6 trillion in unfunded obligations which amounts to \$534,000 per household. The U.S. debt default could cause global panic/and usher in a new economic order.

Why would any nation continue to spend without restraint while carrying the burden of such massive debt? Said Yeshua, “for nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in place after place: all this is but the beginning [the early pains] of the birth pangs [of the intolerable anguish]” (Matt.24:7-8).

The birth pangs have arrived!

Says The Economic Collapse Blog.com, June 5, 2011, “So many economists and financial pundits seem absolutely shocked that the U.S. economy is slowing down again. It is as if this latest wave of bad economic data has caught them completely by surprise. Now, in the mainstream media we are seeing all kinds of headlines declaring that the U.S. economy is headed for disaster. But anyone with half a brain could have seen this coming. This year alone, we have seen the worst tsunami in Japanese history, the worst U.S. tornado season in recent memory and the worst Mississippi River flooding in decades. In addition, chaos in the Middle East has pushed the price of oil up to very high levels. Of course all of those things were going to have an effect on the economy. In addition, all of the **long-term trends** that have been destroying the U.S. economy for decades have not been taking a breather. In fact, the truth is that all of our long-term economic problems have been accelerating. So yes, the sky is falling, it is time to panic and the U.S. economy really has fallen and it really can't get up. It is just that everyone in the mainstream media seems to have believed that Ben Bernanke and Barack Obama would just sprinkle a bunch of fairy dust on the economy and everything would just magically get better. Well, in the real world things simply do not work that way.”

Despite an unprecedented debt binge by the federal government and nightmarish money printing by the Federal Reserve, the economic downturn continues to drag on.” (June 5,

2011, “The Sky Is Falling, It Is Time to Panic And The U.S. Economy Has Fallen And It Can’t Get Up”).

The economic signs indicate we are very close to another 2008 economic meltdown, only this one could be worse – much worse.

Says the Economic Collapse Blog, “What we are now witnessing is the slow motion unraveling of America. Our economy is dying, the American people have lost faith in the government and in almost all of our other major institutions, and our society is collapsing. Most Americans don't understand why all of this is happening, but most of them do realize that something has fundamentally changed. Earlier this year, McDonald's held a "National Hiring Day" and a million Americans showed up to apply for jobs. Only 62,000 of them were hired. That means only 6.2% of the applicants got jobs. So what are we supposed to tell the 93.8% that didn't get hired? Are they supposed to have any hope for the future when they can't even get a minimum wage job at McDonald's? When I was a teenager, I went over to McDonald's one day, filled out an application and was instantly hired. My, how things have changed. Now we have millions upon millions of young people that are staring directly into a very bleak future. The level of frustration in this country is rising to frightening levels and large numbers of people are already showing that they will stoop to *anything* in order to survive.

“In a recent article entitled "**18 Signs The Collapse Of Society Is Accelerating**" I focused primarily on the chaos that has been erupting in many of our urban areas. But the truth is that, as you will see below, there are signs that society is collapsing coming out of very rural areas as well. This phenomenon cannot just be pinned down to one area of the country or to one group of people. From coast to coast people are already starting to lose it and the economic collapse has only just begun.

“The cold, hard reality of the matter is that what we are experiencing right now is rip-roaring prosperity compared to what is coming down the road.

“So if people will behave this wildly now, what is our society going to look like someday when there are millions of Americans that have not had anything to eat for several days?”

We are seeing the Greatest Wealth Robbery by today’s Banksters and Robber Barrons of Wall Street and the international corporations, in league with Big Government, and Big Labor, to disenfranchise the middle and low income Americans, British, and people around the globe, as the super elite get richer and pad their own pockets, while the rest of mankind enters an end-time slavery feudal system of desperation, depression and despair.

Says Jim Rogers, well known investment guru, “Staggering debts and loose monetary policy is going to send the United States into a financial crisis worse than the one in 2008.”

“The debts that are in this country are skyrocketing,” Rogers tells CNBC, adding “in the last three years the government has spent staggering amounts of money, and the Federal Reserve is taking on staggering amounts of debt.

“When the problems arise next time...what are they going to do? They can't quadruple the debt again. They cannot print that much more money. It's gonna be worse the next time around.”

‘Aftershocks’

Our economy mirrors a chain of events like the aftershocks that occur for weeks after an initial earthquake. There have been four economics aftershocks –the stock bubble...the housing bubble...the consumer-spending bubble...and the private debt bubble. Each one acted as the equivalent of an economic earthquake--leveling banks, destroying jobs, and wiping out the savings of millions of Americans.

“We have been taken literally to the brink – because we had no time to recover between the earthquakes. The danger has not dissipated, and the damage has not been repaired. It has only been covered up with a patchwork of stimulus programs and bailouts. Says Newmax, “The apparent rebirth of Wall Street and the recovery CNN is talking about will be exposed as a sham (a fake) and something that never was. And when the aftershock comes, the consequences will be disastrous. Why is the media ignoring this upcoming threat? Why is no one telling you about it?”

The media don't seem to even know its coming! Says Newsmax, “This was not an overnight catastrophe. The wheels for this multi-bubble breakdown were set in motion decades ago. Instead of fixing the underlying issues, one politician after another piled more debt, more foreign borrowing, and more ridiculous spending on the worn-down shoulders of our nation. Capitol Hill could have stepped in at any moment and put a halt to this madness. But that would've been career suicide for these elected officials. Too many operate only on four-year windows, creating policies only to get elected—regardless of long-term consequences.”

This shortsightedness led us to witnessing four bursting bubbles: real estate, stock market, personal debt, and consumer spending.

A new book entitled *Aftershock* by authors Robert A. Wiedemer, David Wiedemer, PhD and Cindy Spitzer say that “Bubble #5” is coming---the *complete death of the dollar in 2011-2013*.

Imagine the aftermath if the dollar falls off a cliff: Basic necessities would wild in cost, cheap becomes unaffordable, the triple double-digit inflation nightmare, the most crippling tax you've never heard of, and the end of the American monetary system and the forced creation of a one-world currency.

Bubble #6—“*Sorry, Washington! Your credit card has been declined!*” This back-breaking juggernaut, arriving in 2013, would bring about the greatest crisis in the history of America, with repercussions around the globe What happens when China, Japan, and other nations “pull the plug” on American debt? What happens when they stop taking the American dollar?

If our dollar loses all of its value, what incentive is there for the rest of the world to continue giving us bad loans? We already receive two billion dollars a day in foreign “welfare” checks. Our debt is more than 14 trillion dollars and on its way to 16 trillion. Our government only takes in 2.5 trillion dollars. We are spending much more than our income.

Foreign nations have been carrying the burden and lending us the money. If they stop sending the money, one humongous collapse would immediately occur. The biggest bubble of all would burst!

There is no way to pay off our international creditors. At some point we will max out our “credit” limit. These authors paint a grim picture of what would happen once the rest of the world cancels our credit card. *Aftershock* is a shocking, frightening survey of the dangers and perils ahead for our fragile economy.

Mega-Disasters

Meanwhile, “[OSLO, Norway](#) — About 42 million people were forced to flee their homes because of natural disasters around the world in 2010, more than double the number during the previous year, experts said Monday. One reason for the increase in the figure could be climate change, and the international community should be doing more to contain it, the experts said.

“The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre said the increase from 17 million displaced people in 2009 was mainly due to the impact of ‘*mega-disasters*’ such as the massive floods in China and Pakistan and the earthquakes in Chile and Haiti. It said more than 90 percent of the disaster displacements were caused by weather-related hazards such as floods and storms that were probably impacted by global warming, but it couldn’t say to what extent. “The intensity and frequency of extreme weather events is increasing, and this trend is only set to continue. With all probability, the number of those affected and displaced will rise as human-induced climate change comes into full force,” said Elisabeth Rasmusson, the secretary general of the Norwegian Refugee Council. The monitoring center and refugee council presented the report at an international conference about climate change and displacement in Oslo.

“The number of people displaced last year – about 42 million – is roughly the size of Argentina’s entire population, and the onslaught of natural disasters so far this year also has been grim. The March 11 earthquake and tsunami in Japan left more than 10,000 people dead, some 17,500 missing and about a half-million homeless. In the United States, tornadoes have wreaked havoc from Alabama to Massachusetts, while floods have inundated states from Montana to Louisiana. In the southwest Missouri city of Joplin, the U.S.’s deadliest tornado in six decades killed at least 141 people and destroyed more than 8,000 homes in a city of about 50,000 people. ‘There is increasing evidence to suggest that natural disasters are growing in frequency and intensity and that this is linked to the longer-term process of climate change,’ Guterres said.

“Asia was the hardest hit region last year, with the largest number of displaced people seen in countries such as India, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Indonesia, China and Pakistan.

“In China alone, more than 15 million people were forced to leave their homes following floods, while 11 million people were displaced in Pakistan, the report said. The large floods in India in 2009 also continued to force people to leave their homes in 2010.

“ ‘This report provides us with evidence of the extent and urgency of the problem that we cannot ignore. We must increase collaborative efforts to prevent displacement by natural disasters, and do a better job of protecting those displaced,’ Rasmusson said” (Huffington Post, June 11, 2011).

The world is entering into a time of sorrows, woe, and travail, globally. Rebellion against the laws and commandments of God is bringing on a heavy price. Men sow the wind and reap the whirlwind!

Why are disasters coming rapidly upon the world? Could it be because the world has turned against Israel, the apple of His eye, and anti-Semitism is rapidly escalating around the globe? Could it be that the push to drive Israel into a small corner, or even destroy her, is having unforeseen consequences – unexpected results?

The Middle East Quagmire

The next “end time sign” that the apocalypse is rapidly approaching is Obama’s policy toward Israel and the Muslim nations. As he bows before the Saudi king, and makes love to the Muslim nations, and turns his back on America’s oldest friend in the Middle East, there will be “hell” to pay as God Himself turns His back on the United States and the rest of the world for ignoring and worsening the plight of Israel, God’s chosen people.

Could President Obama complete his betrayal of Israel by supporting the United Nations’ declaration of a Palestinian State? Such a nightmare betrayal is not out of the question but is very likely, as worldwide pressure increases to force the state of Israel to willingly retreat to its indefensible pre-1967 borders.

Palestinian leadership is seriously considering a concrete plan to seek membership in the UN. In July the Palestinians would ask the Security Council to recommend a seat for their new nation (even though they have no new nation yet). They lay claim to the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, but there are a lot of arguments going on at this time about what the boundaries and borders will be.

Palestine demands that the Jews return to the pre 1967 borders which would leave Israel totally defenseless and a narrow 17 miles across at the waist! Barack Obama keeps on saying that the U.S. will veto the request, and all the experts seem to agree. Except Gabriela Shalev, who may have more claims to expertise than most. She was Israel’s ambassador to the UN from 2008 to 2010. A few weeks ago she told a committee of the

Knesset, Israel's parliament, that the U.S. is not interested in vetoing the UN's recognition of a Palestinian state.

Since modern day Israel was created in May 1948, American Jews and Christian have agreed on one very serious matter; America had a religious commitment to tiny Israel and must support her at all costs. American Jews were especially vexed over reports that Barack Obama might be a closet Muslim and therefore, might not support Israel during a time of life-and -death struggle. Shalev said she "would not be surprised if Obama instructs...America's Ambassador to the U.N., Susan Rice, to hold back on the veto weapon this time. By Shalev's count, the Palestinians have already succeeded in recruiting nine members of the Security Council – the number necessary for recommending to the General Assembly to accept a new member state to the U.N. The Americans, adds Shalev, are not eager to use their veto and to take comfort from the isolation in Israel's arms."

If President Obama joins the International Community in attempting to force Israel to withdraw to her indefensible pre-1967 borders, God's judgment will surely fall upon our nation like a sword from Heaven.

The plan to divide Israel can be traced back to the Oslo Accords of 1992-1993, when President Clinton brokered a signing of this horrific plan to divide Israel between Israeli Prime Minister Rabin and Palestinian terrorist leader, Yasser Arafat. Since then, the Bush administration tried to push forward the plan, and engaged the Jews to pull out of the Gaza Strip. Now it appears the "final shove" is coming from President Obama as he tries to play to world opinion and the Muslim world.

President Obama has recently told Prime Minister Netanyahu Israel must retreat to the pre-1967 borders. – which means that Israel will have to give up the Golan Heights overlooking the sea of Galilee which protects upper northern Israel, give up the Jezreel Valley which lies between the Jordan River and comes within 17 miles of the Mediterranean Sea.

Worst of all they would have to give up the Israeli presence in the Old City of Jerusalem and the Temple Mount – holy ground. God wants the Jews to take over the Temple Mount and has told them to rebuild his Temple, not to withdraw from the Old City of Jerusalem..

Those who curse Israel and divide up the land among the nations; those who force Israel to give up their land for peace, God says he will deal with a strong curse.

This past year Japan has spent over 40 million dollars in building, supporting and preparing the Palestinian infrastructure in readiness for the headquarters of the state of Palestine in the proposed area. After this they were smashed by a devastating Tsunami that smashed their nuclear plants causing radioactive leakage worse than Chernobyl.

A massive F5 tornado tore through Joplin, Missouri, killing over a hundred souls and wreaking horrendous devastation – just a few days after Obama announced that Israel

must withdraw to its pre-1967 borders. Is God concerned about this pressure being brought against His people?

God Almighty thunders, “I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. There I will enter into judgment against them concerning my inheritance, my people Israel, for they scattered my people among the nations and DIVIDED UP MY LAND” (Joel 3:2).

“This Generation”

It is very Interesting how these dates (2011-2013) tie right in with the signs of the times and correlate with the last day’s generation. Jesus Christ the Messiah said, “Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. I tell you the truth, THIS GENERATION shall certainly not pass away until all these things have happened” (Matt.24:32-34, NIV).

What did He mean by “this generation”” He is talking about the “fig tree.” The fig tree is a symbol of Israel! God says of Israel, When I found Israel, it was like finding grapes in the desert; when I saw your fathers, it was like seeing the early fruit on the fig tree” (Hosea 9:10).

