

PROPHECY FLASH!

A magazine of insight and understanding of Biblical truth and prophecy for our time.
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Passover to be Sacrificed In Israel – *first time in nearly 2,000 years!*



Also in this issue:

Sir Isaac Newton and the End-Time Prophecies of Daniel
Are the Jewish People Really Jews?
The Early Church and the Quartodeciman Passover
When Should the Passover Really be Observed?
Was the Lord's Supper Really the Passover?

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Editor

William F. Dankenbring

A Voice in the Wilderness

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

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

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

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

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

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In This Issue

Shocking, exciting news! Once again, after nearly 2,000 years, the Jews will offer the official Passover sacrifices on a specially built altar twelve miles northeast of Jerusalem! The Sanhedrin is calling on Jews from around the world to come to Israel to help celebrate this holy festival and sacrifice commanded by God! Building is also underway on construction of the end-time Temple of God. Plans are to move the Temple and sacrificial Altar to the Temple Mount “when the time is right.” Truly, prophecy marches on!

-- *William F. Dankenbring*

Astounding News – for the first time in 2,000 years . . .

Passover Sacrifice to be Offered in Israel!

Suddenly, almost like a bolt from the blue, the Jewish Sanhedrin announces that this year a Passover Sacrifice will be made in Israel for the first time in almost 2,000 years, since the destruction of the Jewish Temple in 70 A.D. What is planned? What is going on? What are the repercussions? What does it all mean? And how does it fulfill Bible prophecy?

William F. Dankenbring

In a recent letter, J.R. Church of *Prophecy in the News* writes: “On March 29, the Jews in Israel will be eating lamb for Passover. For nearly 2,000 years, they have simply had a dry shankbone on each plate. But history is in the making! A sacrificial altar has been constructed 12 miles northeast of Jerusalem at a place called Mizpah/Jericho where the sacrifices will take place.”

This information about this remarkable fulfillment of Bible prophecy is included in the cover story in the March 2010 issue of *Prophecy in the News* magazine. Says J. R. Church, “Construction has begun on a Jewish Temple at Mizpah. When the time is right, they say that the whole thing, Temple, altar and all, will be moved to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Wow! What a time to be alive!”

I agree. Hallelujah, the Temple is already been started being built!

Spiritual Bombshell Explodes

In the March 2010 *Prophecy in the News*, Gary Stearman wrote an article titled, “The Modern Sanhedrin and the Coming Korban Pesach.”. “Korban” is the word for “sacrifice,” and “Pesach” is Hebrew for Passover – the ancient Passover sacrifice.

Says Stearman, “This year, for the first time in two millennia, Jews in Israel, sanctioned by the Sanhedrin and the Jewish Temple Institute, are preparing to sacrifice several lambs on

Monday, March 29 for that evening Passover meal. [The Jews still observe a fixed calendar date instead of the observed new moon, so their Passover is 2 days earlier than the observed new moon calendar]. The ritual, called Korban Pesach, will require both a sanctified altar and an officiating priest. There has not been such a sacrifice in nearly 2,000 years! Sanhedrin plans for this event began several years ago.”

History of the Sanhedrin

Here is the history behind this event. Writes Stearman, “The Jewish Sanhedrin was originally called a ‘senate’, from the Greek term *gerousia*. The Jewish historian Flavius Josephus mentions it in reference to Antiochus III (122-187 B.C.) As a ruling body, it first became known in Israel about the time of the Jewish return from the Babylonian exile. The existence of a concoction of Jewish elders existed prior to Nebuchadnezzar’s invasion, but not recognized as a formal ruling body.

“Under the rule of the Seleucid Greeks in the centuries preceding the arrival of Jesus Christ, Israel had been allowed to retain governance of their internal affairs, and attended to it through the convening of what they then began to call by its present name, ‘Sanhedrin.’ In the Greek language, this word means ‘to sit together,’ or ‘counsel together.’” The New Testament Sanhedrin was comprised of priests drawn from the Pharisees and Sadducees, under the leadership of the High Priest.”

The Sanhedrin’s authority was in effect during the trial of Christ at the Palace of the High Priest that condemned him to death in 30 A.D. After the Romans conquered Jerusalem and destroyed the Temple in 70 A. D. the Jews attempted to revive the Sanhedrin Court at a place called Jamnia, southwest of Jerusalem, near the Mediterranean coast. It continued to meet in various locations, finally coming to a complete halt in A.D. 425; its final meeting took place on the Sea of Galilee in the city of Tiberias.

Says Stearman, “From that time until about seven years ago, rabbis were deadlocked on the question of whether or not they had the proper biblical authority to reconvene the group even though they had already returned to Israel. The Sanhedrin had traditionally been headed by Israel’s high priest, exalted rabbis, scholars and other important community leaders. However, during the exile there was no priesthood and to function officially, the Sanhedrin had to operate within the bounds of *halacha*, (conformity to the *Torah*), with priestly ordination and ritual purity.”

The End-Time New Sanhedrin

Declares Gary Stearman, “In October of 2004, several hundred rabbis, acting as representatives from a variety of Israeli cities and settlements, met in Tiberias, where the original Sanhedrin had been disbanded (425 A.D.), for the purpose of reviving the court. From a pool of scholarly rabbis, they elected the traditional 71 members. Before the eyes of excited observers

around the world, the Sanhedrin rose to life again. At the time, prophecy watchers deemed this a major milestone in the life of modern Israel.

“After centuries of dormancy, two things had changed that made this possible. First was the reestablishment of the state of Israel. And second, about a hundred rabbis had received ordination by the “laying on of hands, or *semicha*. This had been accomplished several months earlier, as the first step toward the establishment of a revived priesthood. Furthermore, during this time, the Temple Institute had formalized the drive to rebuild the Temple. At the Sanhedrin’s first meeting, the best Jewish scholars were elected to membership, and a *Nasi* (Hebrew: ‘prince,’ or in modern interpretation, ‘president’) was selected.”

The Rabbi selected to be the president of the Sanhedrin is Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, who in 1965 began the monumental work of translating and annotating a modern rendering of the Talmud. He has received honorary degrees from Yeshiva University, Ben Gurion University Bar Ilan University and Florida International University for his outstanding work.

Another leader of the Sanhedrin is Torah scholar Rabbi Yehuda Edri, and expert on Temple measurements, location and archaeology. Still another is Rabbi Yisrael Ariel, founder of the Jerusalem Temple Institute. “His focus is upon building the Third Temple,” says Stearman.

Stearman writes, “The Sanhedrin’s goals are clear-cut and focused upon taking Israel to the next level in their return from the Diaspora. That would be the reestablishment of the office of High Priest and his priestly acolytes, as well as the construction of the Third Temple. It is a practical matter that along with these goals comes Jewish devotion to the sovereignty of Jerusalem as the Davidic capital. Jewish leaders did not come to this position without a struggle.

Plans to Perform the Passover Sacrifice

“In 2007, Steinsaltz led a group of rabbis in the search for a qualified priest. After a time, they located a Kohen who was a butcher. It was their plan to ordain him to perform a Passover sacrifice on the Temple Mount. They petitioned Israel’s High Court of Justice, for permission. The Israeli government’s official position was to leave affairs on the Temple Mount in the hands of the Arab *Waqf*, which has rigid control over the mosques of Omar and Al Aqsa and has lately tightened its grip on the entire area.”

Unfortunately, the Israeli High Court took the government’s side of the issue and denied the request. They concluded that such a sacrifice would raise Arab/Israeli tensions to the point of open conflict or war.

And there were other frustrations. In 2008, an animal rights group called *Tnoo Lachayot Lichyot* (“Let the Animals Live”), contended that the Passover sacrifice of a lamb would constitute the crime of *cruelty to animals*. Although an Israeli court rejected their claim, it showed that there is continuing debate on the subject.

Writes Stearman, “But the Sanhedrin pushes onward. This year, they are rapidly moving toward the establishment of a Temple with all its attendant services. Their first step is the immediate plan to complete *Korban Pesach*. This Hebrew term means simply, ‘Passover Sacrifice’.

“Sanhedrin authorities now believe that the time is right for the renewal of a traditional Passover, as once practiced at the Temple. They follow the teachings of the 13th –century rabbi called Rambam (Moses Maimonides), who declared that the Temple Mount was still a sanctified place, in spite of all the insults that it has suffered since the Roman occupation.”

For Maimonides, “*Korban Pesach* is possible on the platform of Mount Zion, at any time there is a sanctified leadership in Israel willing to perform it. Furthermore, he declared that the commandment to keep Passover in the manner decreed by the Lord in Exodus is incumbent upon every Jewish generation.”

God’s Commandment

In the book of Exodus we read God’s command, “Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, On the tenth day of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of his father, a lamb for a household Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight [*ben ha arbayim*, literally, “between the two evenings,” meaning late afternoon]. And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two door posts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. Then they shall eat the flesh on that night; roasted in fire with unleavened bread and with bitter herbs . . . You shall let none of it remain until morning . . . And thus you shall eat it: with a belt on your waist, you sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD’s Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast, and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD” (Exodus 12:3-12).

The first Passover sacrifice took place in haste in the individual homes of the Israelites in Egypt, during the time of Moses, as they were preparing to flee from Egypt.

Sanhedrin writers point out that the Passover was still being offered a century after the Roman destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D., apparently upon a different, but still sanctified, altar.

“But soon afterward,” says Stearman, “with the persecutions of the Diaspora, questions of ritual purity kept the Jews from observing the practice. If there were no priesthood, and no sanctified place of offering could the people even legally offer a lamb? There remained only the shank bone of the lamb on a Passover *seder* plate for centuries.”

That is, until *now!*

The Ninth of Av

Sanhedrin leaders have moved forward with their plans, and on *Tisha B'Av* 5769 (July 30, 2009), in cooperation with the Temple Institute, they began the work of building a sacrificial altar. They followed the precepts of the Lord which he gave to Moses. (see Exodus 20:22-25).

The Sanhedrin leaders chose the date of *Tisha B'Av* – the 9th of Av – because on that date in AD 70, their Temple had been burned down by the Romans. They reasoned that there could be no better day to commence the construction of a new “Great Altar” than on this day. After fasting and prayer, “they assembled at the shore of the Dead Sea to gather stones, unhewn and untouched by human hands. These were carefully wrapped in plastic and sealed before being taken to an assembly site at *Mizpeh Jericho*, 12 miles to the northeast of Jerusalem. There, workers began preparation for the first modern *Korban Pesach*.