Biblically speaking, “The days of our lives are seventy years” (Psalm 90:10). Thus a Biblical “generation” would be 70 years, from birth to death. Israel, God’s nation, was voted into existence by the United Nations in November 1947, and was “born” on May 14, 1948. A “generation” would be 70 years. Thus Israel’s first generation would end in 2017-2018 – just seven years from now! This may well mean we are entering the final seven years of this age, before the soon coming of Christ the Messiah!

The End-Time Beast

Revelation 13 tells us that the last 3 ½ years (42 months period) a great world-governing “Beast” power will rule the earth – an end-time empire composed of a Beast with seven heads (nations) with ten horns (military powers). This “beast” will reign over the earth for 3 ½ years or 42 months (Rev.13:5). It will be a great war-making power – like the union of the United States and the nations of Europe, called NATO.

This “beast” is not the United States by itself, but a conglomerate empire that will include the United States, Europe and Western Alliance. The “beast” or “king” over this empire will be ruling over the U.S. also, since it is a leading member of this conglomerate power. The U.S. will be one of those heads and/or one of those horns.

This “Beast” will reign until he is overthrown by Christ at His return (Rev.17:14). If we count 3 ½ years back from 2017-2018, we come to 2013-2014. If Christ returns around Passover, 2018, then 3 ½ years before that would be September/October 2014. If He returns in the fall of 2017, then the final countdown would begin about Passover 2013.

We don't know the exact day, year or hour of the Messiah's coming. It is a secret known only to God. However, we could say that the final demise of the power of the United States economically, and the loss of our freedoms, could be 2013-2014, when the "New World Order" rises up to replace the sovereign nations of this world, binding them together in one universal "empire" for several years, before it begins to break apart, and consume itself in a final orgy of war and mayhem. Read our booklet on "The Book of Revelation Decoded at Last," and "The Time of Jacob's Troubles – Are They Here Now?"

Chaos in the streets will lead to the imposition of a "New World Order." Add 3 ½ years to 2013 and we arrive at the year 2017. When America falls, the dollar fails and the government collapses ---that is the beginning of the final 3 ½ years of the "Great Tribulation" which precedes the coming of Christ, to save us from ourselves! Truly we are living in a very dangerous world.

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, especially in monetary matters.

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

The Prophecy of Ephraim

Isaiah also prophesies again modern Ephraim-America. He cries out, "Woe to the wreath, the pride of Ephraim's drunkards, to the fading flower his glorious beauty, set on the head of a fertile valley—to that city, the pride of those laid low by wine! See, the Lord has one who is powerful and strong. Like a hailstorm and a destructive wind, like a driving rain and a flooding downpour, he will throw it forcefully to the ground. That

wreath, the pride of Ephraim's drunkards, will be trampled underfoot" (Isaiah 28:1-3, NIV).

God goes on, "Therefore hear the word of the LORD, you scoffers who rule this people in Jerusalem [a type of our capital, Washington, D.C.]. You boast, 'We have entered into a covenant with death, with the grave we have made an agreement. When an overwhelming scourge sweeps by, it cannot touch us, for we have made a lie our refuge and falsehood our hiding place.' So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed. I will make justice the measuring line and righteousness the plumb line; hail will sweep away your refuge, the lie, and water will overflow your hiding place. Your covenant with death will be annulled; your agreement with the grave will not stand. When the overwhelming scourge sweeps by, you will be beaten down by it. As often as it comes, it will carry you away; morning after morning, by day and by night, it will sweep through. The understanding of this message will bring sheer terror" (Isaiah 28:14-19).

Ariel, "Lion of God"

God also thunders, "Woe to you, Ariel, Ariel, the city where David settled! . . . Yet I will besiege Ariel; she will mourn and lament, she will be to me like an altar hearth. I will encamp against you all around; I will encircle you with towers and set up my siege works against you. Brought low, you will speak from the ground; your speech will mumble out of the dust" (Isaiah 29:1-4).

Ariel in Hebrew means "Lion of God." It is a "type" of Jerusalem, the capital city of Israel. But it is also a 'type' of the capital city of Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh) – like Washington, D.C. and London, England.

There may be several different meanings of this prophecy because one such place where king David visited, is Tara, in Ireland where a "Torah" school was founded, and where David ruled for 40 years. See our book *America and Great Britain: Our Identity Revealed!* Ariel is also a type of the leading city of the ten tribes. Today that could be New York or Washington, D.C., because the leading city of the lost ten tribes is in the United States, today.

When her punishment is complete, however, the Lord of Hosts will deliver His people, Ariel. He declares, "Moreover the multitude of your foes shall be like fine dust, and the multitude of the terrible ones like chaff that passes away; yes, it shall be in an instant, suddenly. You will be punished by the LORD of hosts with thunder and earthquake and great noise, with storm and tempest and the flame of devouring fire." (Isa.29:5-6).

"Devouring fire" could well refer to nuclear strikes against them, raining down on their cities and fortifications. All the nations that fight against "Ariel" shall be punished "The multitude of all the nations who fight against Ariel [Jerusalem], even all who fight

against her and her fortress, and distress her, shall be as a dream of a night vision. It shall even be as when a hungry man dreams, and look—he eats; but he awakes, and his soul is still empty. . . . So the multitude of all the nations shall be who fight against mount Zion” (Isa.29:7-8).

But God says of His people, they won’t believe His prophecies. He exclaims, “Pause and wonder! Blind yourselves and be blind! They are drunk, but not with wine; they stagger, but not with intoxicating drink. For the LORD has poured out on you the spirit of deep sleep, and has closed your eyes, namely, the prophets Therefore the Lord said; ‘Inasmuch as these people draw near with their mouths and honor Me with their lips, but have removed their hearts far from Me, and the fear toward Me is taught by the commandments of men, therefore, behold, I will again do a marvelous work and a wonder . . .’” (vs.9-14, NKJV).

The Prophecies of Habakkuk

The prophecies of the book of Habakkuk parallel a lot of Isaiah 29. The LORD says to Habakkuk, “look among the nations and watch—be utterly astounded! In your days I will work a work that you would not believe, even though you were told. I am raising up the Chaldeans, a bitter and hasty nation which marches through the breadth of the earth, to possess dwelling places that are not theirs. They are terrible and dreadful; their judgment and their dignity proceed from themselves. Their horses also are swifter than leopards, and more fierce than evening wolves.” (Hab.1:5-8).

Who is this talking about? This is talking about the *New World Order*, the end-time world “beast” power! The term “Chaldeans” means “Babylonians”. The ancient Chaldean Empire was the Babylonian Empire.

In the “end of days,” it refers to the conglomerate “Beast” Empire of Revelation 13, which is referred to as “Babylon the great” in Revelation 17:5 and 18:2. It is also called “the daughter of Babylon” in Isaiah 47:1 as well as “daughter of the Chaldeans.” This is the World Empire that will cover the globe in the end of days.

The prophecy that Habakkuk saw was about the Day of the Lord, the end times. The Chaldeans are the new Babylonians and the New World Order. A very fundamental part of that New World Order is the United States of America. It is a mighty military nation which much of the world detests and abhors. The world looks upon America as a bitter and hateful people—a “cowboy nation” that is always waging war somewhere and trying to force its will upon other nations.

Today America is providing armaments and bombs to the British and French, our NATO allies now waging war on Libya. This is the beginning of the new Chaldean or Babylonian Empire, comprised, at this time, of NATO, America and our allies waging war around the world—most recently: Iraq, and Afghanistan , Libya and wherever else the “spirit” may lead.

Notice **verse 6**. God is raising up the Chaldeans (NWO) “a bitter and hasty nation which marches through the breadth of the earth to possess places that are not theirs. Their horses are swifter than leopards and are fiercer than the evening wolves.” How descriptive of our military!

Speaking of this New World Order, or “Babylon,” God says to Habakkuk, “They all come for violence; their faces are set like the east wind. They gather captives like sand. They scoff at kings and princes are scorned by them. They deride every stronghold” (Hab.1:9-10).

Habakkuk even describes the leader of end-time Babylon! Notice! He writes, “Behold the proud. His soul is not upright (desires not right) in him; but the just shall live by faith. Indeed, because he transgresses by wine, he is a proud (arrogant) man. He does not stay at home” (Hab.2:4-5).

Note: Wine here is also a type of drugs (mind intoxicating chemicals, like alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, etc.). “He enlarges his desire as hell, and he is like death, and cannot be satisfied. He gathers to himself all nations, and heaps up for himself all peoples” (v.5, latter part).

“Woe to him who increases what is not his—how long? And to him who loads himself with many pledges [vast indebtedness and borrowing from other nations]? Will not your creditors [among the nations] rise up suddenly? Will they not awaken who oppress you? And YOU will become their booty, because you have plundered many nations, all the remnant of the people shall plunder you” (Hab.2:6-8).

“Woe to him who covets evil gain for his houses that he may set his nest on high that he may be delivered from the power of disaster! You give shameful counsel to your house, cutting off many peoples, and sin against your soul. For the stone will cry out from the wall, and the beam from the timbers will answer it” (vs.9-11).

What is this “shameful counsel”? What kind of sin is “against your own soul” or body? Homosexuality! Is it any wonder that President Obama has made June the month of “Gay Pride”?

“Cutting off many peoples” means going to war at the drop of a hat, and invading nations where there is no real justification, nations which have not endangered us or attacked us. America never used to do this. Throughout our history, we never struck the first blow. But we fought back when we were attacked – the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Spanish American War, the First World War, the Second World War, Korea, Vietnam . . . That is, up until the Iraq War, and the Afghanistan War, and the War being fought against Libya. Is this just the beginning?

“Woe to him that builds a town with bloodshed, who establishes a city by iniquity (crime)! Behold, it is not of the Lord of Hosts that the people labor to feed (fuel) the fire, and the nations weary themselves for vanity (pride/ uselessness; exhaust themselves for nothing).” (Hab.2:12-13).

The wars have just begun. The conquests have just begun. The suffering has just begun. The times of Jacob's troubles have just begun. The Great Tribulation is rapidly approaching and gaining momentum.

Time to Prepare

What can we do to prepare? 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. "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).

"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 foolishly, 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).

The night is rapidly approaching, The darkest night ever. But so is the dawning of a new glorious, triumphant Day!

Another Failed “Rapture” Prophecy – What Went Wrong?

Harold Camping predicted the rapture of the saints would occur on May 21, 2011. He was wrong, and became a laughing stock to millions. Others were dismayed and saddened, and some no doubt lost faith due to their disappointment. It’s not the first time rapture proponents have failed in their prophecies. What does the Word of God REALLY teach on the rapture question?

William F. Dankenbring

The **2011 end times prediction** made by American Christian radio host [Harold Camping](#) stated that the [Rapture](#) and [Judgment Day](#) would take place on May 21, 2011, and that the end of the world would take place five months later on October 21, 2011, turned out to be another “false alarm.” Once again a minister cried “wolf” and there was no wolf!

Why was the predicted return of Christ a miserable failure? Millions of sincere believers think that Christ could come “at any moment.” Billy Graham and others say it could occur today, tomorrow, or (they hedge their bets), a thousand years from now.

The Rapture, in a specific tradition of [premillennial theology](#), is the taking up into heaven of [God's](#) elect people. Camping, president of the [Family Radio](#) Christian network, claimed the [Bible](#) as his source and said May 21 would be the date of the Rapture and the day of judgment "beyond the shadow of a doubt". Camping suggested that it would occur at 6 p.m. local time, with the rapture sweeping the globe time zone by time zone, while some of his supporters claimed that around 200 million people (approximately 3% of the world's population) would be 'raptured'.

The vast majority of Christian groups, including Protestant and Catholic believers, did not accept Camping's predictions; some explicitly rejected them, citing Bible passages including those stating "about that day or hour no one knows". Camping had previously predicted that the Rapture would occur in September 1994.

Failure is a hard pill to swallow. Following the failure of the prediction, Camping stated that May 21 had been a "spiritual" day of judgment, and that the physical Rapture would occur on October 21, 2011, simultaneously with the destruction of the universe by God.

What is the real problem with Camping's predictions? Isn't it time to go back to the drawing boards, search the Scriptures, and prove once and for all the TRUTH about the Rapture theory?

Is the "Rapture" really Biblical? Will the saints be taken to heaven BEFORE the onrushing "Great Tribulation" engulfs the world and horrendous times spill over the whole earth?

What does the Bible REALLY say?

Countdown to the Messiah

The rapture belief entered the Plymouth Brethren through John Nelson Darby, their most influential prophecy teacher. Its origin traces back to 1830 when a certain Margaret McDonald had a "vision" of the end-times. She had been ill and bed-ridden for a year and a half. She read Matthew 24:40 about someone being "taken", and then read in II Thess.2:7 about a "restraining" influence being "taken out of the way." She put the two passages together and reasoned that the "one" taken out of the way, before the rising of the Antichrist, must be the church! Darby and others subsequently took up this belief, and he popularized it in the Scofield Reference Bible, from where it has entered mainstream Protestantism like a "thief in the night," catching millions unawares.

People have speculated for generations as to when Jesus Christ would return. Those who lived around the year 1000 A.D. thought Jesus would come back in their time. Europe was panic stricken with fear, worried about the end of civilization at that time.

The Millerite Prediction

In 1844 William Miller thought Jesus Christ would return *then*. *Thousands heeded his words of prophecy, and waited upon the tops of hills, climbing trees, and watching the heavens* for any sign of Jesus' return. While waiting, one person fell out of a tree and broke a leg!

Why did Miller think that Jesus would return in 1844? He simply made a mistake in his calculations (which shows how dangerous it is to try to "calculate" prophecy!). Frankly, prophecy is *not* something you can calculate, or figure out mathematically, or by using a computer. Jesus inspired Peter to write: "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (II Peter 1:20-21).

William Miller made several errors in judgment. First, he interpreted Daniel's vision of Daniel 8 incorrectly. In verses 13-14 we read: "Then I heard one saint speaking and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, *How long* shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? And he said unto me, Unto two

thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed."

Miller *assumed* that this prophetic period began in 457 B.C. with the decree of Artaxerxes. He counted 2300 years from that time (a day for a year), and came to 1844, when he assumed "the sanctuary would be cleansed" by the return of Christ. When Christ did not return in 1844, his group got together and figured out an alternative explanation. Rather than simply admit they had been wrong, they said Christ did return to the sanctuary *in heaven*, and cleansed it and the prophecy did not refer to His coming to earth at all. Rather, they said, He began looking over the books -- He began the "investigative judgment" in heaven at that time, and when He finishes, then He will return to earth!

Miller made a fundamental error. He assumed the prophecy began in 457 B.C. But the Scripture nowhere says any such thing. That was his private, personal belief. Secondly, the prophecy in Daniel 8 does not even mention the "return of Christ." It rather deals with the subject of the "cleansing of the Temple." It was an assumption on Miller's part that this marked the return of Christ, and that it would occur 2300 years after 457 B.C. Two assumptions -- two fundamental errors -- and one big prophetic blunder resulted!

Christ Warned of False Predictions

Jesus' disciples wondered about the return of Christ and the end of the world. "And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of *thy coming*, and of the *end of the world*?" (Matthew 24:3). The Greek word translated "world" in this verse is *aion* and actually means "age." They were referring to the end of this present evil age, not the end of planet Earth itself, but the end of this present evil civilization under the sway of Satan the devil.

What did Jesus tell them?

"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying I am Christ; *and shall deceive many*' (verses 4-5).

Can you imagine that? The very first thing Jesus warned His followers was to beware of deceivers -- false prophets -- who would deceive MANY! How true His words were! Millions are deceived, confused, today, even about the Second Coming of Jesus Christ! His words have been misinterpreted, misunderstood, misconstrued, and manhandled by many who simply refuse to believe He meant exactly what He said!

The Coming of the Lord

We read in I Thessalonians, "For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will be no means

precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend FROM heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise *first*. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord *in the AIR*; and so we will be with the Lord forever" (I Thess.4:15-17).

Notice! Christ will return FROM heaven, and arrive in the AIR – the atmosphere surrounding planet Earth. THEN we will be caught up to MEET HIM, as He is returning to the earth!

The prophet Zechariah goes on to explain, "Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations as when he fights on the day of battle. *On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives*, which lies before Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley; so that one half the Mount shall withdraw northward, and the other half southward" (Zech.14:3-4).

When the Messiah returns, His feet shall stand *in that very day* upon the Mount of Olives! How plain it is!

Pre-Tribulation Rapture – a Great Deception

Let's really understand this! The "secret rapture" theory espoused by Tim LaHaye and most "Christians," today, is a serious and fatal error. It will likely cause immense multitudes to be unprepared for the diabolical reign of the Beast, or the Antichrist! They assume they will be taken up to heaven *before* the Great Tribulation, but God promises no such thing! Be sure to read our article, "The Secret Rapture – Fact or Fallacy?" They will be completely, utterly *unprepared* for the great travail and suffering that will come upon them!

Joseph Goode and other teachers claim that Christ will take His church up to heaven for a period of seven years. While there, the marriage feast will occur in heaven. The saints then will have to watch the horrible agony of the people "left behind" on the earth! They will have to see the poor Jewish Messianic believers go through savage hell on earth.

Is this what God really intends?

Others claim that the Messiah returns to take His flock up to heaven after 3 ½ years of the seven-year tribulation period have passed. Still others say the saints are taken to heaven for only a few months, and then return with the Messiah to this earth.

All these theories are DEAD WRONG! The "secret rapture" is a serious deception of Satan the devil, to destroy God's people by misleading them into a totally false sense of security!

When Christ returns, it will be a loud, shining, shattering, incredible event. The archangel will blow a loud trumpet. Paul wrote, “Listen! I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, *at the LAST trumpet*. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed” (I Cor.15:51-52, NRSV).

When the Messiah returns, there will be a mighty shout – the thundering voice of an archangel – which will shake up the nations (I Thess.4:16). It will be heard worldwide, and at that point the dead in Christ will rise, and the living saints will be changed and given a glorious new body, and rise to meet Him in the sky as He returns to earth.

When the Messiah comes, and the saints are resurrected, and meet Him in the air, it will be accompanied by THUNDER! And the nations will “SEE the Son of man coming on the clouds of heaven with POWER and GREAT GLORY. And he will send out his angels with a LOUD TRUMPET CALL, and they will gather his elect, from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other” (Matt.24:30-31, NRSV).

The saints will be with Him as He sets His feet on the Mount of Olives (Zech.14:4), “in that day” – that *very* day. Not 3 ½ or 7 years later! He will come in “clouds of heaven with power and great *glory*” (Matt.24:30), and “every eye shall *SEE* him” (Rev.1:7).

Does that sound like a “secret” coming? The only thing “secret” about it will be its TIMING! No one will know the “day or the hour” (Matt.24:36). In that sense, His coming will be like a thief – totally unexpected by the vast majority of people (v.42-44).

The Second Coming will not be a silent, clandestine, secretive, invisible event, with people “disappearing” suddenly from wherever they are, as rapturists proclaim. Such a theory is in denial of the plain scriptures. Such a hope is a false hope, a satanic delusion, a deception of the devil who seeks to entrap and seduce God’s people into a false sense of security. They will stumble unwatchful and heedless into the Jaws of Great Tribulation.

Great Tribulation Comes FIRST!

The very next sign or event to look for, He said, is *war in the Middle East!*

Notice it! Let’s pick up the story flow in Matthew 24: “Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (whoso reads, let him understand), then let those who are in Judaea *flee* to the mountains. Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take any thing out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. But WOE to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.

“*For then will be GREAT TRIBULATION*, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were SHORTENED, no flesh would be saved; but for the *elect’s* sake those days will be shortened” (Matthew 24:15-22, NKJV).

The abomination of desolation will involve foreign Gentile armies surrounding Jerusalem – the standards of an invading army hoisted, raised, over the Temple Mount in Jerusalem! Luke’s account of this same prophecy makes the picture even clearer. Notice: “When you see *Jerusalem surrounded by armies*, then know that its *desolation* has come near. Then those in Judea must flee *to the mountains*, and those inside the city must leave it, and those out in the country must not enter it; for these are DAYS OF VENGEANCE, as a fulfillment of all that is written.

“Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be GREAT DISTRESS on the earth and WRATH against this people; they will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken away as captives among all nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled” (Luke 21:20-24, NRSV).

Notice! We have seen there will be awesome, devastating events which will presage the coming of Christ, including the Great Tribulation itself – and up to this point, Yeshua has said absolutely NOTHING about the “rapture of the saints”! How could He have left it out? If it is supposed to occur somewhere in the middle of those fateful signs and events, then why didn’t Christ even MENTION it?

The answer is simple – *because it isn’t going to happen that way!* Modern proponents of a rapture before the Great Tribulation have it all backwards!

In this prophecy, Yeshua told His elect, His true disciples, who are living at the End Time, “So when you see the desolating sacrilege standing in the holy place, as was spoken of by the prophet Daniel (let the reader understand), then *those in Judea must FLEE TO THE MOUNTAINS*; the one on the housetop must not go down to take what is in the house; the one in the field must not turn back to get a coat. Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! Pray that your FLIGHT may not be in winter or on a Sabbath” (Matt.24:15-20, NRSV).

He made no mention whatsoever of a secret plan to RAPTURE the church to heaven. But He DID warn His saints – His elect – to be ready to FLEE to the mountains, to pray that their FLIGHT would not have to occur in winter or on a Sabbath, when travel is curtailed. These things would not matter if they were to be whisked off to heaven!

AFTER the Tribulation

What will happen after the Tribulation?

“*Immediately after* the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the

moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: AND THEN shall appear the sign of the Son of man [Jesus Christ] in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall SEE THE SON OF MAN COMING IN THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together HIS ELECT from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other” (Matthew 24:29-31).

Notice the proper sequence – First, Great Tribulation! Next, heavenly signs! Afterwards, the Second Coming of Jesus Christ – Yeshua Ha Moshiach!

What could be clearer, more plain, than that? Yeshua makes it perfectly plain, so simple a child can understand it. He said the heavenly signs would occur “*immediately after*” the great tribulation of those days, not before. And Christ Himself would return AFTER the heavenly signs, and therefore also AFTER the tribulation!

Notice, too, that when this occurs, Yeshua will send his angels to “GATHER TOGETHER HIS ELECT” (verse 31).

Who are the “Elect”?

Let’s let the Bible interpret this for us.

Peter spoke of *Christians* as being God’s elect. He began his first epistle, “Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, *ELECT according to the foreknowledge of God* the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ” (I Peter 1: 1-2).

Christ said to His disciples, “And shall God not avenge His own *elect* who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?” (Luke 18:7).

Paul wrote, “Who shall bring a charge against God’s *elect*? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us” (Rom.8:33-34).

Paul declared, “Therefore, *as the ELECT of God*, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering” (Col.3:12).

Paul also spoke of “the faith of God’s elect” (Titus 1:1). Peter warns us, however, “Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and *election* sure” (II Pet.1:10).

It should be perfectly clear! We who belong to Christ, Yeshua the Messiah, are the true “elect” – “a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people” (I Peter 2:9-10). Jesus Himself is the true corner stone; “elect, precious” (verse

6), and if we are in Him, then we are the *elect* of God also!

It is for the sake of God's "elect" – true servants of God, true Christians – that God will cut short the days of coming Tribulation, so that the whole world will not perish in nuclear flames! Yeshua promised, "And if those days had not been cut short, no one would be saved; but for the sake of *the elect* those days will be cut short" (Matthew 24:22, NRSV).

Notice that these same *elect* will be gathered up to meet Christ "with the great sound of a trumpet" (Matthew 24:31). *Obviously, they have not already been gathered prior to this time in some sort of "secret rapture"!!!*

Christ will be *seen* by the nations as He comes, Matthew recorded (Matthew 24:30). "Every eye will SEE Him" (Rev.1:7). He will not be invisible or secretive.

Why, then, does Paul also say, "The day of the Lord will come like a *thief* in the night" (I Thess.5:2)? Why did Christ declare, "I will come like a thief" (Rev.3:3)?

Does this contradict all the other Scriptures, and mean that He will come invisibly? Does a thief ever come "invisibly"? Of course not! No man can be "invisible" – although a man can "hide," or come secretly, by stealth.

How will Christ come as a thief? He Himself answers that question. He goes on to say, "and you will not know at what hour I will come" (Rev.3:3 again). In other words, He will come unexpectedly, when most people are sound asleep, totally unalert, and oblivious to the signs around them. Solomon wrote, "For man also does not know his time: Like fish taken in a cruel net, like birds caught in a snare, so the sons of men are snared in an evil time" (Eccl.9:12).

Now let's notice another Scripture which spells out very clearly the Second Coming of Christ. Paul wrote that the saints would be resurrected at the "LAST TRUMPET" (I Cor.15:51-52). This is the trumpet which is blown when Christ returns for His saints.

Does this trumpet announce a secret rapture? Which trumpet is the "last" trumpet blast?

The "Last Trumpet"

In the book of Revelation (which means a "revealing", not a concealing of information), we read a prophetic *outline* of the future. According to this outline, the future is sealed with *seven* seals which will be opened consecutively (Revelation 5:1-9). Notice that the seventh seal will consist of "seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given *seven trumpets*" (Rev. 8:1-2). When each of these trumpets are sounded, various events will take place on the earth. The first angel sounds his trumpet, and plagues are poured on the earth. So it is for the next three angelic plagues,

accompanied by trumpet blasts (Rev.8). When the fifth angel blows his trumpet, another plague – a terrible war – erupts on the earth (Rev.9:1-12). This is followed by the sixth angelic trumpet blast, and an army of 200,000,000 men from Asian nations attacks westward, killing one third of mankind (Rev.9:13-21).

But notice, now – *notice* what happens when the SEVENTH, or LAST, trumpet will sound!

“Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘THE KINGDOMS OF THIS WORLD HAVE BECOME THE KINGDOMS OF OUR LORD AND OF HIS CHRIST, and he shall reign forever and ever!’ And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshipped God, saying: ‘We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was and who is to come, because You have taken Your great power and reigned. The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, and the TIME OF THE DEAD, *that they should be judged*, and that You should REWARD Your servants the prophets, and the saints, and those who fear Your name, small and great; and should destroy those who destroy the earth” (Revelation 11:15-19).

Here again, spelled out in careful detail, is what will happen when the last trumpet blasts forth its shrill clarion call. Christ will return; the dead in Christ shall be raised; the saints will be judged and rewarded, every man according to his own works; and, the wrath of God will be poured out upon a rebellious, defiant world.

“Taken”

But what about this passage in Matthew 24:40-41 about two people, one being “taken” and one being “left”? What does it mean?

We read, “But AS the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and did not know till the *flood came and took them all away*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Then two men will be in the field: one will be *taken* [that is, killed, as the flood “took them all away,” in Noah’s day], and the other left [alive]. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be *taken* [die] and the other left [alive]. *WATCH therefore, for you do NOT KNOW what HOUR your Lord is coming*” (Matt.24:37-42).

Notice that it was the “Flood” that “took them all away.” The masses died as a result of the Flood! They were not “taken” to heaven to be spared! Likewise, Yeshua is telling us, when He comes, and when the Tribulation is about to begin, one person will die in the melee, and invasion, and one will be left alive. That is the import of His statement here. Those “taken” and who die are those who have not been alert, watchful, and vigilant, observing the “signs of the times.” Those who are left alive are those who will be more heedful, watchful, and prudent (see Proverbs 14:26 again).

On the other hand, what about the passage in II Thess.2:6-7? Paul tells us, “And you know what is restraining him, so that he may be revealed when his time comes. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work but only until the one who now restrains it is removed.” What is restraining the arising of this key end-time figure? In the ultimate sense, of course, it is God Himself and His Spirit, His influence on the earth. God is holding it back until His time comes for the final revelation. He is holding it back, I suggest, to give His people time to prepare themselves, to grow spiritually strong, to overcome and get ready.

The one “taken out of the way” to prepare for the rising up of the Antichrist is not specifically identified in II Thessalonians 2:7. However, it would appear that this could also refer to a person or nation which stands in the way of the arrival of this supreme Dictator – one who must depart the political scene before the “Beast” can take his place in full power. This restraining power could well be the United States and President George Bush! When the power of the United States is diminished due to onerous debt and over-extending its reach, the resultant world configuration will be free to elect a man over the United Nations – the end-time “Beast” – who will fulfill the prophecies of the Antichrist!