“The altar was meticulously fabricated in accordance with Jewish law, using a mortar mixture of sand, clay, tar and asphalt. Upon that occasion, the Temple Institute’s founder, Rabbi Yisrael Ariel, is quoted as saying, ‘Today is not just a time to mourn the destruction of the Temple. It is also a time to build.’”

Due to Arab occupation of the Temple Mount, however, they could not build the altar on the Temple Mount itself. A new strategy had to be devised.

Writes Stearman, “The current Institute director, Yehuda Glick, said, ‘Unfortunately, we cannot currently build the altar in its proper place on the Temple Mount. We are building an altar of the minimum possible size so that we will be able to transport it to the Temple when it is rebuilt.’”

This year, on Monday, March 29 (Nisan 14, 5770 in the “fixed” Jewish calendar), it is the intention of the Sanhedrin to oversee the first *Korban Pesach* since the destruction of the Temple. Surely this is an event to be carefully watched. It will involve much ritual sanctification, perhaps even the ordination of a high priest. It will set a precedent that will reach far into the future. But most of all, it will be a statement to the world that Israel has no intention of giving up its Holy Land.” The fixed calendar is the modern Jewish calendar created in 357 A.D. which approximates the actual “new moons.” Hopefully, the Sanhedrin will return to the original sighting of “new moons” soon, in order to have months really begin on new moons!

Exciting News

What shocking, exciting NEWS!

For many years I have said that the Jews would rebuild their Temple and once again begin offering sacrifices – the Scriptures foretell that there will be a Temple during end-times! Many scoffed, ridiculed, and refused to believe it. However, the facts are quickly assembling into place. Prophecy marches forward.

Christians who believe that the Jews will witness the building of a Temple are now seeing the construction and dedication of the altar for that Temple. Yehuda Glick's statement says that it will be brought to the Temple Mount in due time. The Sanhedrin's attitude seems to be "If we build it, He will come."

And they are right!

The prophet Malachi declared, in no uncertain words, "Behold, I will send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, *will SUDDENLY COME to His temple*, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, *He is coming*, says the LORD of hosts" (Malachi 3:1).

"But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like launderer's soap. He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness" (3:2-3).

Prophecies of an End-Time Temple

Jesus Christ in the Mount Olivet prophecy speaks of signs of the end of the age and the *signs of Christ's second coming*. Among them, He declared, "Therefore when you SEE the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, *standing in the holy place* [the Temple of God, in the "holy of holies"), then let those who are in Judea *flee to the mountains*" (Matt.24:15-16)..

Yeshua plainly says a physical temple is going to exist again, prior to his return!

Christ referred to a prophecy of the prophet Daniel. Daniel, of course, was a prophet during Old Testament times, and lived 500 years before Christ. Just what did Daniel say about the Temple and "abomination of desolation"?

Daniel had a prophetic vision of the future. Speaking of four kingdoms in the end of days, he says: "Out of one of them [the four horns or kings that divided up the Earth's nations] came another horn, which started small but grew in power to the south and to the east and toward the Beautiful Land. It grew until it reached the host of the heavens, and it threw some of the starry host down to the earth and trampled on them. It set itself up to be as great as the Prince of the host; it *took away the daily sacrifice* from him and the *place of his sanctuary* was brought low. Because of REBELLION, the host of the saints, and the *daily sacrifice* were given over to it. It prospered in everything it did, and truth was thrown to the ground" (Dan.8:9-12, NIV).

"Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to him, '*How long will it take for the vision to be fulfilled* – the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, the rebellion that causes desolation, and the surrender of the sanctuary and of the host that will be trampled underfoot?' He said to me, 'It will take 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary will be reconsecrated'" (Dan.8:13-14). What is the real meaning of this strange vision?

This vision refers to *many days in the future*. What is the length of this vision of the daily sacrifices and the transgression of desolation? For 2300 days the Sanctuary which is the Temple

was to be trodden under foot by the Gentiles. Then the Sanctuary was to be restored and cleansed. The Hebrew word for “cleansed” also means “RESTORED.”

The End of Days

As other scriptures show, this refers to the end of days (our day and the Great Tribulation). This prophecy was for the latter time . . . for at the appointed time the end shall be” (Dan.8:19). This was to occur “when the transgressors have reached their fullness” (verse 23).

The Bible teaches the Temple must be rebuilt before Christ’s return. This is talking about the Sanctuary of God in Jerusalem, a literal physical Temple (not spiritual). When the *transgressors* shall reach their fullness. A great king shall rise up, a cunning man of mighty power who will destroy fearfully and cause deceit and craft to prosper under his rule. He EXALTS HIMSELF above all, and *opposes* all that is called god or worshipped (Dan.8:24-25).

Daniel was told that the “vision refers to many days in the future” (v.26).

This same end-time tyrant, or evil prince, this same “king of fierce countenance” (Dan.8:23-25), is also prophesied of in Daniel 9:26-27. Here Daniel records, “. . . but the people of the prince that shall come shall DESTROY the city AND THE SANCTUARY (that is, the Temple!) . . . and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.”

This is clearly speaking of the same spectacular time frame and prophetic event to occur at the very end of this present age -- the “consummation,” or “time of the end.” Here again we find mention of a Temple or “sanctuary” which must exist, in the end of days, with animal sacrifices being offered.

Daniel also mentions this incredible sacrilege in his eleventh chapter. This prophecy also ends in the “end of days.” In verse 30 Daniel relates that a great “king” will “pillage Jerusalem and *pollute the sanctuary, putting a stop to the daily sacrifices*, and worshiping idols inside the Temple. He will leave godless Jews in power when he leaves – men who have abandoned their fathers’ faith. He will flatter those who hate the things of God,” just as Antiochus Epiphanes did in 165-167 B.C., “and win them over to his side” (Dan.11:30-32, *Living Bible*).

Says the Septuagint version, beginning in verse 31: “And seeds shall spring up out of him, and *they shall profane the sanctuary of strength* [the Temple of God in Jerusalem!], and they shall *remove the perpetual sacrifice, and make the abomination desolate*. And the transgressors shall bring about a *covenant [treaty, “peace” agreement] by deceitful ways*: but a people knowing their God shall prevail, and do valiantly. And the intelligent among the people shall *understand much* [much truth will be revealed!]: *yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, and by captivity, and by spoil of many days*” (Dan.11:31-33).

In a prophetic Psalm which refers to the time of the Great Tribulation, God’s people pray to Him, “Walk over these total ruins; *our enemies have destroyed everything IN THE TEMPLE*. Your enemies have shouted in triumph IN YOUR TEMPLE; they have placed their flags there as signs of victory. . . They *WRECKED YOUR TEMPLE and set it on fire; they desecrated the*

place where you are worshiped” (Psalm 74:3-7).

In a similar Psalm is another prophecy of the time God's people will be invaded and taken captive by a foreign power in the Great Tribulation. God's people will lament, “O God, the heathen have invaded your land. They have DESECRATED YOUR HOLY TEMPLE and left Jerusalem in ruins” (Psalm 79:1).

Jeremiah laments, “The enemies robbed her of all her treasures. *She saw them enter the Temple itself*, where the Lord had forbidden Gentiles to go” (Lam.1:10). The prophet continues, in chapter two, “The Lord in his anger has covered Zion with darkness, its heavenly splendor he has turned into *ruins*. ON THE DAY OF HIS ANGER [the Great Tribulation] *he abandoned even his Temple”* (Lam.2:1).

The “day of His anger” refers to the Great Tribulation and the “Day of the Lord,” the time of God's WRATH and FURY because of His peoples’ sins and transgressions of His divine covenant and law! It is the time of His intervention in world affairs, the time He punishes His people with dire calamity and distress for their mounting sins! Therefore, this prophecy is aimed at our modern end-time age and generation! And here again a “Temple” is mentioned, which a wicked Gentile ruler will enter, and which God Himself will “abandon.” The very fact that He has abandoned it is evident because He will allow the heathen to enter it and pollute it!

In this same chapter of Lamentations, Jeremiah relates, “Like an enemy, the Lord has destroyed Israel; he has left her forts and palaces in ruins. He has brought on the people of Judah unending sorrow. He SMASHED TO PIECES THE TEMPLE where we worshiped him” (Lam.2:5-6).

The apostle Paul also predicted the same unusual event He wrote to the Thessalonians that in the end-time there would be a great “falling away” from the truth, an “apostasy,” when a “man of sin” would be revealed, the “son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits AS GOD IN THE TEMPLE OF GOD, showing himself that he is God” (II Thess.2:3-4).

There is a prophecy found in the book of Revelation which foretells a future Temple in the “day of the Lord” (Rev.1:10), the time before the coming of the Messiah. A servant of God named John wrote:

“And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and MEASURE THE TEMPLE OF GOD, AND THE ALTAR, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple, measure it not; for IT IS GIVEN TO THE GENTILES . . .” (Revelation 11:1-2).

Without a doubt, this means that there will be a future Temple, built during OUR TIME, today, and also implies that part of the Temple Mount will remain in the hands of the Muslims.

How exciting! The news of a renewed KORBAN PESACH in Israel, this year, is paving the way and bringing on and hastening the fulfillment of these tremendous end-time prophecies which must be fulfilled before the Messiah comes!

Isaac Newton and the End-Time Prophecies of Daniel

Sir Isaac Newton was not only one of the greatest scientists of all time, but also devoted decades of his life to the study of the Scriptures, striving to learn the will of God, the truth of history, and the understanding of end-time prophecies. His revelations were uncanny. The story is amazing, dumfounding, mind-boggling! What did Newton think about the coming of Armageddon, the prophecies of Daniel, and the “end of days”?

William F. Dankenbring

According to the Biblical research of famous scientist Sir Isaac Newton, and other evidence, the road to Armageddon and the final battle between good and evil are imminent!

The TV History Channel aired a program on Sir Isaac Newton (17th Century-in the 1600's) this week. It pointed out that not only was Newton a great astronomer, physicist, mathematician, and one of the greatest geniuses that has been born. He discovered optics, divided the spectrum of light in crystal and showed that white light is composed of 7 major colors of light which altogether make white, discovered the laws of motion and the law of gravity.