In other words, the passage Matthew 24:40 does not mention a “rapture” at all. The ones who are “taken” are going to be KILLED – their lives “taken,” as occurred in the Flood. The ones who are “left” are left ALIVE – as survivors – during the coming Great Tribulation and Holocaust that are fast approaching.

Are You Prepared?

Yeshua warned: “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, *keep awake* – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: *Keep awake*” (Mark 13:32-37).

How clear it is! The theory of a secret rapture, to whisk away the saints to heaven *before* the Great Tribulation, is unbiblical, unscriptural, unfounded and unsound! It is unthinkable! Jesus Christ, Yeshua, never taught it. The apostles did not teach it. It did not become a teaching in the Church until the nineteenth century.

Millions have been deceived into expecting a FALSE return of Christ, before the Great Tribulation and end-time woes on the earth, brought about by the inhumanity of man to man.

What about you? Will you also be deceived?

Prophecy Briefs

'Perfect Storm' May Rock World Economy by 2013

"A 'perfect storm' of fiscal woe in the U.S., a slowdown in China, European debt restructuring and stagnation in Japan may converge on the global economy, New York University professor Nouriel Roubini said.

"There's a one-in-three chance the factors will combine to stunt growth from 2013, Roubini, who predicted the global financial crisis, said in a June 11 interview in Singapore. Other possible outcomes are 'anemic but OK' global growth or an 'optimistic' scenario in which the expansion improves.

" 'There are already elements of fragility,' he said. 'Everybody's kicking the can down the road of too much public and private debt. The can is becoming heavier and heavier, and bigger on debt, and all these problems may come to a head by 2013 at the latest.'

"Elevated U.S. unemployment, a surge in oil and food prices, rising interest rates in Asia and trade disruption from Japan's record earthquake threaten to sap the world economy. Stocks worldwide have lost more than \$3.3 trillion since the beginning of May, and Roubini said financial markets by the middle of next year could start worrying about a convergence of risks in 2013.

"The MSCI AC World Index has tumbled 4.7 percent this month on concern recent data, including an increase in the U.S. unemployment rate to 9.1 percent in May, signal the global economy is losing steam. U.S. Treasuries rose last week, pushing two-year note yields down for a ninth week in the longest stretch of decreases since February 2008, on bets the Federal Reserve will maintain monetary stimulus.

"Bond Market 'Revolt'

"World expansion may slow in the second half of 2011 as 'the deleveraging process continues,' fiscal stimulus is withdrawn and confidence ebbs, Roubini also said.

"In the U.S., a failure to address the budget deficit risks a bond market 'revolt,' Roubini said. President Barack Obama's administration has been negotiating with Republicans, who control the House of Representatives, over cutting the federal government's long-term shortfall and raising the debt ceiling.

" 'We're still running over a trillion-dollar budget deficit this year, next year and most likely in 2013,' Roubini said in a speech in Singapore on June 11. 'The risk is at some point, the bond market vigilantes are going to wake up in the U.S., like they did in Europe, pushing interest rates higher and crowding out the recovery.'

"In Europe, officials need to restructure the debt of Greece, Ireland and Portugal, and waiting too long may result in a 'more disorderly' process, Roubini also said" (Moneynews.com, June 12, 2011).

Obama Gives Netanyahu Ultimatum

"Israel Radio Reported Sunday that The United States gave Netanyahu an ultimatum on renewing negotiations with the Palestinians.

"According to the ultimatum, Netanyahu has to decide within a month whether he agrees to accept US President Obama's proposal and resume talks based on 1967 lines.

"Washington is pressuring Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to accede to its proposal to resume Israeli-Palestinian peace talks on the basis of U.S. President Barack Obama's May 19 speech.

"An Israeli source who spoke recently with senior officials in Washington said the Americans were very frustrated with Netanyahu's behavior, feeling that he was impeding America's efforts to keep the Palestinians from unilaterally seeking UN recognition of a state in September.

"Netanyahu's personal envoy, Isaac Molho, spent last week in Washington, where the Americans presented their proposal for resuming

talks on the basis of Obama's speech. Specifically, Obama's plan calls for negotiating over borders and security first, while deferring issues such as Jerusalem and the refugees until later. It also calls for the borders to be based on the 1967 lines, with mutually agreed land swaps.

"The Americans told Molho that to block European initiatives such as France's proposal for an international peace conference in Paris, they must have something concrete to offer, like Netanyahu's agreement to negotiate on the basis of Obama's speech." (TheBlaze.com, June 12, 2011).

Hamas Summer Camps Train Next Generation of Terrorists

"Hamas is reporting record turnouts for its summer camps for children in 2011.

"The 'summer camps,' combining Islamic indoctrination, paramilitary training, and social activities are set to begin again this year as United Nation's summer camps, considered competition by Hamas, are being openly denigrated by jihadists.

"Children and adolescents are an important target demographic for Hamas, from which its future army of terrorists will be recruited. Summer camps are an important means for indoctrinating Gaza's youth with Hamas' jihadist ideology.

"In 2010 Hamas ran camps for an estimated 100,000 campers, a number similar to 2009. The Islamic Jihad terror group ran 51 camps with 10,000 participating boys and girls.

"Hamas spokesman Ismail Radwan reported the objectives of the camps were to raise a generation of children with 'genuine Islamic values.'

" 'Children working for the interests of their homeland and to educate them to the culture of the Islamic faith so they will remember their goals, including Jerusalem and the prisoners,' Radwan said

"In addition to indoctrination, Hamas terrorists give children paramilitary training. Banners are hung on the walls with slogans extolling jihad

and 'death for the sake of Allah.'" (Arutz Sheva, IsraelNews.com, June 10, 2011).

Italy Against Israel – Rapid Spread of Anti-Semitism

"The first months of 2011 have confirmed Italy's status as one of Iran's biggest European trade partners, all while the ayatollahs pursue the means to perpetuate a second Holocaust. Rome is doing business as usual with the greatest totalitarian threat to international peace and security since the defeats of Soviet communism and Nazi fascism, providing a lifeline to an Iranian regime that is cruel at home, sponsors terror abroad and preaches anti-Jewish revolt.

"Meanwhile, a murky wave of anti-Israel zeal is also growing at an alarming rate in Italy. "The old anti-Jewish libels are now aimed at the State of Israel", says Stefano Gatti, one of the top researchers at the Center for Documentation in Milan.

"Pro-Palestinian activists are threatening to "ignite" Milan, the financial capital of Italy where an Israeli exhibit is going to be displayed in a central square. Meanwhile, the city of Turin hosted a "cultural festival" where the image of Shimon Peres was used as a shoe-throwing target. For one euro, Italian students had the chance to hit the face of Israel's president, who was fitted with a Nazi-style Jewish nose.

"An Israeli student at the University of Genoa has been harassed and threatened with death by Arab students. Muslim students shouted at him "Allahu Akbar" (God is great) and "Itbach el Yahud" (slaughter the Jews.) Another Israeli student at the University of Turin, Amit Peer, confessed that "the Jews here are hiding their own identity because they risk becoming a target."

"Meanwhile, demonization of the Jews is spreading in the liberal media. Leftist newspaper "Il Manifesto" published a caricature of a Jewish candidate for parliament, Fiamma Nirenstein, with Fascist insignia, a campaign button and a Star of David. The cartoon "Electoral Monsters" was dubbed "Fiamma Frankenstein."

"L'Unità, the official newspaper of the leftist Democratic Party, published an interview with anthropologist Nancy Scheper-Hughes, where

she claimed that Israel is a world leader in organ trafficking. The accusation resembled that of the Middle Ages blood libel whereby Jews were accused of kidnapping Christian and Muslim children before Passover in order to murder them and use their blood for matza.” (Ynetnews.com, June 13, 2011).

School Surveillance – How Big Brother Spies on Children

“ ‘Every day in communities across the United States, children and adolescents spend the majority of their waking hours in schools that increasingly have come to resemble places of detention more than places of learning. From metal detectors to drug tests, from increased policing to all-seeing electronic surveillance, the schools of the 21st century reflect a society that has become fixated on crime, security and violence.’

“So reads a passage from the opening pages of *Lockdown High*, a new book by the San Francisco-based journalist Annette Fuentes. Subtitled “When the schoolhouse becomes the jailhouse”, it tells a story that decisively began with the Columbine shootings of 1999, and from across the US, the text cites cases that are mind-boggling: a high-flying student from Arizona strip-searched because ibuprofen was not allowed under her school rules; the school in Texas where teachers can carry concealed handguns; and, most amazingly of all, the Philadelphia school that gave its pupils laptops equipped with a secret feature allowing them to be spied on outside classroom hours.

“Just about all the schools Fuentes writes about are united by a belief in that most pernicious of principles, ‘zero tolerance’. Their scanners, cameras and computer applications are supplied by a US security industry that seems to grow bigger and more insatiable every year. And as she sees it, their neurotic emphasis on security has plenty of negative results: it renders the atmosphere in schools tense and fragile, and in coming down hard on young people for the smallest of transgressions, threatens to define their life chances at an early age – because, as she puts it, “suspensions and academic failure are strong predictors of entry into the criminal justice system”. There is also, of course, the small matter of personal privacy.

“It would be comforting to think of all this as a peculiarly American phenomenon. But in the UK, we seem almost as keen on turning schools into authoritarian fortresses. Scores of schools have on-site “campus police officers.” One in seven schools has insisted on students being fingerprinted so they can use biometric systems for the delivery of lunches and in school libraries. Security systems based on face recognition have already been piloted in 10 schools, and on-site police officers are now a common feature of the education system. Most ubiquitous of all are CCTV cameras: in keeping with our national love affair with video surveillance, 85% of secondary schools are reckoned to use it, even in changing rooms and toilets” (The Guardian, June 9, 2011).

Bilderberg Secret Meeting Makes Headlines

“The amount of publicity garnered by the secretive Bilderberg conference this year in St. Moritz, Switzerland, far surpassed the coverage afforded to past gatherings of the elite cabal, with major media outlets and international news wires finally reporting on the yearly event after refusing to do so for over five decades. Protests, the alternative media, and anti-Bilderberg politicians played an important role in spreading the news.

“Bilderberg, named after the Dutch hotel where members first met in 1954, brings together some of the most influential figures on Earth. More than 120 top-level officials in government, banking, media, finance, business, think-tanks, armed forces, and even European royalty attend the confab every year.

“Among the confirmed 2011 European and Canadian attendees were the British Chancellor of the Exchequer (“in his official capacity,” according to the Treasury), the President of the European Central Bank, the head of Canada’s central bank, the queens of the Netherlands and Spain, the Crown Prince of Norway, a representative of the unimaginably vast Rothschild banking empire, finance ministers, heads of state, and many more.

“A reporter on the scene for the U.K. Guardian said there were also individuals in attendance who were not on the official list — a regular occurrence discovered almost every year.

Among them were German Chancellor Angela Merkel, NATO Secretary-General Anders Rasmussen, and Socialist Prime Minister José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero of Spain. Microsoft founder and multi-billionaire Bill Gates was reportedly spotted as well.

“A handful of non-Westerners also attended, including Turkish business moguls and members of the political class in Turkey. A senior representative of the brutal Communist dictatorship ruling mainland China was there as well. So was a Russian oligarch.

“More than two dozen prominent members of the American elite attended, too. An especially interesting cadre at the 2011 event included some of the masters of the internet world: The co-founder of Facebook; the executive chairman of Google; the co-founder and executive chairman of LinkedIn; the founder and CEO of Amazon.com; the commander of the American military’s “cyber command” (or USCYBERCOM); Microsoft’s Chief Research and Strategy Officer; and others.

“Representatives of the non-digital American elite were out in force as well. Among them were former Ghaddafi adviser and Bush-era neo-con extraordinaire Richard Perle; billionaire David Rockefeller, who openly boasted in his autobiography of conspiring to erect a global political and economic system; Robert Rubin, former Treasury Secretary and current co-chairman of the immensely powerful, world-government-promoting Council on Foreign Relations; the vice-chairman of Citigroup; TV personality Charlie Rose; former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, who frequently and publicly calls for what he refers to as a “New World Order”; the president of the World Bank; and others.

“Top officials in the Obama administration were also there including — quite ironically — the Assistant Attorney General for Antitrust. Deputy Secretary of State James Steinberg and Director of the National Security Agency (NSA) Keith Alexander were also on the official list, as were former Federal Reserve and military chiefs. Not on the public list but spotted at the conference, according to unconfirmed reports from correspondents in St. Moritz, was Secretary of Defense Robert Gates.

“By any objective standard, a meeting of over

120 of the world’s most powerful individuals would seem to be extraordinarily newsworthy. But until recently, the confab rarely attracted even a passing mention in the establishment press. The eerie silence fueled deep suspicion and innumerable theories about what the group may be plotting in secret. This year, however, was different, at least in terms of media coverage.

“In a story picked up by numerous large-circulation U.S. newspapers including the Washington Post, for example, the Associated Press wire service described the June 9-12 event as a “secretive gathering of senior government officials and business executives ... that some liken to a shadow world government.” CNBC, Forbes, Fox News, the Baltimore Sun, Time magazine and others also ran stories about Bilderberg.

“In China, the media were buzzing with news of the conference, too. One Chinese-language report by the French wire service AFP referred to the group as the “mysterious world shadow government” in a headline, according to Google Translate. Chinese media behemoth United Daily News ran a similar headline for another Bilderberg article’ (New American, “Awareness of Bilderberg Cabal Explodes in 2011”, June 12, 2011).

Anthony Weiner and the Islamic “Mata Hari”

“Muslim women do not marry Jewish men, unless there's a reason. President Clinton does not officiate at their wedding, unless there's a reason. And Jewish Congressmen are not publicly exposed as sexual deviants, while their wife is touring the Middle East as the senior adviser to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton without one heck of a good reason that is not being told.

“Anthony Weiner is Israel's most vocal Democrat supporter in Congress:

“In 2006, he tried to ban the PA delegation from entering the United Nations, stating that the reason the PA is not an official representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) is to avoid the parent group's label as an outlawed terrorist organization.

“Representative Weiner introduced in Congress in 2007 the Saudi Arabia Accountability Act, designed to “halt Saudi support for institutions that fund, train, incite, encourage, or in any other way aid and abet terrorism, and to secure full Saudi cooperation in the investigation of terrorist incidents...”