But what people don't know is that he dedicated the last few decades of his life to the study of the Bible scriptures and ancient history in an effort to decode God's messages for mankind and the future. He had tremendous understanding. Back in those days if he had let his real beliefs be made known public, he would have been put to death for being a heretic. Papers were discovered in the last few decades written by Newton and recently auctioned in England. A past Nobel Prize recipient bought some of the papers and some of the papers are now at Hebrew University in Israel. It was found that Sir Isaac did not believe in the Trinity but considered it pagan and stated that the Roman Catholic Church is the “great whore of Babylon.” He was right in understanding that paganism had engulfed Christianity.

He sought to understand the meaning of Biblical prophecy, especially the books of Daniel and Revelation and the time lines in those books. Newton came up with three very basic principles of prophecy being fulfilled and that were going to be fulfilled centuries after his lifetime. He came to the understanding that in the Bible in prophetic terminology, a day equals a prophetic year being fulfilled which is a very basic principle of prophecy.

The Bible – a Coded Book

Scholars and Bible students know that the two most mysterious books of the Bible are the book of Daniel and the book of Revelation. In these books, even on the surface level, are predictions of unimaginable horror and apocalypse for the “end of days.”

These predictions, however, were “sealed up” and not revealed to their writers.

Daniel was told, concerning his prophecies, “And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time” (Dan.12:1). The angel then told him, “But you, Daniel, SHUT UP the words, and SEAL THE BOOK, *until the time of the end*; many shall run to and fro [at that time], and KNOWLEDGE shall be increased” (Dan.12:4).

Later on, Daniel was again told, “Go your way, Daniel, for the words are CLOSED and SEALED *till the time of the END*. Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand” (verses 9-10, NKJV).

The prophecies of the enigmatic book of Revelation were similarly sealed. John the apostle was shown in a vision a “scroll written inside and on the back, SEALED with seven seals” (Rev.5:1). Only the Lamb of God was worthy to open the seals of the book. The seven seals and their prophecies are then set forth in the remaining chapters of the book. But to simply read about them is not to understand them and their meaning. Many symbols and mysterious images and “time periods” are mentioned. Most people come away uttered confused and confounded. Yet it is a book of Revelation – and in the time of the end is meant to be understood!

Many Bible prophecies are written this way. The prophet Isaiah wrote, “For the LORD has poured out on you the spirit of deep sleep and has closed your eyes, namely, the prophets; and He has covered your heads, namely, the seers. The WHOLE VISION has become to you like words of a BOOK THAT IS SEALED, which men delivered to one who is literate, saying, ‘Read this, please.’ And he says, ‘I cannot, for it is sealed.’ Then the book is delivered to one who is illiterate, saying, ‘Read this, please.’ And he says, ‘I am not literate’” (Isa.29:10-12).

Who then can understand God’s sealed book? Isaiah gives the answer. First, he explains the problem: He writes: “The priest and the prophet have erred through intoxicating drink [false doctrines], they are swallowed up by wine, they are out of the way through intoxicating drink; they ERR IN VISION, they stumble in judgment. For all tables are full of vomit and filth; no place is clean” (Isa.28:7-8).

Isaiah had several things to say about foretelling the future, and to understand what is to come we must look back at his words. He declared that fulfilled PROPHECIES are the outstanding, undeniable PROOF of the existence of GOD, and of the inspiration of the BIBLE! No other book predicts the future as it does!

“ ‘Present your case,’ says the LORD. ‘Bring forth your strong reasons,’ says the King of Jacob. ‘Let them bring them forth and show us what will happen; let them show the former things, what they were, that we might consider them, and know the *latter end* of them; or declare us *things to come*. Show the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that you are gods. . . . Indeed, you are nothing, and your work is nothing’” (Isaiah 41:21-24).

God speaks through Isaiah’s prophecy, and says: “I am the First and I am the Last; besides Me there is no God. And who can proclaim as I do? Then let him declare it and set it in order before Me, since I appointed the ancient people. *And the things that are coming and shall come*, let them show these to them. Do not fear, nor be afraid; have not I told you from that time, and declared it?” (Isa.44:6-8).

“Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, *declaring the END from the BEGINNING, and from ancient times things that are NOT YET DONE . . .*” (Isa.46:9-10).

Fulfilled PROPHECY is the greatest single PROOF of God, His Word, and its divine inspiration!

Sir Isaac Newton and the Bible

Sir Isaac Newton believed that not only the Bible but the whole Universe was a “cryptogram set by the Almighty,” a great puzzle that mankind was meant to solve.

Philip N. Moore, in *The End of History, Messiah Conspiracy*, discusses Sir Isaac Newton’s vital interest in the Bible. Newton’s friend, John Craig, wrote shortly after his death that he wrote long explications of parts of the Bible which he would not publish in his own time because “they showed that his thoughts were sometimes different than those which are commonly received” (p.489).

Newton’s writings on theology amounted to more than one and a quarter million words, mostly unpublished. These he regarded as his most important works of all. Wrote Prof. Richard Popkin, of UCLA, “Newton was convinced that God had presented mankind in Scripture with certain most important clues about the future history of humanity” (*ibid.*). Newton spent almost 60 years on his theological work.

Newton knew the Bible prophecies – he predicted, based on Scripture, that Israel would return to the holy land. Newton stated that there would be many unbelieving Jews who would become believers in the same era when Israel would once again become a nation. In his *Observations upon the Prophecies of Daniel and the Apocalypse of St. John*, first published five years after his death, Newton wrote that the Jews will return to their homeland.

Newton declared on this issue, “. . . since the commandment to return precedes the Messiah . . . it may perhaps come forth not from the Jews themselves, but from some other kingdom friendly to them, and precede their return from captivity and give occasion to it. . . . The manner I know not. Let time be the interpreter” (Franz Kobler, “Newton on the Restoration of the Jews,” *The Jewish Frontier*, 1943, from Newton’s *Yahuda Manuscript*, quoted in Moore, p.493).

He even said it would occur in the twentieth century!

Newton Saw the Apostasy

Newton also perceived that nominal “Christianity” was guilty of corruption and that “before the end of the second century corruption had slowly crept into the Latin churches . . . All was brought into confusion, and the drama of apostasy in the Church had begun” (Moore, p.495). Newton referred to the institution of the Papacy as the “Whore of Babylon” (Frank E. Manuel, *The Religion of Isaac Newton*, p.95, from Moore, p.494).

In Newton’s writings he drew a line between true believers and the false church of history. The false church, he said, showed itself to be counterfeit, according to Jesus’ words, “You shall know them by their fruits” (Matt.7:16). Concerning prophecy and the true church, Newton wrote, “Having searched (and by the grace of God obtained) after knowledge in the prophetic scriptures, I have thought myself bound to communicate it for the benefit of others. . . If they [the prophetic Scriptures] are never to be understood, to what end did God reveal them? Certainly He did it for the edification of the church; and if so, then it is as certain that the church shall at length attain to the understanding thereof. I mean *not all that call themselves Christians, BUT A REMNANT, a few scattered persons which God hath chosen*” (p.495).

Seeing the widespread confusion and false teaching regarding the Scriptures, Newton wrote a profound warning to all who seek to discover and understand the TRUTH of Scripture. He declared:

“Let me therefore beg of thee not to trust to the *opinion of any man* concerning these things . . . *search the scriptures thyself* . . . if thou desirest to find the truth. Which if thou shalt at length attain thou wilt value above all other treasures . . . search into these scriptures which God hath given to be a guide . . . and be not discouraged by the gainsaying which these things will meet with in the world.

“They will call thee it may be a hot-headed fellow, a Bigot, a Fanatic, a Heretic, etc.: and tell thee of the uncertainty of these interpretations, and vanity of attending to them: Not considering that the prophecies concerning our Savior’s first coming were of more difficult interpretation, and yet God rejected the Jews for not attending better to them. And whither they will believe it or not, there are greater judgments hang over the Christians for their remissness than ever the Jews yet felt. *But the world loves to be deceived*, they will not understand, they

never consider equally, but are *wholly led by prejudice, interest, the praise of men, and authority of the Church they live in . . .* There are but FEW that seek to understand the religion they profess, and those that study for understanding therein, do it rather for worldly ends, or that they may defend it, than . . . to examine whether it be true with a resolution to choose and profess that religion which in their judgment appears the truest. . . .

“And when thou art convinced be not ashamed to profess the truth. For otherwise thou mayst become a stumbling block to others, and inherit the lot of those Rulers of the Jews who believed in Christ but yet were afraid to confess him lest they should be put out of the Synagogue. Wherefore when thou art convinced be not ashamed of the truth but profess it openly and endeavor to convince thy Brother also that thou mayst inherit at the resurrection the promise made in Daniel 12:3, that they who turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars for ever and ever. And rejoice if thou art counted worthy to suffer in thy reputation or any other way for the sake of the Gospel, for then great is thy reward” (p.496).

Amazing words! Here was the testimony of a TRUE believing Christian, one of the greatest scientists of all time!

Albert Einstein had a great interest in Newton and in his faith. His great reverence for Newton is seen that Newton’s portrait hung in his bedroom until he died.

Newton’s Prophecies

Most of Newton’s manuscripts on religion were long concealed from the world. Some would say, even suppressed, lest Newton’s Biblical discoveries should “tarnish” his reputation as a scientific genius. Others may well have wanted to cover up Newton’s prophetic and doctrinal writings because they would have the authority of such a brilliant scientist behind them, and therefore many might actually BELIEVE them, and turn from the establishment’s churches!

In 1936 Newton’s papers were auctioned at Sotheby & Co., and afterwards Professor Abraham Shalom Yahuda, a collector fascinated by the Bible and science, bought most of them, piece by piece, from the new owners. He was a Palestinian Jew and important Arabic scholar and collector of manuscripts. He believed that there was evidence of the historical accuracy of the Bible.

In 1940 Yahuda became a refugee in the United States. He brought his vast collection with him, and with the help of Albert Einstein, tried to get Harvard, Yale, or Princeton to take them over, but all three refused. On his deathbed, Yahuda bequeathed his entire manuscript collection to the Hebrew University.

His wife contested the will and ended up committing suicide over the matter. Only in 1969 was it decided by the courts, after an 18-year long struggle, that the will would not be broken, and the papers were delivered to the library in Jerusalem.