“Democratic US congressman Anthony Weiner, has [made no secret](#) in the past of his right-wing views on Israel, for example [endorsing](#) the Zionist Organization of America’s opposition to the two-state solution. The key turning point was when Weiner declared, referring to the West Bank: “There’s no occupation there either.”

“His stand on Israel awaited a change orchestrated by Pres. Obama and his loyal Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton. Just like Israelis, Americans are mostly incapable of seeing one level below the surface to understand the hatched plot. And the Weiner scandal just screams cynical high level conspiracy at anyone who cares to listen. Shall we begin with his new wife and mother-in-law?

“Her mother, Pakistani-born Saleha Mahmood Abedin, PhD, is an associate professor of sociology at the Dar Al-Hekma College in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Since its inception, Dar Al-Hekma College has counted on the blessing of Saudi Arabia’s ruling elite. The King, the crown prince, and one of King Fahd’s wives, Princess Al-Jowhara bint Ibrahim Al-Ibrahim, attended the school’s graduation ceremonies in 2005.

“Arabic-speaking Huma returned to the US to attend George Washington University, earning an internship at the White House, a coveted and prestigious position for the children of the powerful and the rich in America. Her internship put her to work in the office of the First Lady. That internship led to Huma’s present position, working at the U.S. State Department for Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton. There she is often singled out not only as an employee, but as a trusted friend of the powerful Clinton family.

“Abedin was born in Kalamazoo, Mich., but her family moved to Saudi Arabia when she was two. She lived there until college, when she attended George Washington University.

“It appears she never graduated or, at least, no one seems to know in what, but attendance there very quickly landed her a job as an aide in the

Secretary of State’s office, rising rapidly to the post of chief advisor of Secretary Clinton.

“The very fact that she spent 15 or 16 years in Saudi Arabia [from roughly the age of 2, until roughly the age of 18], and then showed up in the Clinton White House, as an intern, in 1996, at roughly the age of 21, is, in and of itself, a massive security breach.

“That she then spent another five years in the Clinton White House, and, for most of the last seven years, has been wedded at the hip to Mrs. Clinton, night and day [whether or not illicitly], is an unthinkable compromise of national security.

“In obscene time Abedin becomes very wealthy, and no one can figure out how.

“From the Free Republic: ‘[How does the child of two university professors \[one of them deceased\], who is single, never married](#), and living on a clerical salary, in one of the most expensive cities in America, afford to ‘never... wear the same outfit twice’?

“ ‘Much less purchase from the likes of Oscar de la Renta, Catherine Malandrino, Charles Nolan, Prada, and Marc Jacobs? Not to mention Yves Saint Laurent?

“ ‘How does the child of two university professors [one of them deceased], who is single, never married, and living on a clerical salary, in one of the most expensive cities in America, afford to buy her own ‘apartment in the vicinity of 12th and U streets’?

“ ‘What would such an apartment cost? \$500,000? \$750,000? \$1,000,000? Where is she getting that kind of money? Who is the co-signor on her loan?’

“You get a choice of sources for her newfound wealth; she was given the dough by a rich lover or she blackmailed it out of her. I’ll take the middle route, a bit of both. Without detailing how, for two decades I’ve known that Hillary Clinton is a lesbian. To take the next step towards solving, at least, part of the mystery, I’ll cite two observations from non-rumor mongering sources with credentials:

*“[villagevoice.com](#)
‘As I recently said on MONICA CROWLEY’s*

radio show, whisper campaigns are claiming that HILLARY CLINTON is GAYLE KING—ing her aide de camp, the glamorous HUMA ABEDIN, an Indian/Pakistani goddess from Kalamazoo, Michigan. In other words, Hillary may be putting Huma out there in the press and purposely making her more visible as a pre-emptive strike that amounts to her hiding in plain sight. This way, no Republican can later say, "Who is this gorgeous babe who spends so much intimate time with Hillary that the Observer called her Hill's 'body person'? Was GENNIFER FLOWERS's book right about Hillary's sexual taste?" And does either of this couple have the balls to bottom?'

["bigheaddc.com](http://bigheaddc.com)

"We're still a bit incredulous on this one, but a top level U.S. Department of Justice official is telling Big Head DC that Michael Musto's rumor about Hillary Clinton fooling around with one of her top female aides Huma Abedin is based in reality! "I am close enough to Hillary and Huma to tell you that this 'rumor' is true," the official says. "It is well known inside her campaign that Hillary and Huma are an item."

"Huma Abedin is an exotic, irresistible beauty dressed in haute couture. No man or woman could resist her, especially not the weird looking swinging Congressman from New York. Let us now see **Huma On Assignment:**

["nypost.com](http://nypost.com)

"WHAT was Hillary Clinton's ultra-glamorous right-hand woman, Huma Abedin, doing cooling her heels outside a Bukharian Jewish Congress reception in the Senate on Thursday afternoon? We're not sure, but one of D.C.'s most eligible bachelors, Rep. Anthony Weiner (D-Brooklyn), was the emcee. As the event wrapped up, an ebullient Weiner was spotted escorting the charming Abedin - who has been profiled in Vogue - out the Capitol's first-floor doors. "They were yapping and catching up," said a Weiner spokesman.

"Huma is told where to find Weiner, so off she goes to a Jewish Congress to snare him. He was no challenge to her at all. Soon wedding bells were heard with Pres. Bill Clinton hosting the marriage of Congressman Weiner to Mata Hari. Here is what Weiner selectively overlooked in his new bride and her family. Her father, the director of an international inter-faith fund died when Huma was young, in reportedly suspicious

circumstances. In a nation where women are not educated, her mother becomes a rare, female Saudi professor. Her daughter is recruited to Bill Clinton's alma mater, the notorious Georgetown University, where, after a respectable period of time, she quickly climbs the State Department ladder into the waiting arms of Hillary Clinton.

*"But Anthony could not have missed the most glaring obstacle to his happy nuptials. His wife is not just a Muslim, she is a **Saudi** Muslim. And he is the Congressman who introduced legislation threatening Saudi Arabia with severe American sanctions unless it changed its political ways. If he was a nobody Jew, Weiner would have to become a Muslim if she were not to be ostracized or much worse at home. But he was not a nobody Jew, he was the initiator of the Saudi Arabia Accountability Act of 2007 and ideological exceptions would be made to the religion to get rid of him. And Huma was motivated by politics to do the job.*

"From The Observer:

"She is a person of enormous intellect with in-depth knowledge on a number of issues—especially issues pertaining to the Middle East," said Senator John McCain, in a statement relayed by one of his aides.

"Now the big question. In Washington, where dirt on every member of Congress is actively pursued, how did the Clintons or Abedin not know he was sexting young women. The answer is that something occurred within his marriage to push him beyond his harmless flirtations, to sending genital photos to women, one a minor. THAT he didn't do before he met Huma Abedin, Mata Hari on a job well done" (Barry Chamish, BarryChamish.com, June 13, 2011).

Pentecost – a Day of Awesome Revelation

What is the real meaning of Pentecost? How does it figure In God’s Great Plan? What happened on this fateful day? What does it portray for us? And when should it really be observed?

William F. Dankenbring

The first mention of Pentecost (Shavuot) is in Exodus 23:14-16 where we read: “Three times you shall keep a feast unto me in the year. You shall keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread (you shall eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded you, at the time appointed in the month Abib (Nisan); for in it you came out of Egypt: none shall appear before me empty). And the *Feast of Harvest, the first-fruits* of your labors, which you have sown in the field: and the Feast of Ingathering, at the end of the year, when you have gathered in the fruit of your labors from the field.’

Pentecost is again mentioned in Exodus 34:22—“and you shall observe the *Feast of Weeks of the first fruits* of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the year’s end.”

In Greek (Strong’s Concordance #4005) the word Pentecost means “50th day,” because it is the 50th day that you count toward on the day after the annual Passover holy day. Pentecost occurs on the 50th day, and so it was named the 50th day after counting 49 days.

In Leviticus 23:10-11, God says, “Speak to the children of Israel, and say unto them, When you come into the land which I give to you, and reap its harvest, then you shall bring a sheaf of the first-fruits of your harvest to the priest; he shall wave the sheaf before the Lord, to be accepted n your behalf; on *the day after the Sabbath* (annual Sabbath— Passover) the priest shall wave it.”

“And you shall count for yourselves *from the day after the Sabbath (after Passover), from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering*, seven Sabbaths shall be complete (that is, 7 weeks x 7 days = 49 days to complete the time period).” (v.15-16). The word Sabbath here literally means “rest period,” or “cessation,” and refers to a period of seven days or a “week.” It is used in the sense of ‘week’.

Pentecost itself is not named in this passage. God simply says: “You shall bring from your dwellings two wave loaves of two tenths of an ephah. They shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven; they are the *first-fruits* to the Lord.” (Lev.23:17).

These are two large luxurious loaves of bread. Verse 21—“You shall proclaim on the same day, that it is a holy convocation to you. You shall do no customary work on it. It shall be a statute *forever* in all your dwellings throughout your generations.”

Did you notice that there is no name for this festival given in this passage? What does all this mean? What does it have to do with us?

The next mention about Pentecost is found in Numbers 28:26. “Also on the *day of the first-fruits*, when you bring a new grain offering to the Lord at your *feast of weeks*, you shall have a holy convocation. Do no customary work on this day.”

In Hebrew, this day is called *yom ha bikkurim*. It refers to the “day of the first-fruits.”

When was this Feast Day – commanded to be observed FOREVER –to be kept? Much controversy has arisen over this question. It is still controversial, today!

The Battle over Pentecost

Josephus, himself a Pharisee, in the first century, tells us:

“But on the second day of unleavened bread, which is the 16th day of the month, they first partake of the fruits of the earth, for before that day they do not touch them. . . . They offer the first-fruits of their barley . . . and after this it is that they may publicly or privately reap their harvest. They also at this participation of the first-fruits of the earth, sacrifice a lamb, as a burnt-offering to God.

“6. When a week of weeks has passed over after this sacrifice, (which week contains forty and nine days,) on the fiftieth day, which is PENTECOST, *but is called by the Hebrews Asartha*, which signifies PENTECOST, they bring to God a loaf . . .” (Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews*, bk.III, x, 5-6).

This controversy raged until the destruction of the Temple and the passing of the Sadducees in 70 A.D.

The controversy is discussed by Alfred Edersheim in his book *The Temple: Its Ministry and Services* –

“The expression ‘the morrow after the Sabbath’ (Lev.23:11), has sometimes been misunderstood as implying that the presentation of the so-called ‘first sheaf’ was to be always made on the day following the weekly Sabbath of the Passover-week. This view, adopted by the ‘Boethusians’ and the Sadducees in the time of Christ, and by the Karaite Jews and certain modern interpreters, rests on a misinterpretation of the word ‘Sabbath’ (Lev.23:24, 32, 39). As in analogous allusions to other feasts in the same chapter, it means not the weekly Sabbath, but the day of the festival. The testimony of Josephus . . . of Philo . . . and of Jewish tradition leaves NO ROOM

TO DOUBT that in this instance we are to understand by the ‘Sabbath’ the 15th of Nisan, on whatever day of the week it may fall” (p.203-204).

As Edersheim noted, many facetious arguments have been raised to contradict the practice and ruling of the Pharisees on this subject. Who is right?

What does the apostle Paul have to say on this issue? On whose side would he weigh in?

A Close-Up View of the Apostle Paul

The apostle Paul wrote more Scripture in the New Testament than any other writer. Whose example – whose teaching – did he follow?

The apostle Paul, of course, was a Pharisee. As a strict Pharisee, all his life he observed Pentecost on the same day as all the Pharisees did – normally on Sivan 6 – counting 50 days from the day of the wave sheaf offering, which the Pharisees offered the day after the first High Holy Day of Passover.

Paul, who himself was a Pharisee, was brought up and taught at the feet of the leading Pharisee of his day, Gamaliel. Paul says, “I am verily a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city of Cilicia, yet brought up in this city *at the feet of Gamaliel*, and TAUGHT according to the *PERFECT MANNER OF THE LAW* of the fathers” (Acts 22:3).

The word translated “PERFECT” here in the Greek is *akribeia* and means “exactness, perfect manner.” Says *Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon*, it means “in accordance with the strictness of the Mosaic law.” Paul was taught the Law of Moses in a very strict manner.

“Perfect Manner of the Law”

Says the Amplified Parallel Bible in this verse: “At the feet of Gamaliel I was educated according to the strictest care in the Law of our fathers, being ardent [even a zealot] for God, as all of you are today.” Gamaliel was the leading Pharisee teacher of that generation, and Paul was his direct pupil learning the Torah from him.

Those churches today who follow the Sadducean Pentecost reckoning make a LIAR out of the apostle Paul,

Paul says he was taught the Law of God perfectly, as a Pharisee, at the feet of the leading Pharisee of that day, Gamaliel, then he is really saying he was taught correctly concerning Pentecost calculation and observation! If the Pharisees were wrong, then this statement of Paul's would be an out-and-out LIE or FALSEHOOD!

On another occasion, Paul said to the Sanhedrin or Supreme Court or Council of the Jewish nation, “Men and brethren, *I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee*” (Acts

23:6). Paul obviously was not embarrassed to have been a Pharisee – he boasted of it! Like all the Pharisees, he believed in the hope of the resurrection (Acts 23:6). The apostate Sadducees, however, denied the truth of the resurrection! (Acts 23:7-9).

Paul wrote to the Philippians about his religious training and upbringing. He declared, “If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; AS TOUCHING THE LAW, A PHARISEE; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; TOUCHING THE RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH IS IN THE LAW, *BLAMELESS*” (Philippians 3:4-6).

But how could this be? If the Pharisees were IN ERROR on Pentecost and its calculation, then Paul could not have been “blameless” as concerns the Law of God, the divine instructions for Pentecost! If the Sadducean reckoning was correct, then the Pharisees had to be wrong, making Paul himself in error, and certainly NOT “blameless”! Therefore, did Paul LIE when he made this clear and obvious declaration?

The Greek word for “blameless” here is *amemptos* and means, “irreproachable, faultless, unblameable.” Notice that definition again – “IRREPROACHABLE, FAULTLESS, UNBLAMEABLE.”

Thayer’s Greek English Lexicon defines the word, “**blameless, deserving no censure; free from fault or defect.**”

Those who keep Pentecost by counting like the Sadducees face an inevitable predicament. They are in an awkward position. In fact, they find themselves disagreeing with both the apostle Paul and Jesus Christ, Yeshua the Messiah, himself! But if this is the case, then they *find themselves FIGHTING AGAINST PAUL AND AGAINST CHRIST!*

Rabbi Gamaliel told the Jewish Sanhedrin, when the apostles had been called on the carpet to answer for their teachings, “Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will *only find yourselves FIGHTING AGAINST GOD*” (Acts 5:38-39).

Counting to Pentecost

Kiehl and Delitzsch, Commentary on the Old Testament, Vol.1, page 612, declares: “When the Israelites had come into the land to be given them by the Lord, and had reaped the harvest, they were to bring a sheaf as first-fruits of their harvest to the priest, that he might wave it before Jehovah on the day after the Sabbath, i.e, after the first day of *Mazzoth* (unleavened bread). According to Josephus and Philo, it was a sheaf of barley; but this is not expressly commanded, because it would be taken for granted in Canaan, where the harvest began with the barley.”

“The priest was to wave the sheaf before Jehovah, i.e., to present it symbolically to Jehovah by the ceremony of waving, without burning any of it upon the altar.” This is called the Omer offering, and it was offered at the Temple (waved) for 49 days before the Lord as they were commanded to count the Omer each day.

Says the Commentary: “(the morrow after the Sabbath) signifies the *next day after the first day of the feast of Mazzoth*, i.e., the 16th Abib (Nisan), not the day of the Sabbath which fell in the seven days’ feast of *Mazzoth*, as the Baethoseans supposed, still less the 22nd of Nisan, or the day after the conclusion of the seven days’ feast, which always closed with a Sabbath. . .”

In a footnote, the Commentary declares: “The view advocated by the Baethoseans, which has been lately supported by W. Schultz, is refuted not only by Joshua 5:11, but by the definite article used [Ha Shabat], which points back to one of the feast-days already mentioned, and still more decisively by the circumstance, that according to verse 25 the Sabbath; and if Sabbath was not fixed, but might fall upon any day of the seven days’ feast of *Mazzoth*, and therefore as much as five or six days after the Passover, the feast of Passover itself would be forced out of the fundamental position which it occupied in the series of annual festivals.”

Joshua 5:11

How does Joshua 5:11 figure into how we count Pentecost? In reading it, we find that on the “morrow after the Passover” the manna ceased, and Israel ate the new grain in the promised Land, yet according to the law they were forbidden to eat any fruit of the land until the wave sheaf was offered. This shows that the wave sheaf had to be offered the day after Passover, then the manna ceased and they began to bake and eat bread. They could not have eaten of that harvest unless the wave sheaf had been offered, and it was the “morrow of the Passover” – or Nisan 16. The wave sheaf, then, was waved on the day after the Passover holy day, Nisan 15, and the count to Pentecost began on that day – Nisan 16 – and NOT on “Sunday”, the day after the weekly Sabbath!

How clear!

The First-Fruits

Says *Hastings Dictionary of the Bible*, Vol. 3, page 739-741, “*Pentecost*.—This term, adopted from the Greek, means ‘fiftieth’, and was applied by Greek-speaking Jews . . . to the second of the three chief Heb. Festivals, because it fell on the fiftieth day after the offering of the barley-sheaf during the feast of unleavened bread.”

Hastings Dictionary of the Bible goes on: “The meaning of this phrase, on which the computation of Pentecost depends, has been much disputed. *The Jews of Christ’s time understood it to designate Nisan 16th*, without regard to the day of the week; the Sabbath being interpreted as the *first day of the feast of unleavened bread* (Nisan 15th).”

Notice! The Jews of Christ's time designated Nisan 16, the day after the Passover holy day, as the "morrow after the Sabbath" from which Pentecost was counted! And throughout His ministry, Jesus Christ NEVER REBUKED OR CORRECTED THIS CONCLUSION! His silence speaks volumes, showing that they must have figured it correctly. Christ rebuked them for many other errors and false doctrines. If they were keeping Pentecost on the wrong day, surely He would have mentioned it, and warned His disciples of this "egregious error"! But He did not. Why? Because *they were counting CORRECTLY!*

In the days of Christ, the priests at the Temple determined the waving of the barley sheaf was to be done on Nisan 16. Says the Commentary, "It is at any rate certain that the Jews celebrated the sheaf-waving on Nisan 16, and Pentecost on the fiftieth day after (usually Sivan 6), without regard in either case to the day of the week" (p.741).

The Commentary continues: "The Feast of Weeks or Pentecost, therefore, as it appears in the Pentateuch, was a joyful acknowledgement of the completion of the harvest in the land which God had given Israel. The whole harvest season was in a sense sacred time. Hence Pentecost lasted but one day. By its prelude, the sheaf-waving, it was dependent on Passover, commemorative of Israel's redemption; and by the interval of seven weeks between it and Nisan 16, it was brought into the sabbatical system in accordance with which the Hebrew feasts were arranged." (*ibid.*).

So this *whole season of the harvest is sacred* to God. The Feast of "First-fruits" pictures the spiritual harvest of those whom God is calling into His Kingdom at this time! That is, the Church of God, the body of Christ, those who serve and worship the true God of Israel! The harvest between Passover and Pentecost pictures the REDEEMED OF THE LORD!

God says, "For, lo, I will command, and I will *sift the house of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least GRAIN fall upon the earth*" (Amos 9:9).

The "grain" represents ISRAEL! This "omer" represented the firstfruits of ISRAEL -- that is, the "*Israel of God*" (Gal.6:16) -- the Church of God!

In the book of James we read, "that we should be a *KIND OF FIRSTFRUITS of his creatures*" (James 1:18). We in God's Church are those who have "the *firstfruits of the Spirit*" (Rom.8:23). In Revelation we read: "And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and *with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. . . These are they which follow the Lamb, whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the FIRSTFRUITS unto GOD and to the Lamb*" (Rev.14:1-4).

The REAL Meaning of Pentecost

Why is Pentecost so important? What is its real meaning and significance? Let us review that first Pentecost, when Israel came out of Egypt, and see what happened on that awesome day.

What was revealed on Pentecost that year that Israel came out of Egypt? What was the great thing that the Israelites were marching toward, counting the Omer day by day and week by week for 49 days until the 50 day?

The Day of “Revelation”

Exodus 19 tells us the Israelites came to the wilderness of Sinai on the first day of the *third month* (v.1). On Sivan 2, God had Moses tell Israel: “You see what I did to the Egyptians, and saw how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you unto myself. Now if you will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then you shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: You shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation” (v.4-6).

On Sivan 3, “Moses called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all the words which the Lord commanded him and the people answered together, all that the Lord has spoken we will do” (verse 7).

On Sivan 4, “the Lord said to Moses, ‘Behold, I come unto you in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and believe you forever,’ and Moses told the people. God said to Moses, Go to the people; sanctify them today and tomorrow (Sivan 4-5). Let them wash their clothes and be ready the *third day* (Sivan 6) for the Lord will come down in the sight of all the people upon Mt. Sinai (Sivan 6). When the trumpet sounds long, they shall come near the mount. Set bounds around the mountain. Warn the people not to go up into the Mount or touch it or they will be put to death; whether it be beast or man, it shall not live” (v.9-13).

On Sivan 6 in the morning 3 million people came out to meet God. Mt. Sinai was on fire and “smoking like a furnace with thunders and lightning, with a thick cloud upon the mount and the voice of the trumpet was exceeding loud, so that all the people in the camp trembled. God descended upon the top of the mount in fire, and the whole mount quaked greatly. As the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and God answered him by a voice and called him to the top of the mount and Moses went up.”

Sivan 6 that year was 50 days from Passover – it was Pentecost! On Pentecost, the Ten Commandments were given to all Israel, who heard God speaking them, amidst thunder, fire, and lightning! It was the day God “married” Israel and took her for His bride!

Leslie Koppelman Ross in *Celebrate! The Complete Jewish Holidays Handbook*, writes: “The legacy of the Pharisees, who identified the first day of the Omer as Nisan 16, served them well. Through a process of interpretation of the time markers in Exodus 19, and comparison of certain phrases in that text with similar ones in other parts of the Bible, the Rabbis determined that the Revelation [on Mount Sinai] had taken place on Sivan 6 – fifty days after Passover, fifty days after the first count of the Omer, *the same day as Shavuot [Pentecost]*” (p.112).

Shavuot arrives at the end of a period of seven times seven weeks (*shavuah* = *week*), the same root as the word *shevuah*, which means taking a vow, or oath. This holy day is all about “exchanging vows,” between God and Israel – marriage vows. With this understanding, the seven weeks of counting the Omer took on new radiant meaning, as the spiritual link between Exodus and Revelation, or Betrothal and Marriage.

What was revealed at Mount Sinai, on Pentecost? The Ten Commandments – the basis of God’s covenant with His people! God chose Israel to be His bride. They had to agree to His terms. His terms are the Torah – His commandments, statutes and judgments.

Says Ross, “Revelation at Sinai continued beyond the tenth commandment, encompassing an additional 603 ethical and ritual laws, a total of 613 *mitzvot* (commandments . . .)” (p.115).

Now do you begin to see the awesome significance of Pentecost? It was the Day of the Great Wedding! And as such, it is a “type” of the Day of Christ’s return, when He will marry His bride, the Church of God!

A Love Story

During Shavuot, or Pentecost, the book of Ruth is read in the synagogue. The story of Ruth took place “at the beginning of barley harvest” (Ruth 1:22), which coincides with Counting the Omer and Pentecost. Ruth pictures the essence of *chesed* or “loving-kindness.” She was the ancestor, a Moabite woman, of king David, who was himself born and died on Shavuot!

Ruth’s uncompromising loyalty and love and devotion are shown in her words to Naomi, her mother-in-law, when she told her: “Do not urge me to leave you, to turn back and not follow you. For wherever you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people are my people, and your God is my God; where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus may God do to me—and more—if anything but death separates me from you” (Ruth 1:16-17).

The book of Ruth is suffused with tragedy, suffering, and even with betrayal. The land of Judah suffered famine, and Ruth’s husband – to be and father-in-law abandoned it to save themselves. In Moab they died suddenly without children, unknown on a foreign soil, their lives untimely ended.

What is the meaning of all this? Ruth loved her husband even after his death and did not want his name to die with his childless family. This illustrates that the covenant of love extends beyond the grave. Although there was no hope or visible redeemer to keep the family name alive, Ruth loved Naomi her living mother-in-law, and would not let her go away alone and insisted on going with her.

Says Rabbi Irving Greenberg in *The Jewish Way*, “Despite its surface gentleness, Megillat Ruth is suffused with tragedy, with suffering, even with betrayal. The land of Judah suffered famine, and Ruth’s husband-to-be and father-in-law abandoned it to save themselves. In Moab they died suddenly, without children, unknown on a foreign soil, their lives untimely ended. In this welter of pain the questions arose: Is life absurd? What is the meaning of all this? The answers grew out of a woman named Ruth. She loved her husband even after his death and did not want his name to die with his childless family.

“The covenant of love extends beyond the grave. Ruth loved Naomi, her living mother-in-law, and would not let her go away alone and impoverished. . . Ruth insisted on going with Naomi. She acted out of *chesed*, a loving kindness that saw not only the bleak reality but the possibilities of redemption that may still break through the harsh surface of an unredeemed world. Ruth remained faithful. She joined Naomi’s people and embraced Naomi’s God. God used the love of Ruth to infuse the line of David. And incredibly, out of this barren, rocky soil grew hope—an act of kindness, a relative who cared. Out of faithfulness comes hope; out of suffering comes redemption; out of love comes renewed life” (p.88-89).

Says Eliyahu Kitov in *The Book of Our Heritage*, “What is the connection between the Book of Ruth and Shavuot—the time when the Torah (God’s Law) was given? Yalkut Shimoni explains: Reading *Ruth* on Shavuot comes to teach us that the Torah can become part of man only through suffering and affliction.

“Abudraham says: *Ruth* is read then because the story of Ruth took place during the time of barley harvest and this period is also the time of Shavuot. . . .

“Bechor Shor says: *Ruth* was written by the Prophet Samuel, in order to record King David’s genealogy and to indicate that there was Divine assent in the matter [i.e. anointing him as king]. David was born on Shavuot and died on Shavuot; thus, it is fitting to read the Megillah that records his background” (p.815)..

Says Eliyahu Kitov, “Ruth exemplified the attribute of *Chesed – lovingkindness*. And through her loving kindness she attained every other excellent quality as well” (p.819).

Ruth, a Moabite, completely devoted herself to Naomi from the depth of her being until her dying day (renounced being a Moabite). “The ten years that Ruth spent in her mother-in-law Naomi’s home were all equally good. Ruth brought Naomi no grief. Rather, she made every effort to bring joy to the heart of the widow who had fallen from greatness, until Ruth herself was widowed. . . . The first recorded act of kindness toward Naomi transpired after the death of Ruth’s own husband and it typifies the unique kindness that is the trait of Abraham. We are told of a person who forgets her own troubles and anguish and concerns herself solely with the needs of another. When Ruth comes to act kindly toward her mother-in-law, she does so without reservation and without any thought about her own needs. . . . She did not simply act kindly toward

Naomi – she transformed herself into a source of kindness, giving to Naomi without leaving anything for herself.” (p.828).

As Naomi’s daughter, Ruth did all she perceived as being pleasing to Naomi and all that Naomi instructed her to do. Ruth was so closely drawn to Naomi that no one could cause them to part. She abandoned the royal house of Moab to travel to Bethlehem, to serve there as a simple maidservant to pay honor to her God and her people.

“This kindness was outweighed by the second act, for later Ruth gave Naomi more than she had herself. She transformed herself into a new being solely for Naomi’s benefit. Ruth saw that all that she had been was insufficient to fill the needs of Naomi. Ruth had nothing to give Naomi that would replace what she had lost. Ruth could give only herself. What did Ruth do? She went to Boaz as her mother-in-law had commanded”(p.828-829).