Albert Einstein confessed that his own discoveries would have been impossible without the scientific work of Newton and his amazing discoveries. He also wrote to Yahuda, “Newton’s writings on biblical topics seems to me especially interesting, because they reveal a deep insight into the spiritual character and the working method of this significant man. For Newton, the divine origin of the Bible is unconditionally certain. . . . From this belief arises the firm conviction that the parts of the Bible that appear obscure must contain important revelations, which require only the decoding of the symbolic language used in them in order to be illuminated. Newton attempts this decoding or interpretation by means of his acute, systematic thinking, in which he carefully makes use of all the sources available to him. . . . These writings, mostly unpublished, thus provide a highly interesting insight into the spiritual workshop of this unique thinker” (signed by Albert Einstein, Sept. 1940, at Lake Saranac).

Newton’s Exegesis

Newton made predictions based on his intense study of Jewish history and ideas. He studied Hebrew so he could read the Old Testament in the original language. In a July 26, 1985 interview with Professor Popkin, the Hebrew newspaper *Hamishmar* quoted Newton as saying that the Jews will return to Jerusalem in the twentieth century (Moore, p.492).

Newton believed that the world “was moving inexorably toward a cataclysm, a great conflagration, to be followed by a yet undefined form of renewal. His explication is in one of the normative exegetical traditions of the Talmudic rabbis and Puritan divines, whose underlying assumption was that Scriptures do not contain a single superfluous phrase, or even a letter that does not have significant meaning – a sort of law of parsimony” (p.521).

In his prophetic interpretations, Newton used numerous mathematical calculations, including gematria (translating the Hebrew letters of a name into their numerical equivalents). Newton’s works were also punctuated with emotional outbursts against Roman Catholicism. According to Newton, the original Christian religion was plain, but, he said, “men skilled in the learning of heathens, Cabbalists and Schoolmen corrupted it with metaphysics, straining the Scriptures from a moral to metaphysical sense and thereby making it unintelligible.”

Newton was a careful historian of the first centuries of the Church, and distinguished three principal agents in the propagation of the metaphysical evil – the Jewish Cabalists, the philosophers, among whom Plato and the Platonists were the worst offenders, and the Gnostics, of whom Simon Magus was the arch-culprit and ringleader (Frank E. Manuel, *The Religion of Isaac Newton*, p.66-69, quoted in Moore, p.522; see Acts 8 and Eusebius’ *Church History*).

UCLA Professor Richard Popkin notes that a little-known revolutionary innovation of Newton was to use astronomy to scientifically verify and validate the time-frame of Biblical events in history. He used astronomical discoveries and constructed a chronology of events based upon the positions of the stars described in Scripture and other ancient writings. He came to the conclusion that the Bible is the oldest historical document and is historically accurate. More accurate than Greek, Egyptian, or Babylonian histories. Newton proved Biblical history to be accurate, and claimed that this meant that God had presented His message from the very beginning of the world through the history of the Hebrews, and through their prophetic insights given to them (Moore, p.523, Popkins, *Essays on the Context, Nature and Influence of Newton's Theology*, p.111).

Popkins noted: “Newton did a great deal of original historical research to discern the events in world history which constituted the fulfillment of the prophecies. Some of his interpretations have been accepted by later Bible interpreters, especially among the fundamentalists. Newton studied the history of the Roman Empire, the European Middle Ages, and the rise of Islam in the Middle East in order to identify what actually happened in history with what was predicted in prophecy. . . . Newton broke new interpretative ground both in the application of modern scientific techniques to the understanding of the Bible and in the historical interpretation of prophecies” (Moore, pp.523-524, Popkins, p.114).

Newton's historical research in interpreting fulfilled prophecies was later taken over by many fundamentalists who regarded him as one of the very best in the field. He was in the forefront of critical scholarship of his time, applying modern science to understanding the Bible.

Isaac Newton believed that Christ dominates both Old and New Testaments; that all appearances of the LORD in the Old Testament are actually appearances of Christ; that it was Christ who walked in the Garden of Eden; it was Christ who gave Moses the Ten Commandments, who appeared to Abraham as an Angel, who fought with Jacob, and who gave the prophecies to the prophets.

Newton and the End of Days

Newton dedicated 50 years of his life to analyzing works of Bible prophecies. He deemed his religious discoveries too controversial for public release during his own lifetime. His theological studies remained a secret until recently, when scholars discovered them in the collection of the Jewish National Library in Jerusalem.

Newton was not trying to “set dates.” He declared in a manuscript which gives a timeline for the battle of Armageddon, “I mention this period not to assert it, but only to shew [show] that there is little reason to expect it earlier, and thereby put a stop to the rash of Interpreters who are frequently assigning the time of the end.”

The 1260 Years

Isaac Newton's manuscript describes the events of the End Times as the culmination of 1,260 years of apostasy – a total abandonment of faith and sound religious values. But, Newton wrote, those who “hold fast” to God's love and the pursuit of TRUTH are destined for salvation.

Those are the two great virtues that Newton revisits time and time again. By exercising the love of God and the pursuit of truth, any one of us can join the ranks of the elect. According to Isaac Newton, we can prepare ourselves for that fateful time and the worst horrors of Armageddon by exercising those two virtues every day of our lives.

To encourage the love of God, he recommended praying daily, reading selected Scriptures such as Matthew 5:3-11, giving generously to those in need, developing friendships with those of different faiths, and helping with children by volunteering at day care centers or church youth groups. To encourage the pursuit of truth, he recommended reading about every new scientific advance, testing everything with experiments at home, where possible, and asking questions of those in authority.

Newton declared, “Through the asking of such questions is one liberated from those who would hide behind deception, for the architects of such sundry falsehoods view the Question as a deadly foe and go to extremes to avoid the Honest Answer, even if that answer be that the answerer does not yet know the whole truth; for the wise man freely admits that the greatest mystery is that Ultimate Truth designed by the Great Architect of Creation in whose shadow we all stand.”

Isaac Newton was a very humble man, and avoided all argumentation and public dispute as unbecoming for a Christian. He said of himself, shortly before his death, “I do not know what I may appear to the world, but to myself I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the seashore, and diverting myself now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me” (Moore, p.518).

Daniel's Dates

Isaac Newton studied the three major prophetic time periods that Daniel speaks of – the 1260, 1290, and 1335 “days” (Dan.12:7, 11-12). Newton understood these referred to years. He understood that this was talking about the prophetic Biblical year of 360 days, the original year as it was in the days of Noah.

Newton determined the 1290 days (years) began 609 A.D. What occurred on that date to begin the countdown? The beginning of horrendous, massive apostasy! Write Will and Ariel Durant in their classic, *The Study of Civilization*, “In Rome, the Church, under Pope Boniface IV and his successors, instead of permitting the further disintegration of pagan temples, *reconsecrated them to Christian use and care: the*

Pantheon was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and All Martyrs (609), the temple of Janus became the church of St. Dionysius, the temple of Saturn became the church of the Saviour” (vol.iv, page 530).

The period of 1290 years ended in 1899 which was the institution of Zionism and the forming of the first International Zionism Conference in Switzerland for the purpose of helping the Jews to migrate back to their homeland in Israel. So it is a very significant date – the start of the Zionist movement. The 1335 day prophecy he said would end in 1944 A.D.. That is, 1290 [1899]+ 45 years = 1944.

If we add another 45 years to the date of 1899 A.D., we would come to the year 1944 which was toward the end of WWII, which set the stage for the Jews to have their own homeland. A Jewish state was approved in 1947 by the United Nations, and began in 1948. Newton knew Bible prophecy foretold a Jewish state in the Middle East at the “time of the end.” Thus this also was significant.

The third major time date Newton studied was the 1260 days (which equals a “time, times, and half a time” (Dan.12:7) or 3 ½ years of 360 days each. However, apparently Newton came up with the idea that one must start with king Charlemagne who was crowned by the Pope in 800 AD. By adding 1260 years to 800 AD it comes to 2060 AD.

However, is this date correct? Or did the counting begin at an earlier date?

1260 Years and Armageddon

What date did Newton arrive at for Armageddon? Newton’s year 2060 A.D. is the culmination of 1260 years of ongoing apostasy. This would have placed the beginning of the countdown in 800 A.D.

Newton’s major focus was *Christian apostasy* – and the apostasy of the Roman Catholic Church! Apparently Newton himself used the date 800 A.D. for the great apostasy – the date when Charlemagne was crowned king of the Holy Roman Empire by the Pope. 800 + 1260 years would take us to the date of 2060 A.D.

However, was this conclusion accurate? Let’s examine this matter carefully. The year 2060 seems too far off. Could Newton have made a mistake? Did he begin his countdown of apostasy in the wrong year? Let’s look at the evidence!

The Apostasy of the Papal Church

Halley’s Bible Handbook: New Revised Edition, points out in a section entitled “The Pope Becomes an Earthly King,” that Pope “Zacharias (741-752) was instrumental in making Pepin, father of Charlemagne, King of the Franks, a Germanic people occupying western Germany and northern France.

“Stephen II (752-757). At his request, Pepin led his army to Italy, conquered the Lombards, and gave their lands, a large part of central Italy, to the Pope” (page 771).

Halley goes on, “This was the beginning of the PAPAL STATES, or TEMPORAL DOMINION of the Popes. Civil control of Rome and central Italy, established by the Popes, thus established by Popes Zacharias and Stephen, and recognized by Pepin (754), was later confirmed by Charlemagne (774). Thus Central Italy, once the head of the Roman Empire, later a Gothic Kingdom ruled by the ‘Head’ of the Church. This TEMPORAL KINGDOM of the Church lasted 1100 years, till 1870, when, on the outbreak of the war between France and Germany, king Victor Immanuel of Italy took possession of Rome, and added the Papal States to the Kingdom of Italy” (p.772).

Pope Zacharias sought the protection of “Pepin the Short,” to protect Rome from the Lombards. In return for this aid, he helped him to be crowned the king of France. Pepin was the son of Charles Martel, who conquered the Muslims at Tours, in 732, preventing all Europe from falling to Islam. This was one of the most significant battles in all history, preserving “Christian Europe” from becoming the final outpost of Islam, thus preventing Islam’s conquest of the entire world.

Pepin was crowned, with the pope’s help, king of France. Says Philip Schaff, in *History of the Christian Church*, “This was the first step toward the creation of a Western [Roman] empire and a NEW political system of Europe with the POPE and the German emperor at the head” (vol. IV, “Mediaeval Christianity, p.233). He goes on, “The POPE claimed and exercised now for the first time the same power” which the servants of God in Israel had in anointing the kings of Israel.