After Naomi returned from the fields of Moab, she sent Ruth to the fields of Boaz to gather ears of corn after the reapers. She found grace in the eyes of Boaz who was a near kinsman of Naomi and a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech. Boaz joyfully redeemed the young maiden Ruth to be his wife and fulfilled the part of a kinsman which also ensured that *sovereignty* might not depart from the house of Naomi.

According to tradition, Boaz who was advanced in age died a day after the marriage ceremony. Says Eliyahu Kitov: “Our Sages taught: The very night when Boaz took Ruth into his home was his last night. The next morning all arose to attend his funeral. The One Whose counsel is hidden had a deep purpose in this matter. It is said that Boaz’s lifespan had not been prerecorded in the Book of Life. God kept him among the living until Boaz would implant his seed in Ruth, to give rise to David who was the descendant of these two spiritual giants. When Boaz had fulfilled the Divine will, the purpose of his creation, he departed from the world” (p.835-836i).

When Boaz went in unto Ruth, the Lord gave her conception and she bore a son, Obed, which means “Servant,” or “Serving.” He was the father of Jesse, the father of David who became the anointed king of Israel.”

This became the line of Jesus Christ our Savior.

The Spiritual Antitype

Shavuot or Pentecost pictures the Covenant God is willing to make with mankind, collectively and individually. Like a marriage covenant, it has terms and conditions – and it is a perpetual, ongoing, living covenant.

As we study the Word of God, we see unfolding new dimensions of truth and revelation hidden for ages – new dimensions which were not previously or initially apparent. When God says to His people, “These words which I command you THIS DAY,” He means that every day – including TODAY – the Torah is new, and renewed.

In other words, the revelations of the Torah, and the Word of God, are not complete, or finished. They will continue, and go on, forever. In the broadest sense, the Torah, the Word of God, is not complete. Continuing and further revelation must be absorbed, as we continue to study, ponder, pray, meditate, and seek God, and His revelation, and continue to GROW in grace and in knowledge (II Pet.3:18).

Shavuot is the holy day of Continuous Giving of the Torah – and the day of the Unfinished Covenant. The true dimension of Shavuot is infinite and eternal.

Shavuot in a very profound sense pictures the marriage of Christ and the church. In Ephesians 5:22-30, we read: “Wives submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and he is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their husbands in everything. The church is subject unto Christ who loved the church and gave himself for it that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word of God, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish (fault). Husbands love, nourish and cherish their wives as their own body even as the Lord loves, nourishes, and cherishes the church for we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.”

When Christ returns to this earth the voice of a great multitude is heard saying “Alleluia, for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife has made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. These are the true sayings of God” (Revelation 19: 6-9).

How joyous, how meaningful, how glorious is the Feast of Pentecost!

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- God's Laws about Divorce and Marriage
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- A New Look at Moses' Seat
- The Plain Truth about Church Authority

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- __ The Shocking Origin of Christmas!
- __ A New Look at Easter
- __ The Origin of Halloween
- __ What Days Should We Observe?
- __ Sabbath Versus Sunday – Which Day Should We Observe?
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- __ What Is the “New Testament Passover”?
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- __ Pentecost (Shavuot) – The Mystery and Significance Revealed
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Letters from Our Readers

'If Obama is the epitome of the '666' and if the democratic party losses last year are his 'deadly wound' then it might be that the announcement tonight, the death of Bin Laden, ordered by Obama, with his reputation depending on the outcome, could be the 'healing' of the mortal wound.

"All the best to you in the spring season."

-- California

"I've been wanting to send you all an offering of thanksgiving and support for the work that God is doing through your articles and magazine. It's undeniable that the 'Spirit of truth is in you and all the faithful in Omak and the other Triumph Prophetic Ministry churches. I thank God our Father in heaven who made the heavens and the earth and all things for His faithfulness and love toward all who love the truth. It's like He has been preparing me step by step and from faith to faith and glory to glory – not dropping too much truth at one time lest I am overwhelmed and shut down mentally and spiritually.

"I was raised Protestant and took everything for granted and drifted through life as a naïve do-gooder but God had other plans for me and you and every other saint called by His name. The shock of truth can be compared best to the first *Matrix* movie when Neo was offered a choice of knowing the truth of the world or staying ignorant. I began life as a blind dupe in rebellion to God's way of life and since God has broken me from my former life of sin and ignorance, He has made me into a Jew on the inside (though everyone thinks I'm Jewish because I obey the Torah now as Jesus our Messiah did before, setting us an example). The world and its brand of Christianity and Islam fail to see what real Christianity is—tradition free Judaism bowed down before Jesus Christ as Messiah and as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. A faith whose obedience is in spirit (which is more binding than the mere letter).

"Thank you for your Bible bursting articles which have equipped me to tear down false teachings and to better help searching individuals come to a knowledge and love of the truth. Most people say they believe the Bible and God but I can not only say that and mean it but also explain so deeply now how the Bible IS true and the God of heaven and earth is real and the one true God! You helped me grow to this point by providing the Word and God made it take root and grow. I may be a prisoner, yet I'm blessed to be able to help support you so this I do all for the glory of God."

-- North Carolina

"When looking at the destruction in state after state from tornadoes that have destroyed scores of businesses and homes, it has the appearance of an enemy that has attacked the United States.

"No sooner than scenes of destruction have been seen by the world from the earthquake and resulting tsunami in Japan, people in the United States now find themselves at the mercy of the greatest natural disaster since Katrina.

"Both events defy comprehension. Putting words to the emotions felt isn't possible because what has happened is beyond anything to compare with in our lifetime. How long will it be before people lose their minds and die from heart attacks because of the magnitude and impact of events? Deuteronomy 28:28—"The LORD shall smite you with madness, and blindness, and astonishment of heart."

"Two conflicting worlds were shown by the media. One evening half of the television screen showed the royal wedding from Britain, and the other half showed the destruction from tornadoes that hit Alabama. Not surprisingly, the lead story was the wedding. The media is doing its best to shy away from the brutal reality of what's happened. A fantasy wedding is much easier to handle for a nation in denial.

"Keeping up with the rate of natural disasters is becoming difficult. America for the first time is

dealing with not only out of control weather, but three wars when realizing what's taking place in Libya. Our economic woes are mounting. Food and fuel costs are becoming deadly combinations for the financial survival of Americans. Murders, rapes, robberies, and social ills of all kinds are moving forward and defies solutions. The mental state of the country is in crisis mode, yet ipods, iphones, cell phones, twittering, texting, plasma televisions and stereo systems are the false gods choking the very life out of people in this country. Its insane, yet the American spirit is another false god that has people in a state of denial.

"It's more than evident that people are not learning the lessons God wants from what is taking place. It's understandable when realizing churches from one end of the country to the other are not providing answers as to why natural disasters are increasing around the world and in the United States.

"Listening to comments made by people in the areas where tornadoes have destroyed everything in sight shows how lost people are.

" 'We'll survey the damage, pick up the pieces and rebuild.' Owner of a restaurant in Columbus, Ohio.

" 'We will get through this because the people of Alabama are resilient and we will be the better for it.' Governor of Alabama.

" 'I want every American to know the federal government will do everything possible to help.' President Obama.

" 'Hearts are broken, but souls are strong.' Mayor Madeox of Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

"Descriptions of what happened have taken a back seat by residents and officials who are denying the reality of what's taken place.

" 'This is a one hundred year event in how conditions were perfect in the creation of supercells.' Sam Champion, Meteorologist for ABC News.

" 'It's the worst natural disaster since Katrina.' PBS News Hour.

" 'God did not spare His house.' Reporter for ABC News describing the destruction of a church in Cullman, Alabama.

"Every minister involved in affected areas haven't offered an explanation of why the tornadoes have taken place. They are in shock when standing next to their destroyed church. If there is one place that people believe God would protect it would be 'His house.' But God is not present in churches across the country because false messages are being preached and they have become social clubs. The tornadoes is God's judgment on all aspects of America, and the role of a watchman as commanded in Ezekiel 33 is not the reality, but false shepherds of chapter 34 is the state of today's churches.

"This is becoming a year in which Americans are being shown in the form of a warning from God Himself of what the Great Tribulation will be like. Words of warning have been falling on deaf ears, and God is letting it be known that He will accomplish His purpose. Nahum 1:3—"The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the LORD hath His way in the whirlwind [tornado] and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of His feet.'

"Americans are experiencing first hand God's anger towards our sins. Jeremiah 30:23—"Behold, the whirlwind [tornado] of the LORD goes forth with fury, a continuing whirlwind: It shall fall with pain upon the head of the wicked.'

"Sin is carried out through actions as a result of what we decide. We are being punished because our minds are not worshipping the God we spout in lip service only. Verse 23 could actually say: '. . . it shall fall with pain upon the mind of the wicked.'

"Are we now in the beginning fulfillment of Jeremiah 30:24—"The fierce anger of the LORD shall not return, until He have done it, and until He have performed the intents of His heart; in the latter days you shall consider it.'

"The word 'intents' is plural, not singular. God wants repentance and obedience. There can't be obedience without repentance. God deeply desires Jeremiah 30:22—"And you shall be my people, and I will be your God.'

"America is equivalent to a rebellious child out of control. The child has been warned by the father not to disobey his instruction. God tells His people to choose life through obedience (Deut.30:15-20). The child has played lip service such as what America did when 9/11

occurred, but the intent has been to do his or her own thing. What does a parent do who truly loves a child out of control? It's time for tough love. The more rebellious, the more corrective measures hurt.

"As I watched people crying and at a loss of how to react to the destruction from the tornadoes, I wonder what will happen in their lives now that the reporter and cameras have moved on? How many people are repenting? Is there a change of direction? Only God knows.

"For God's anger to return back to Him as explained in Jeremiah 30:24, it has to be replaced by mercy. With mercy comes a reprieve. The relentless bad weather for weeks have been devastating tornadoes, flooding, hail and lightning. God's anger towards sin has been ongoing and the periods in which mercy is being granted is being shortened between events.

"God says in verse 24 that we are to consider what is happening which means to think seriously and carefully as we see what is taking place.

"Tornadoes are categorized as F1's to F5's in intensity. Categories 4's and 5's have been slamming communities in state after state. Such categorization can also be measured for God's anger toward sin in mega-tornadoes. F stands for fury when realizing God's involvement in what's taken place.

"Amos 4:12 states that a time is coming in which we will come to see who the real God of heaven and earth is, not the one who is being falsely worshipped in this country.

"The tornadoes the United States is experiencing is an unexpected visit by God. Job was brought to his senses when God spoke to him through a whirlwind, or known today as a tornado. Job 40:6—"Then answered the LORD unto Job out of the whirlwind, and said . . ." It brought Job to his senses.

"tornadoes are going to play a significant role in this country's future. Category 5 tornadoes will become the norm with deadly winds of up to 300 miles per hour and stronger. Small towns will be decimated for mile after mile. Birmingham and Tuscaloosa, Alabama, are only the beginning of major cities that will be hit. What we are seeing

now is nothing because the Great Tribulation has not yet begun. . . .

"For God to be accused of not showing mercy towards America is an accusation completely unwarranted. The word mercy is mentioned 265 times in the Bible. Mercies is mentioned 44 times. Merciful is mentioned 39 times.

"God has been extremely merciful towards America. Countless mercies have been extended throughout our history. Mercy is still being extended, but for how long?

"Thanks for Prophecy Flash magazine, Bible study transcripts, literature and for the work that you, Cappy, and others are doing. I pray for the work being done and the fact that amidst the spiritual muck and mire in many Churches of God, a work with clarity and direction is being done in Omak."

-- Richard Markland, Ohio

"Each day brings more problems and people do not realize or want to admit YAHWEH is our only solution.

"Without YAHWEH things will only get worse until He steps in and stops man from destroying himself and this beautiful earth.

"There is so much happening that it would take a book to tell of all the destruction that man is causing to himself. The powers that be think they can build their underground bunkers and survive the coming inevitable destruction that they are causing. They do not think about the ground swallowing Korah and his companions.

"I know it will take faith like Shadrach, Meshack and Abednego had when they were thrown into the fiery furnace to see things through and obey YAHWEH. YAHSHUA said there would be little faith at His return. . . .

"When I was younger and working I could not see why people lived from one pay to the next and not save something. Now I am beginning to understand because now we live from one month to the next and save nothing for a rainy day.

"Things are not really going up so much in price but the dollar is losing its value so fast by the government policy.

“The day of YAHWEH’s Judgment is approaching at breakneck speed.”

-- Charles Rearick, Ohio

* * *

Passover in Texas

“Glad to hear everyone there had a blessed Passover Seder in your home in Omak. May God continue to bless you and Mrs. Dankenbring for all your hard work and faithfulness these many years.

“We had a wonderful Passover celebration with a total of 41 called out believers scattered around Kerrville and the surrounding Texas Hill country area. For more than 95% of these people, this was their first Passover Seder with the foot washing ceremony. The Passover Seder was held in three locations. One of the locations has to be the most beautiful home in the Texas Hill Country, secluded and tucked away on top of a rocky hill overlooking the head waters of the Guadalupe River. The owners, although not Sabbath keepers, heard there was a group of Christians looking for a place where we all could gather together to keep the Passover. So they graciously allowed us to use their home, which is actually a mansion with many rooms. We were allowed to use all their facilities and were able to stay the night using the bedrooms (what an unexpected blessing).

“The other Passover Seder was hosted by a family in their lovely and scenic ranch home located a little outside Frederickburg, Tx. There were about 5 adults and 4 children. As much as these people wanted to be with us, due to circumstances beyond their control regarding little children and the elderly, it was better for them to observe the Passover in this home. And the third site was held in San Antonio, Tx. where a group of 7 people met for their 1st Passover Seder. There is much more to say about these people in San Antonio, but I will save it for another time. All three sites had access to your booklet: *The Christian – Messianic Passover Haggadah* to follow along together.

“How did all this happen? Why were we given such beautiful places to keep the Passover? Who are these people, and where did they come from?