Thus the woman began to ride the Beast, inaugurating the Roman Empire of the Middle Ages. The apostle John foresaw this woman – church – riding upon the back of the Beast in Revelation, chapter 17. An angel told him, “Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters . . . And I saw a WOMAN sitting on a scarlet BEAST, which was full of names of blasphemy. . . And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH” (Rev.17:1-5). This woman was “drunk with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus” (verse 6). The King James Version speaks of her as the “great whore” (verse 1).

This was a signal point in world history, and the apostasy of the Roman Church. Says Schaff, “To such a height of blasphemous assumption had the PAPACY risen already as to identify itself with the kingdom of Christ and to claim to be the dispenser of temporal prosperity and eternal salvation” (p.234).

In addition to this, however, note the following: Schaff declares, “Childeric III, the last of the hopelessly degenerate Merovingian line, was the mere shadow of a monarch, and forced to retire into a monastery. *Pepin, the ruler in fact, now assumed the name, was elected at Soissons (March, 752) by the acclamation and clash of arms of the*

people, AND ANOINTED, like the kings of Israel, by Boniface or some other bishop, and two years after by the pope himself, who had decided that the lawful possessor of the royal power may also lawfully assume the royal title. Since that time he called himself 'by the grace of God king of the Franks.' The pope conferred on him the title of 'Patrician of the Romans (Patricius Romanorum), which implies a sort of protectorate over the Roman church, and civil sovereignty over her territory. For the title 'Patrician,' which was introduced by Constantine the Great, signified the highest rank next to that of the emperor. . . . On the other hand, this elevation and coronation was made the basis of PAPAL SUPERIORITY over the crowns of France and Germany" (pp.233-234).

Note two things: 1) Pepin began his "legal" reign as king in 752 A.D. Was this the REAL "beginning" of the apostasy Newton was referring to?

Now, notice carefully! If we count 1260 years from 752 A.D., the actual year Pepin, Charlemagne's father Pepin was made King of the Franks by Pope Zacharias, then our calculations come to the year 2012!

$$752 \text{ A.D.} + 1260 \text{ years} = 2012 \text{ A.D.!!!}$$

Note that Pepin's elevation as "king" was based on the Pope's influence, power, and the "basis of papal superiority" – another way of saying, the WOMAN (the Catholic Church) at this juncture literally *BEGAN her ride upon the "back of the Beast"!*

The proper date to count from is 752 AD when Popes Zacharias and Stephen II allied themselves with Pepin, father of Charlemagne and hired him to invade Italy to establish the Papal TEMPORAL DOMINION in Rome. Now that was 752 and 754. If you count 1260 years from 752 you come to the year 2012 AD.

Counting from 754 AD you arrive at 2014. So the 1260 years, a day being fulfilled beginning with the Papal TEMPORAL DOMINION on earth in either 752 or 754 AD and add the 1260 years it brings you to 2012 or 2014 AD.

2012-2014 would be the end of the 1260 days rather than the 2060 A.D.!

That is only a few short years from now! But today, as God's Word foretold, we who are living at the End of Days are learning more and more as the prophecies are being fulfilled all around us!

This true understanding was "closed up and sealed till the time of the end" (Daniel 12:9). Newton had the right ideas – but his calculations were off because he didn't have the knowledge we have been privileged to possess!

The world is now trembling on the cusp of the final fateful week of cataclysm and catastrophe, preceding the second coming of Jesus Christ, Yeshua Ha'Moschiah – the Messiah Himself – who will finally deliver this world from its woes, anguish, suffering, and travail!

Americans Call on God to Forgive Nation

Christian and Jewish leaders are inviting Americans to join them at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., to pray and repent for how the nation has turned from God. “May Day: a Cry to God for Our Nation in Distress” will take place May 1 from sunrise to 2 p.m. at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Said Dr. James Dobson of “Focus on the Family,” “Our nation faces what is perhaps the most serious moral crisis since the civil war as we’ve turned our backs on God and have clearly displeased him.” Dr. Dobson added, “May Day 2010 is a time to come together and proclaim what God has done in the past, to pray for forgiveness and to plead for God’s mercy on all of us.”

The purpose of the gathering – repentance. Obedience to God brings blessings uncountable; but disobedience brings down horrendous curses (see Lev.26; Deut.28).

One of those blessings for obeying God is: “You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow.” That’s where America was in the not-so-distant past. But now, America is under a curse. We read in the book of Deuteronomy: “He (the alien) shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him . . . Moreover all these *curses* shall come upon you and pursue and overtake you, until you are destroyed, because you did not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you.”

Is our nation under a curse? Look at the U.S. debt clock. One at www.usdebtclock.org, puts our national debt at \$12 trillion and counting, and our nation’s total debt at more than \$54 trillion.

Writes Janet Porter for Worldnetdaily, “Don’t think we’re under a curse? We are just finding out what’s in that debt-raising ‘first stimulus’ bill, while Obama has announced that he’s going to try and ram through another along with the most lethal legislation this nation has ever seen: government health-care rationing – with taxpayer-funded killing of the elderly, disabled and those soon to be born.”

How can we as a people break the curse? God says: *“If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land”* (II Chronicles 7:14). “Turn to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning,” God says (Joel 2:12).

Will we turn to God before His wrath and fury are poured out on our nation? Will we heed God’s warning to repent of our sins? – or perish in the soon-coming maelstrom which will sweep over all nations like a whirlwind? Time will soon reveal the answer.

NEW and EXPANDED List of Articles and Booklets from Triumph Prophetic Ministries!

These articles are sent FREE as the Lord God provides. “Freely you have received, freely give” (Matt.10:8). God says, “Study to show yourselves approved to God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly Dividing the word of truth” (II Tim.2:15). *Please do not request more than 10 to 20 at a single time.*

Basic Doctrine

- ___ Who Is the Messiah? Incredible Proof Yeshua is who He said He was!
- ___ A New Look at the Historical Jesus
- ___ How LONG Was Jesus in the Grave? Exposing the Good Friday and Wednesday Crucifixion Theories!
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- ___ Which Is the True Biblical Calendar of God?
- ___ What Is the ‘New Moon’?”
- ___ What’s All the Furor over “Postponements”?”
- ___ When Does the Year Begin?
- ___ Can the Passover Occur Before Spring?
- ___ When Was Christ Born?
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- ___ Is Physical Circumcision Necessary to be Saved?
- ___ What Are the REAL Salvation Issues?
- ___ Bible Health LAWS – Are Unclean Meats Still Unclean?
- ___ The Keys to Robust Health
- ___ The Power of Prayer
- ___ The Bible – Science or Superstition?
- ___ Bible Criticism – Intellectual Idolatry?
- ___ How To Walk with God
- ___ What is the True Gospel?
- ___ What Is Real Repentance?
- ___ All About Water Baptism
- ___ The Truth about Laying on of Hands and Anointing
- ___ How Should God’s Ministers Be Ordained?
- ___ The Power of Faith and Prayer
- ___ A New Look at the “FRINGES” of the Law!
- ___ The Truth about “Holy Garments”
- ___ The Exodus – Myth or Reality?
- ___ Who Was the Pharaoh of the Exodus?
- ___ The Mystery of the Olive Tree
- ___ Once Saved Always Saved?
- ___ Life on Earth Before Adam?
- ___ James’ Ossuary Box – Incredible Proof of the Existence of Christ!
- ___ Should We Observe the New Moons!
- ___ Is Obedience to God Required for Salvation?
- ___ What Is the ‘Unpardonable Sin’?”
- ___ Why Did Jesus Curse the Fig Tree?
- ___ The Passion of the Christ
- ___ Is There LIFE After Death?

- __What's All This about the Resurrection?
- __The Spirit in Man Mystery
- __What's All This about the Place Called "Hell"?
- __Satan's Fate – Will the Devil be Tormented Forever?
- __Saul and the Witch of Endor
- __The Parable of the Ten Virgins
- __What Is a Genuine Christian?
- __The Mystery of the Book of Job
- __God's Laws about Divorce and Marriage
- __Is There Government I the Church of God
- __A New Look at Moses' Seat
- __The Plain Truth about Church Authority

The Holy Days of God

- __The Annual Holy Days Reveal the Awesome Plan of God
- __The Shocking Origin of Christmas!
- __A New Look at Easter
- __The Origin of Halloween
- __What Days Should We Observe?
- __Sabbath Versus Sunday – Does It Really Matter?
- __PASSOVER – Its Hidden Meanings and Mysteries
- __Yeshua's Last Week on Earth – a Day By Day Reconstruction
- __When Should the Passover be Observed?
- __What Do You Mean, "The Sixth Hour"? When Did Christ Appear Before Pilate?
- __The Mystery of "Between the Two Evenings"
- __Luke and the Passover Mystery
- __The Incredible Passover Plot!
- __What Is the "New Testament Passover"?
- __A New Look at the Passover!
- __Four Special Bible Correspondence Course Lessons on PASSOVER!
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- __Amazing New Revelation on the Feast of Trumpets
- __Fascinating New Understanding on the Feast of Tabernacles
- __Secrets of the Sukkah – New Insight on the Fall Festival
- __How to Build a Sukkah
- __A New Look at Yom Kippur and the Azazel Goat
- __Shemini Atzeret – a New Look at the "Eighth Day"
- __The Mystery of Hoshana Rabbah Revealed
- __What's All This about Tithing?
- __The Sacred Names of God
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- __The Birth, Ministry, Death, and Resurrection of Christ
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- __Is the Cross Christian?
- __What Was the Mark of Cain?