“The story of these people is amazing. About two years ago, here in the Texas Hill country area, there was a man who began to preach

God’s commandments to his Sunday Christian fellowship group. For 40 years, this man was a paid Sunday Church preacher, well loved by his fellowship group. Then the day came when his message changed. Knowing the consequences for what he was about to do, he began to preach that God’s commandments are not done away with. He told them that Christmas and Easter are pagan, and they should be keeping God’s commanded Holy Days. He told his congregation they were worshiping on the wrong day, and that God commands us to worship on the 7th day, not the 1st day (Sunday). Several months went by before his “new” teachings were brought to the attention of the church hierarchy. He was called in and warned to stop speaking on these subjects. Fearing God more than man, he continued to speak to his congregation until he was let go. The miracle began to unfold; a group of about 50 believers followed him out of the church and told him that they wanted to know more about what he was saying. Like the Bereans, these people began to meet on the Sabbath to study the Torah, the Word of God. This happen a few weeks before the Feast of Tabernacles 2009. Being new to Sabbath keeping, and based on their understanding of the commandments in Lev. 23, they gathered together for the first time to keep the Feast of Tabernacles as best as they knew how.

“It was towards the end of December 2009 when we heard about this group and were invited to attend a get-together for anyone interested in learning more about the Torah, Sabbath and God’s Holy Days. Over a hundred people came to this meeting. The meeting was held at the Shreiner University in Kerrville, Tx., and the place was packed with standing room only. We were amazed at the interest people were showing. Afterwards, we met the pastor and his wife, and they invited us to attend a Sabbath Bible study with them. We accepted.

“This Sabbath Bible study begins right before Friday sundown. They observe the Kiddush (bread & wine) and then have a fellowship meal. This is followed by prayer for the sick and needy, songs of praise and then the pastor begins the Bible study. The pastor has an exceptional knowledge of Yeshua in the scripture, not to mention the brethren. These people can quote scripture backward and forward (old and new testament). During the Bible study, the pastor pauses for those that have questions. They are encouraged to ask questions and make comments

that will add to the teaching. This part of the study becomes very interactive and we are amazed at the questions they ask and the humility of the pastor when he has no answers to their questions. The pastor constantly reminds us not to believe him, but to study and search the scriptures. You would never guess by his loving, caring and protective nature, that he was once a real bronco busting, rough and tuff Texas cowboy with many scars and championships under his belt...the kind you hear about in the movies, you know, like Gene Lock.

“After sometime, the pastor began to pay attention to the comments Carol and I would make during Bible study, and in a kind way began to question us about our beliefs and what church we came from? So we told him about our involvement with the WWCG and Triumph Prophetic Ministries. In a somewhat puzzled manner, he admitted that he had never heard of these groups and was anxious to know more, but in a cautious way. As time went on, the subjects regarding God’s Holy Day calendar, when to proclaim the new moon, symbolisms behind the Holy Days, when and at what time to observe the Passover, the 16th of Nisan, and yes even the Omer count began to be discussed. As these subjects came up, and with all the literature you sent us, and with the peoples’ obedience and love for God’s truth, I can say God opened the door for these people to know His Word and His son Yeshua the Messiah. The brethren in this area hunger and thirst for God’s Word. They know and understand God has blessed them for their obedience and that they are counted among the First Fruits if they endure to the end. It is an honor to serve God in these last days. We thank you and Mrs. Dankenbring for helping with large amounts of literature requests and for your encouragement and prayers. *“Praise God for all His goodness and all His love.”*

“As you know, Gene Locke is 96 years old and due to health, he was unable to attend the 1st Passover Seder with us. God willing, we have plans to keep the second Passover in his home in Kerrville on Wednesday, May 18th at sunset. Please be praying for Gene, as his strength grows weaker, he grows stronger in God’s Word. What a wonderful example Gene continues to be to us. May God be with him and grant him good health. Who knows, and if God grants, Gene could live to be the oldest person living at the time of Christ’s return. May it be according to

God’s will.”

-- Rey and Carol Castro, Texas

“Looking at all the events taking place this year does make a person believe that God is showing America what the Great Tribulation is going to be like even if what we see is only a glimpse compared to what it will be like.

“Its deeply disturbing to see what is taking place as tornadoes, flooding and extreme drought conditions are hammering us.

“Columbus, Ohio, is a mirror of what is taking place in city after city in the US. It’s wracked by crime, and local news reports defy the human mind. It has become loco news as Satan’s out of control anger is infecting the minds and resulting conduct of people. Life has no meaning as murders, rapes, robberies, drug arrests and acts of teen vandalism gone wild are claiming an increasing number of victims with each act carried out.

“The senseless crimes being committed across the country is just one of many reasons as to why God’s anger is growing towards individual and national sin. Natural disasters are increasing in scope and intensity. There is a correlation between the tragic state of cities and the tornadoes, flooding and extreme drought conditions taking place.

“Watching the destruction taking place does make a person wonder if repentance is taking place. When reporters interview residents in any given area where natural disasters are striking, people for the most part are either in shock or philosophical. There is no understanding of why the country is under attack from what is commonly referred to as the ‘wrath of mother nature.’ Reporters are emotionally detached as one report after another describes scenes beyond anything this country has ever seen on the scale it’s now happening.

“The degree in which crimes are being committed is within the dimension of depravity. It’s the darkest side of human nature when knowing demon possession is becoming more common.

“It is easy to brush over scriptures in the Bible due to familiarity. As God’s people we must show deep respect for what is stated because we

are reading God's explanations of why things are happening.

"Is it any wonder God's anger towards the sins of this nation is increasing when seeing how America's cities are, exactly as described in Ezekiel 7:23: 'Make a chain; for the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence.'

"a chain is a series of links which have a commonality in which they are connected. America's cities are enslaved and held captive by sin. They are connected by a common theme called crime. From one end of the land to the other, as mentioned in verse 23, Americans are bombarded with reports on the local news of crimes that dull the senses, and are only becoming worse.

"America's cities are full of bloody crimes, and full of violence with no regard to law enforcement and citizens. Bloody crimes are becoming blood baths. The degree by which they are being committed is beyond the ability to grasp or understand how they can happen. The violence is deliberate with physical force that is demonic possession within those who carry out the acts. Those who are shown arrested or appear in court show no remorse while family members and friends are devastated and rivers of tears are shed with a feeling of helplessness amidst hopelessness because they don't have answers.

"It is easy to become discouraged when looking at what appears to be war-torn areas from tornadoes, fields that look like lakes, towns and cities flooded, and drought stricken farms and ranches.

"We must have compassion on people when they lose loved ones and all their possessions. We must deeply desire that people come to an understanding of why it's happened and reach out to God with a repentant attitude so that they can have hope amidst so much hopelessness. We must make sure that we don't have an attitude that people are getting what they deserve and feel smug and superior because we have God's truth and understand why events are taking place.

"We must, however, remember that sin has deadly consequences. Disobedience to God comes with a heavy price, both physically and

spiritually. It is a matter of life and death in the choices we make.

"We must be balanced in how we view what's taking place. We must come to understand what it means to truly hate the sin, but love the sinner.

"Night after night, not only are mindless crimes committed in city after city, but rural communities are suffering from the social scourge as well.

"What are some of the most popular shows on TV? Sitcoms involving bloody crimes with violence are shown with actors and actresses standing over bodies and emotionally detached from the victims. Crime scenes are shown with massive amounts of blood. How the crimes were committed is shown and victims become just another faceless statistic under Hollywood's godless and liberal display of its spiritual bankruptcy.

"When seeing the total disregard for life through movies, TV, and what's taking place in the nation's cities, is it any wonder God's judgment is becoming more apparent? Make believe crimes by way of entertainment as well as actual violent crimes taking place throughout the country is destroying the soul of the country. We are in desperate need of healing, but America is in a state of denial.

"The day can't come soon enough when life will be respected, and people won't be victimized. We must yearn for the day when we won't sit in front of our television sets and helplessly listen to senseless crimes described by reporters who are emotionally detached from lives snuffed out or victims whose lives will never be the same from acts of violence.

"True hope amidst so much hopelessness is described in Ezekiel 36:26-28 – 'A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and you shall keep my judgments, and do them. And you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.'

"Thank you for the work you are doing. I pray for you, Cappy, and all who are helping in Omak. One aspect of my prayer is that God

grant you more understanding, and it's encouraging to see that this is happening."

-- Richard Markland, Ohio

"We pray all is well with you and Mrs. Dankenbring, and that all the brethren in Omak are in good health. Hope you had a memorable Shavuot. We pray God continues to pour down His Blessings on you and Mrs. Dankenbring, and all our brothers and sisters in this end-time work He is doing through you.

"Regarding this past Shavuot—A week before Shavuot, the local pastor asked if I would conduct a baptism ceremony on Shavuot and also baptize him? I realized his was no ordinary request, so I said, I would do it. The literature you sent me several months ago was the format I would be using during the ceremony. I rehearsed the ceremony several days to make sure I understood all that I was supposed to say and do. The pastor informed all the brethren that the place we would be meeting for Shavuot was the same place we used for Passover.

"The family that invited us to use their home for Passover allowed us to use their pavilion by the river for our Shavuot get together. What a wonderful Blessing from our Father to use such beautiful facilities.

"When the morning of Shavuot arrived, Carol and I loaded the truck and headed down to Rio Ranchito, in Hunt, Texas. Because the property is so large, we were given maps that lead to the river situated on the property. We did not know what to expect because we had never been to this side of the property.

"When we arrived, we saw this was no ordinary pavilion, especially one located next to a river. It was about 60 ft long x 30 ft wide, equipped with running water, electricity, ceiling fans, His and Her bathrooms with changing, and storage rooms. The entrance to the river was paved with beautiful stone work and had a large staircase with 5 long and wide stairs going into the crystal clear cool river.

"The area we used for baptism was about 5 ft deep. There was a total of 17 people that were baptized that day. Ten of those who were baptized had already experienced baptisms before and wanted to renew their vows with

Yeshua once again. However, for those 10 that renewed their vows, this was the first time they had hands laid on them. For the other 7, it was their first baptismal experience.

"This was a very memorable and moving experience for all those that attended, especially for those that were baptized. It was a wonderful moment in time for all of us in attendance. It was a day filled with excitement and tears of joy, as when one rejoices at the birth of a newborn baby into the family; in our case, the Family of God.

"We are glad to report that all went well. Praise Yah for our newly begotten brothers and sisters in this local area. We pray God will call more people to repentance in the area, and that they will accept Yeshua the Messiah as their Savior.

"What a joy it is to know and be counted as bond-servants of our Lord and Savior Yeshua the Messiah in His end-time work.

"May God's Blessing of Peace continually rest upon you, Mrs. Dankenbring, and all our Brethren scattered all over this Earth."

-- Rey and Carol Castro, Texas

"You have ALL done a FANTASTIC JOB ON THE NEW WEB-SITE!!!

"Was digging around reading Bill's Bio and checking things out, it looks really super!

"Congratulations Bill, Cappy and Hiylee Kaieda (don't really know how to spell his name), however, he did a great job, especially like the space visuals."

-- Canada

"“Thanks to our God for inspiring you for all the messages during the Omer count and Pentecost. I have learned more this year than in the past. It truly is a blessing to know about the Omer and the 49 day count to Pentecost. It's a lifetime struggle of overcoming for each one of us to reach the Kingdom of God. I ask myself many times, why God ever called me into this end time work. Whatever the reasons I do want to fulfill it in an overflowing way.”

-- Kansas

"Greetings to you all in Omak. Having listened to last Sabbath's Bible study and heard about the baptisms on Pentecost, I have good news about

two baptisms in Northern Ireland on Shavuot this year. Gail and Duane MacArtney came to the Feast in Wales last year along with their two younger children and lovely Doberman "Charlotte". They said at the time they both wanted to be baptized soon and invited Barbara and I over for the Passover this year. Due to various family circumstances, we were unable to make it for Passover, so we re-arranged our visit to Northern Ireland for Pentecost.

"We set off early on the Tuesday morning and drove up to Cairnryan in Scotland, to catch the ferry, crossing over to Larne in Northern Ireland. Gail and Duane were there to meet us and took us to their home, where they made us very welcome and looked after us until our departure on the Thursday, two days later.

"On the Tuesday evening, Pentecost eve, Ron MacArtney, Duane's Dad, joined us, and we had a long discussion on baptism and other Biblical topics, well into the late evening. On the Wednesday morning, Shavuot, Ron joined us once again and we had a Bible study on baptism, where we went into the subject pretty thoroughly. Suffice to say that both Gail and Duane were more than ready to be baptized, and had been for some time. Their baptism was witnessed by Barbara and Ron along with their younger daughters, Rebekah and Jordan. Gail went in first, and while Duane held her legs down, I plunged her upper body under the water, baptizing her "into the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit". Then it was Duane's turn and Gail held his legs under, while I plunged his upper body under the water. Immediately after this, We all stood around in a circle with heads bowed, while I put my arms around both Duane and Gail and placed each of my hands on their heads. We then prayed for the begetting power of the Holy Spirit to come upon them both and sustain them both throughout their Christian lives, helping them to grow and be overcomers.

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"I truly believe that everything was done decently and in order, the way it should be, and I can tell you that it was a truly humbling experience for me personally, making me feel very unworthy indeed. One thing I did impress upon both Duane and Gail was that they were not being baptized into any 'religion' or 'denomination', but into the Family of God. I also emphasized that I was not an ordained minister of a church, but that I was, however imperfect, a follower of Jesus Christ. During the Bible study we read about 'The Great Commission' in Matthew 28:19-20.

" 'Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. AMEN.'

"This is what I believe we have done in a humble way, in our corner of the world, fulfilled a small part of the Great Commission. This was a very joyous occasion, which we want to share with everybody.

"On the trip back home, we called in to see John and Maureen Hunter in Scotland, who also made us very welcome. We had a lovely couple of hours with them, before setting off on the final leg of the journey to spend the weekend with Barbara's mother in Carlisle. All things considered, a wonderful few days and a privilege to have a part in the events."

-- Nick Wood, England

"Thanks to our God for inspiring you for all the messages during the Omer count and Pentecost. I have learned more this year than in the past. It truly is a blessing to know about the Omer and the 459 day count to Pentecost. It's a lifetime struggle of overcoming for each one of us to reach the Kingdom of God. I ask myself many times, why God ever called me into this end time work. Whatever the reasons I do want to fulfill it in an overflowing way."

-- Kansas