__Is the Star of David Pagan?

End-Time Apostasy

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 __ Where God's Church Went Wrong!
 __ Prophetic Errors of Herbert W. Armstrong
 __ Back to Babylon
 __ How Are the Mighty Fallen!
 __ Joseph Tkach – Apostle or Apostate?
 __ Joseph Tkach – Saint or Monster?
 __ Gerald Flurry and the Philadelphia Church of God
 __ The House of Yahweh Exposed
 __ Apostasy in the End of Days
 __ The Laodicean Church is Here, Now!
 __ Malachi's "Message" or "Madness"?
 __ Zechariah 11 and the End-Time Vultures

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 __ The Pre-Existence of Christ – Fact or Fable?
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 __ Noah's Universal Flood – a Warning to Our Generation?
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 __ Panorama of Prophecy
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 __ Will the Messiah Return in a "Jubilee Year"?
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 __ Babylon the Great and the New World Order
 __ Who Is the Antichrist and the BEAST of Revelation?
 __ "END OF DAYS" – *Incredible New Insight* on End-Time Prophecy
 __ Where Are the Seven Churches of Revelation?
 __ The Last Days: Daniel 7 and the New World Order
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Prophecy Briefs

The Truth about AIDS

"AIDS was originally labeled GRID5-Gay Related Immune Deficiency Syndrome-after health scientists noticed clusters of Kaposi's sarcoma and *Pneumocystis* pneumonia among gay men in San Francisco and New York City. "GRID5" was dropped in favor of 'AIDS' – 'Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome' – in 1982 because researchers were concerned about the accuracy of the disease's name. It was felt that since the disease is also spread by drug users and their intravenous injections, linking it to gays was not quite accurate. Yet the website for the Center for Disease Control states: 'Gay and bisexual men –referred to in CDC surveillance systems as men who have sex with men (MSM) – of all races continues to be the risk group most severely affected by HIV. Additionally, *this is the only risk group in the US. in which the annual number of new HIV infections is increasing.*'

"At present there are 33,000,000 people living with AIDS on the planet. Global spending on HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention in 2007 was just under \$10 billion, but more than six times the \$1.6 billion spent in 2001 (World Almanac and Book of Facts for 2009, p. 721). The human suffering and cost of treatment for a disease that is directly related to gay sex is staggering. In addition, fraud is inflating charges. "Miami- Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties contain only 10 percent of the nation's Medicaid beneficiaries with HIV/AIDS, we read in Newt Gingrich's book *Real Change* (p. 221) 'but they billed Medicaid for \$487 billion in the second half of 2006, compared to \$489 million in Medicaid billings for patients in the rest of the country.' Yet, we are regularly told that more money needs to be spent on AIDS/HIV research for a disease that is mostly limited to gays, thus siphoning off funds for research in diseases from which the majority of Americans suffer – heart problems, cancer, strokes, and so on.

"The Tragedy of Sanitizing Homosexual Behavior

"A variety of health problems, in addition to HIV; are caused by gay sex. There is "Gay Bowel Syndrome," including Amebiasis (a parasitic colon disease which causes dysentery and liver abscesses), Giardiasis (a parasite that causes diarrhea). and Shigellosis (another bowel disease). Gay sex is linked to Hepatitis A (a viral liver disease spread by fecal contamination), plus a variety of cancers linked to homosexual sex. It is no wonder that homosexual men account for over 50 percent of all hepatitis cases and account for over 50 percent of all AIDS cases despite the fact that they make up less than 4 percent of the population.

"Despite the concerted efforts of the liberals to mask the dangerous effects of the gay lifestyle, the fact remains that the average life expectancy of the homosexual male is only about 45 years-30 years less than that of a heterosexual male. A *Traditional Values Coalition* report warns: 'If your school has a pro-homosexual group on campus, work with other parents to get it banned as a public health hazard. Homosexual sex equals death from HIV infection. Children should not be exposed to a sexual behavior that can kill them.'

"In view of the dangers associated with gay sex, the CDC gives several recommendations: abstain from homosexual relations, get involved in a committed homosexual relationship, or practice 'safe sex,' i.e., with a condom.

"Number one is best, with assured results. Number two is risky. While there are some homosexuals who are "monogamous" and faithful to one relationship, the majority are not, sometimes having hundreds of partners.

"Number three is deadly. Various devices provide questionable protection. Homosexuals

engage in a number of acts involving the mouth and other parts of the body which are exposed to bodily secretions and fecal material. Protection is impossible.

Concealing the Real Danger

“The health dangers posed by the gay lifestyle are often concealed by the romanticized depictions presented on TV and in the movies. Two men are presented on the screen as lovingly gazing into each other's eyes. Two women are presented giving a loving embrace. The general public is left with the thought that ‘these people love each other.’

“This epidemic is not going to be stopped, or even slowed down, by such a sanitized view of homosexual behavior. This is behavior that has far-reaching health risks for the entire society. Passing hate crimes legislation and destigmatizing the gay lifestyle will only encourage homosexuals to engage in anonymous sex with multiple partners.

Wisdom from the Bible

“The Old Testament Scripture is replete with laws of cleanliness and hygiene. Writing by divine inspiration Moses wrote, ‘And every open vessel, which hath no covering bound upon it, is unclean’ (Numb.19:15). No one is quite sure what caused Louis Pasteur to put a cheesecloth on one vessel and not another, but it was a good idea. His experiments lead to the abandonment of the ‘spontaneous generation’ idea of germ theory. Moses had a knowledge of this almost 3,500 years ago.

“There are many other examples of the medical validity of God’s instructions: the quarantine of lepers (Lev.13:44-46), circumcision on the eighth day – the day when the clotting factor is the highest (Gen.17:12); and the proper disposal of human waste (Deut.23:12-14) all helped the Hebrews of old avoid the disease and contagion that decimated the surrounding nations with death. Heeding the words of Leviticus 18:22- ‘Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is an abomination’ – can save us billions of dollars in health care.

“Rather than regarding the Bible’s warnings about the homosexual lifestyle as the hatemonger’s marching orders, those who are really interested in health care must realize that

the prohibition of homosexual behavior is for the good of people and nations. Left-leaning social engineers have their minds already made up about decency and morality. They don’t want to even consider the truth. The tragedy of this is that we ALL have to pay for their stubbornness. The price will be high: disease and sickness and the siphoning off of funds for medical research for the common ills of society.

“How will all of this research that will allow homosexuals to sin with impunity be founded? By withholding care from the elderly and those with disabilities. Indeed, homosexual sin is driving our society into oblivion” (“The Health Care Crisis About Which Few Speak,” Larry Spargimino, *Prophetic Observer*, January 2010).

The Real Reason for the Total Annihilation of Sodom?

“According to Genesis 18:32, if there had been just ten straights (non-homosexuals) in Sodom, God would not have destroyed it. Sodom and Gomorrah were the chief Canaanite cities at the time, and archaeologists have found that in analyzing the bones of the ancient Canaanite people that many were infected with venereal diseases common today. Inasmuch as AIDS is a common and deadly disease of homosexuals today, there is reason to believe it could have, and probably did, infect the population of these two cities that had to be destroyed, or the entire human race would have been in danger of extinction. AIDS was originally medically identified as GRID (Gay Related Immune Deficiency).

“On June 1, 2009, President Barack Obama issued a presidential proclamation declaring June to be GLBT (homosexual) month. In this proclamation he said his administration had ‘partnered’ with homo-sexuals. He praised homosexuals 17 times in this proclamation and stated he intended to appoint many to high positions in his administration, which he has done. It would probably take this entire page to name them all. According to the July 26, 2009, edition of the *Washington Post*, some churches in the Washington, D.C., area cannot find any members below the age of 30 who do not have AIDS or HIV. I turned my TV on in my room in the Olive Tree Hotel in Jerusalem and a black medical representative was addressing the AIDS problem in Africa on the subject

.'The Late Black Race.' AIDS is increasing percentage-wise among blacks five times greater than among whites. Our president's endorsement of homosexuals will spread AIDS faster among all races. The Bible warns (Rom. 1; 2 Pet. 3; Jude) any nations that follow Sodom's example has signed its own death warrant" ("Signs of the Times," by Noah Hutchings, January 2010).

Dr. Rick Warren Says Sexual Choice Is a Gift from God

"Due to the ravages of AIDS within the nation of Africa and males raping young girls thinking sex with a virgin will get rid of their disease, Uganda recently passed laws making it a death penalty offense to rape young girls (or boys) or knowingly infecting others with AIDS.

"Homosexual groups asked Dr. Warren to protest this law in Uganda, which he did, and stated: 'The freedom to make moral choices and our right to free expression are gifts endowed by God.' In other words, Dr. Warren thinks homosexual sex is a gift from God. Six Uganda church organizations angrily demanded that Dr. Warren apologize. *What unbelievable blasphemy when the so-called 'America's pastor' endorses sodomy as a gift from God. I would think any real Christians left in Purpose Driven churches would be hunting for the nearest exit*" (*ibid.*).

Ann Wortham Speaks Out

Ann Wortham is a member of the American Sociological Association and the American Philosophical Association.

She has been a John M. Olin Foundation Faculty Fellow, and honored as a Distinguished Alumni of the Year by the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education.

In fall 1988 she was one of a select group of intellectuals who were featured in Bill Moyers' television series, 'A World of Ideas.' The transcript of her conversation with Moyers has been published in his book, *A World of Ideas*.

Dr. Wortham is author of "The Other Side of Racism: A Philosophical Study of Black Race Consciousness" which analyzes how race consciousness is transformed into political strategies and policy issues.

She has published numerous articles on the implications of individual rights for civil rights policy, and is currently writing a book on theories of social and cultural marginality.

Recently, she has published articles on the significance of multiculturalism and Afrocentricism in education, the politics of victimization and the social and political impact of political correctness. Shortly after an interview in 2004, she was awarded tenure.

The following article by her is something else. She wrote:

"Fellow Americans,

"Please know: I am Black; I grew up in the segregated South. I did not vote for Barack Obama; I wrote in Ron Paul's name as my choice for president. Most importantly, I am not race conscious. I do not require a Black president to know that I am a person of worth, and that life is worth living. I do not require a Black president to love the ideal of America .

"I cannot join you in your celebration. I feel no elation. There is no smile on my face. I am not jumping with joy. There are no tears of triumph in my eyes. For such emotions and behavior to come from me, I would have to deny all that I know about the requirements of human flourishing and survival - all that I know about the history of the United States of America , all that I know about American race relations, and all that I know about Barack Obama as a politician. I would have to deny the nature of the 'change' that Obama asserts has come to America.

"Most importantly, I would have to abnegate my certain understanding that you have chosen to sprint down the road to serfdom that we have been on for over a century. I would have to pretend that individual liberty has no value for the success of a human life. I would have to evade your rejection of the slender reed of capitalism on which your success and mine depend. I would have to think it somehow rational that 94 percent of the 12 million Blacks in this country voted for a man because he looks like them (that Blacks are permitted to play the race card), and that they were joined by self-declared "progressive" whites who voted for him because he doesn't look like them.

"I would have to wipe my mind clean of all that

I know about the kind of people who have advised and taught Barack Obama and will fill posts in his administration - political intellectuals like my former colleagues at the Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

"I would have to believe that "fairness" is equivalent of justice. I would have to believe that a man who asks me to "go forward in a new spirit of service, in a new service of sacrifice" is speaking in my interest.. I would have to accept the premise of a man that economic prosperity comes from the 'bottom up,' and who arrogantly believes that he can will it into existence by the use of government force. I would have to admire a man who thinks the standard of living of the masses can be improved by destroying the most productive and the generators of wealth.

"Finally, Americans, I would have to erase from my consciousness the scene of 125,000 screaming, crying, cheering people in Grant Park, Chicago irrationally chanting "Yes We Can!" Finally, I would have to wipe all memory of all the times I have heard politicians, pundits, journalists, editorialists, bloggers and intellectuals declare that capitalism is dead - and no one, including especially Alan Greenspan, objected to their assumption that the particular version of the anti-capitalistic mentality that they want to replace with their own version of anti-capitalism is anything remotely equivalent to capitalism.

"So you have made history, Americans. You and your children have elected a Black man to the office of the president of the United States , the wounded giant of the world. The battle between John Wayne and Jane Fonda is over - and that Fonda won. Eugene McCarthy and George McGovern must be very happy men. Jimmie Carter, too. And the Kennedys have at last gotten their Kennedy look-a-like. The self-righteous welfare statist in the suburbs can feel warm moments of satisfaction for having elected a Black person.

"So, toast yourselves: 60s countercultural radicals, 80s yuppies and 90s bourgeois bohemians. Toast yourselves, BlackAmerica. Shout your glee Harvard, Princeton , Yale, Duke, Stanford, and Berkeley. You have elected not an individual who is qualified to be president, but a Black man who, like the

pragmatist Franklin Roosevelt, promises to - Do Something! You now have someone who has picked up the baton of Lyndon Johnson's Great Society. But you have also foolishly traded your freedom and mine - what little there is left - for the chance to feel good.

"There is nothing in me that can share your happy obliviousness. God Help Us all..."

The Obama Mysteries

The President of the United States is the most secretive, private person in modern history.

1. Occidental College records – not released
- 2.. Columbia College records -- not released
3. Columbia Thesis paper -- "not available"
4. Harvard College records – not released
5. Selective Service Registration – “not available”
6. Medical records – not released
7. Illinois State Senate schedule – not available
8. His Illinois State Senate records – not available
9. Law Practice client list – not released
10. Certified Copy of original Birth certificate – not released
11. Embossed signed paper Certification of Live Birth – not released
12. Record of baptism – not available
13. Why his wife, Michelle, can no longer practice law as an attorney? Insurance Fraud?
14. Why she has 22 assistants when other First Ladies had one?
15. Why he was getting “foreign student aid” as a college student?

Truly our President is a “man of mystery.”

Prince of Darkness

"Who is this strange man known as Barack Obama, who now occupies the White House in our nation's capital? As time goes on, more and more is being learned about this strange man. Research indicates that he was born in Kogelo, Kenya. Shortly before he was born, his mother wanted to leave Kenya because she disapproved of the way Muslims treat women. Since she was ready to give birth, the airline reportedly refused to ticket her according to travel restrictions. Within four days after his birth, Obama's mother went to Hawaii and registered his birth at two different Hawaiian hospitals. The spiritual

implications of Obama's birth are amazing when we realize that Obama's true birthplace, Kogelo, Kenya, is near the shores of Lake Victoria in Africa. Lake Victoria is the birthplace and headwaters of the Nile River, or River of Egypt. The White Nile is the only river flowing out of Lake Victoria. Is there a spirit of Egypt in the White House? Are we even now under the rule of a cruel Pharaoh and his socialist policies? Remember, this is spiritual not geographical. Consider the words of Isaiah 19:3-4 as follows: "And the spirit of Egypt shall fail in the midst thereof; and I will destroy the counsel thereof: and they shall seek to the idols, and to the charmers, and to them that have familiar spirits, and to the wizards. And the Egyptians will I give over into the hand of a cruel lord; and a fierce king shall rule over them, saith the Lord, the Lord of hosts." If a people elect or even allow a king of the Nile to become President, are those people not spiritual Egyptians? Many are the prophecies that are being fulfilled!

"Barack Obama is a man of great arrogance and pride. When he visited Red China, he exclusively was accompanied by a motorcade of seventy-one cars. Now, Obama is also officially known worldwide as a "man of peace" as he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Just prior to claiming his prize, he took steps to greatly escalate the war in Afghanistan. It is also interesting to note that just as Obama was about to arrive in Norway to claim his "peace prize," a strange light, which has not yet been explained, appeared in the sky. Some would have us to believe it was a sub launched Russian missile that failed. Norwegians watched in amazement on December 9th as a strange blue spiral of light swirled in the sky with a perfect symmetry. It was like a spiral mobius coil or swirling vortex of light. The light changed in size as it swirled and extended a ray or beam of itself to the ground and later disappeared. I have no doubt that this was another sign in the heavens and an indicator of Almighty God's disapproval of the dark prince arriving in Norway to be presented to the world as a man of peace.

"When Barack Obama went to Norway to receive his peace prize, he left behind some very incensed and angry Norwegians. He refused to have dinner with the Norwegian Nobel Committee. He turned down a press conference, a television interview, an appearance at a children's event promoting peace, and a music

concert. He also turned down a visit to an exhibition in his honor at the Nobel Peace Centre. In addition to that, Obama refused a personal invitation from King Harald of Norway to have lunch with him. It was one arrogant insult after another.

"It is becoming increasingly obvious that Obama is a man of double-talk. On December 7th, 2009, he held a workshop on government openness that was closed to the public. This is the man that is now pushing like mad to get the Health Care Bill finalized. In last month's issue of this newsletter, I reported about the Health Care Bill being railroaded through the House of Representatives. Subsequently, it was also passed by the U.S. Senate. The Senate version was lugged in before the vote and placed on a desk. It consisted of 2,074 pages, and weighed 20.5 pounds. The bill contains the word 'tax' 511 times and includes 18 tax hikes. The oppressive bill uses the word 'require' more than 1,000 times and the word 'shall' more than 3,500 times. It also talks about 'required studies' 150 times. Also, buried deep within the pages in a 'non-discussed' section of this infernal Health Care Bill, in subtitle C-11, section 2521, is the provision regarding implantable radio frequency identification devices.

"Unfortunately, the Health Care Bill passed in the Senate by a vote of 60-39. The House and Senate versions are now being fine tuned for final approval and the signature of Barack Obama. Here let it be noted that one of the major points of contention in the final debating is the provision for total abortion coverage. Some senators made speeches opposing such free and open abortion coverage, but Senator Barbara Boxer made a combative speech in which she compared depriving women of abortion to restricting men's access to Viagra.

"There is no doubt that Obama will sign this communistic Health Care Bill because Obama is clearly a Communist. He is black and white and red all over. When Barack Obama visited Red China recently, the event was commemorated by Red Chinese people wearing T-shirts with a picture of Obama wearing the uniform of the Red Army with the words "Oba-Mao" underneath. The inference was that Obama and the late Chairman Mao were one. The Red Chinese Government banned the shirts eventually because they said they did not like

Obama wearing their uniform” (*Last Trumpet Newsletter*, January 2010).

Global Warming Hoax

“. . . 15,000 delegates from 192 countries . . . convened in Copenhagen, Denmark, for the world Climate Summit. They are supposedly gathering to sign a document that will cut back on carbon emissions and stop global warming. The delegates themselves during this gathering will be spewing approximately 40,000 tons of carbon into the atmosphere. These so-called "save the earth delegates" are utilizing 1,242 limousines and 140 private airplanes. The hypocrisy is incredible, and even the prostitutes are doing their part. Copenhagen has 1,400 professional prostitutes that are unionized. When some council leaders encouraged the many delegates to not buy sex, the prostitutes' union became so enraged that they offered free sexual intercourse to anyone having a delegate's card.

“We know that the entire global warming premise is false and is nothing more than a gimmick to provide an excuse for unity of the nations in a new world order. On December 3rd, 2009, the Washington Times reported that according to a top researcher, NASA is hiding climate data. Chris Horner, a senior fellow at the Competitive Enterprise Institute, issued a statement as follows: ‘NASA has refused for two years to provide information under the Freedom of Information Act that would show how the agency has shaped its climate data and would explain why the agency has repeatedly had to correct its data going as far back as the 1930's. I assume that what is there is highly damaging....’

“There is now so much evidence that there is no global warming. In fact, the hottest year on record was 1934, which was seventy-five years ago. Ignoring all of the facts, the United Nations panel of retained Illuminati scientists, armed with false data and assumptions, are declaring that the Copenhagen Summit is our last hope. They have stated, ‘The clock has ticked down to zero.’ At the time of this writing, Barack Obama is in Copenhagen, and he is ready to sign the document that will require the United States to drastically reduce carbon emissions and raise the cost of energy astronomically. This act is designed to further sabotage the American economy and to enroll us as an enslaved unit of

the new world empire of antichrist!” (*Last Trumpet Newsletter*, January 2010).

That Great Sucking Sound

“A study of history reveals that empires and kingdoms fell hard and were destroyed because of two primary conditions: extreme debt and excessive spending. This is the very policy of the Obama Administration. There is a reason why it takes 1,200 of our paper dollars to buy one ounce of gold, when only a few short years ago it took 320 of those same paper bills to do the same thing. The dollar is getting continually weaker, and it has now hit a 14-year low against the Japanese yen. On November 25th, 2009, the Wall Street Journal reported that lending by American banks has fallen to its lowest point since the government began tracking such data. On December 5th, 2009, the FDIC shut down six more banks, which brings the total number of bank failures to 130 so far this year. Banking, as we once knew it, will soon be a thing of the past. I recently received a notice from a bank that I sometimes use, and it reads as follows: ‘The Federal Reserve Bank plans to transition to a single paper-check-processing site by the first quarter of 2010. This is being done in response to the continued nation-wide decline in check usage, as well as the rapidly increasing use of electronic check-clearing methods. When the consolidation is completed, there will no longer be any checks that would be considered non-local,’ according to the Federal Reserve.’

“As if there wasn't enough financial trouble in the world, the Arab city-state of Dubai announced that they were defaulting on their eighty billion dollar debt. This sent shock waves throughout the financial markets of the world. On November 26th, 2009, Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed al-Maktoum, the chairman of the Supreme Fiscal Committee, revealed that the huge default was planned in advance with full knowledge of what it would do to the world financial situation. On November 29th, 2009, it was revealed that the restructuring of Dubai would be under the Rothschild's Advisory Operations in the Middle East. We must remember that the Rothschild family originated and started the Illuminati in 1776. Even though they are seldom heard of today, they are still running the conspiracy, which is why you don't hear about them. They do, however, make rare appearances.

“The economy of the United States is now being sabotaged on a grand scale and at a great rate of speed. In the months of October and November 2009, the Federal Government already spent 292 billion dollars more than it took in. With a national debt of approximately 13 trillion dollars and a massive health care plan that will cost trillions more, also the ongoing wars, we are now seeing the demise of our American economy. What solution has Barack Obama come up with to solve this problem? On December 8th, 2009, Barack Obama gave a speech at a high-level Illuminati school known as the Brookings Institution. This the place where people in high places go to get their minds acclimated to satanic policy. During the speech, Obama said the following: ‘We must spend our way out of this recession.’ The insanity of this statement should be obvious. When you have massive debt, you don’t get out of it by making more of it. When I studied economics in technical college, we learned that when you increase the money supply from thin air, you weaken the value of the existing money. Then inflation sets in because the existing goods and services act like a dry sponge and quickly absorb the increased supply of credits and currency. The hole gets deeper and deeper until complete collapse occurs!

“We are a debtor nation that does not function in the positive with real money. We function in the negative with credit. Everyone strives to have a good credit score so they can become indebted easily. If our economy functioned in the positive, credit scores would be meaningless. We are a nation that has functioned, or should I say malfunctioned, on credit for many years. We followed our government’s lead, and as a result we are seeing the countless millions of people on the street with little hope for a job. Businesses continue to cut back, banks have become tight-fisted, and foreclosed houses sit empty while people live in tents and cars. It is a system that does not and cannot work. It is so bad that on November 29th, 2009, United Press International reported that there are now 20,000 new applications for food stamps every day!” (*ibid.*).

Coming Soon – the Mark of the Beast?

“In the late first century the Apostle John penned the Revelation of Jesus Christ. In his report he spoke of a “mark” that would identify

those who followed him and in so doing reject the Lord. This mark is to control every facet of the economics of the world. No man will be able to buy or sell without this mark. In verse 18 of chapter 13 we read these words, ‘Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.’ The mark is to be applied either in the right hand or fore-head. For over 1,900 years man has been perplexed by a method to implement this plan.

“The first person in the Bible to receive a mark was Cain. We don’t know for sure what that mark was, except that it was visible to anyone finding him (Gen.4:15). However that was God’s mark, not the mark caused by the Antichrist. So, what is this mark and how will it be applied, and is there provision being made to make this possible and universal?

“There are those that envisioned some sort of tattoo or chip inserted under the skin on the hand or forehead. One company manufactured an implantable chip the size of a grain of rice injected with needle. It was first used for pets that were stolen or lost. Then suggested for humans with their medical and financial information for identification. These seemed a little far-fetched for the non-conspiracy type. However, throw out all of those doubts and take a look at the following.

“In January 2007 we reported about the SOMARK Innovations, Inc., a company in St. Louis, Missouri, that had invented an invisible tattoo. This tattoo is a ‘biocompatible chipless RFID ink.’ It was to replace ear tags and painful branding and at the same time make it easier to locate stolen or diseased animals. In an article dated January 2007 at somarkinnovations.com says, ‘it contains no metals and can be read up to about four feet away....’ And, yes, the article does mention RFID tattoos are possible for people, specifically the military. We don’t know if this was ever used on humans, but We must assume that is was. However, there was no impetus or driving force to cause this or any other RFID identification to be widely used until now.

“The first House version of the National Health Care Bill, H.R. 3200, was revealed on July 14, 2009. On page 1001, subtitle C, ‘National Medical Device Registry,’ reveals the impetus

for a possible way to fulfill Revelation 13 with a 'mark' or way of identification for those who have agreed to be part of a national registry system. Those who refuse to accept this device will be punished by fines, special taxes, or exclusion from the health care system. On page 1001 under '(b) EFFECTIVE DATE – The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall begin awarding grants under section 300Z-1 of the Public Health Service Act, as added by subsection (b) not later than July 1, 2010, without regard to whether or not final regulations have been issued under section 399Z-1 (h) of such Act.' Their intent is to follow through with this plan whether it is in the final version of the bill or not. H.R. 3962, the final version of the 'Affordable Health Care for America Act,' commonly known as National Health Care or ObamaCare, the impetus remains. In a detailed summary of 'The Affordable Health Care for America Act,' the words remain about the same, 'National medical device registry. Establishes a national directory for class III, medical devices and class II devices that are permanently implantable, life-supporting, or life-sustaining.' Is this device now available?

"An article dated 'September 2, 2003, and headlined, 'Hitachi Develops a New RFID with Embedded Antenna m-Chip,' reads, 'One of the world's smallest RFID ICs measuring only 0.4mm X .04mm, an external antenna must be attached to the chip to allow external devices to read the 128-bit ID number stored on its ROM' (hitachi.com/New/news/030902.html). This chip is the size of a small flake of pepper and makes a grain of rice look like a football. It could easily be implanted in an injection :without our knowledge – say through a nationally mandated H1N1 vaccine" ("National Health Care Crisis and the Antichrist,' by Bob Glaze, *Prophetic Observer*, January 2010).

Sun May Soon Send Magnetic Storms to Earth

"BOULDER, Colo.—The sun may finally be awakening from its longest quiet period in about a century and powering up to solar maximum, when it could fling disruptive electromagnetic storms toward Earth.

But once the sun does ramp up, it could be a relatively quiet solar maximum, with a below-average number of eruptions, scientists say.

"Some researchers argue the sun has begun to enter solar maximum; others say it's not there yet. They do agree the current quiet period, or solar minimum, is the longest since the early 1900s, but they don't know why.

" 'For the average person or for a technological society like ours, a hundred years is a pretty long time,' said Dan Baker, director of the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics at the University of Colorado.

"A solar cycle usually lasts about 11 years, measured from one low point to the next. The most recent started about 13 years ago, in 1996.

"Scientists won't declare the quiet period over until after a sustained stretch of activity, generally about three months, said Frank Eparvier, a scientist at the space physics lab.

" 'We've increased a little bit and had some strong active regions,' Eparvier said, but it hasn't been long enough to say solar maximum has begun.

"The sun goes through fairly regular cycles of more and fewer eruptions, averaging as many as 180 per day during solar maximum and dipping as low as zero per day during solar minimum.

The magnetic fields that cause the eruptions are themselves influenced by a mix of internal solar motions, including rotation, shears, turbulence and global circulation similar to Earth's ocean currents.

"Sarah Gibson, a scientist with the High Altitude Observatory at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, calls it 'a delicate mix of ordered and chaotic processes.'

"The consensus prediction for the next solar maximum is a small one, averaging about 90 or fewer sunspots a day in 2013, Eparvier said.

"A panel of scientists convened by NASA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the International Space Environment Service reviewed more than 100 published

forecasts and eventually coalesced around the small-maximum prediction.

“Solar eruptions can send billions of tons of magnetically charged particles into space at high speed. If those particle clouds, called plasma, collide with the Earth's magnetic field, they can create dramatic effects ranging from a beautiful aurora borealis to a devastating electrical blackout.

“The sun's volatile magnetic fields can become so severely twisted that they snap and then reconnect, producing a flash called a solar flare and a plasma eruption, Gibson said. If the plasma's magnetic field collides with the Earth's own magnetic field, they connect with another powerful snap.

“That can add electrical current on power lines, overtax transformers and set off a rapid collapse of parts of the power grid. It can disrupt radio signals, cause Global Positioning System devices to be off by the distance of a football field and cut off communication between ground controllers and jetliners flying over polar regions. That forces airlines to send planes on longer routes that take more time and burn more fuel.

“United Airlines diverted 26 flights from their normal polar routes in January 2005 to avoid communications blackouts during solar storms.

“In March 1989, a geomagnetic storm triggered the collapse of a power grid in Quebec, leaving an estimated 6 million people without electricity for nine hours. And in 2006, a burst of solar radiation disoriented virtually all GPS receivers on the lighted half of the Earth, the National Weather Service said.

“Baker said radiation from solar flares could be harmful to space travelers and even airline crews who are repeatedly exposed to it on flights over the Earth's poles.

“Solar plasma can also physically compress the Earth's magnetic field so much that it's smaller than the orbit of some satellites. Without that magnetic field to orient themselves, those satellites can have trouble communicating with ground stations. Baker estimated that \$200

billion worth of satellites are in orbits that leave them vulnerable to such disruptions.

“Some satellites are more vulnerable to radiation damage than previous models. During the Cold War, many satellites were ‘hardened’ against enemy radiation attacks, but when that threat passed, designers took fewer protective measures” Sam Elliott, Associated Press, *U.S. News and World Report*, Jan.11, 2010).

Obama Honors Blasphemer

“A man honored by President Obama as a ‘civil rights pioneer’ has told a Christian ministry leader the God of the Bible is a ‘sinful, homophobic bigot’ who needs to repent and ‘seek forgiveness for the pain and suffering which his sinful homophobia has needlessly inflicted upon gay people for the past 4,000 years.’

“The comments come from Frank Kameny, a longtime activist for homosexual ‘rights,’ who once famously said bestiality is all right ‘as long as the animal doesn’t mind (and the animal rarely does).’

“According to Peter LaBarbera, president of the nonprofit Americans for Truth, Kameny sent an e-mail to his Christian organization a few weeks ago. Kameny, who was dismissed from his federal job as an astronomer in the 1950s because of his homosexuality, told LaBarbera, ‘You have the whole issue of sin, vis a vis homosexuality, “on the wrong foot.” It is your homophobic God of Leviticus (and of the Bible as a whole) himself (herself? itself? themselves?) who is the sinner because of that homophobia.’

“ ‘Bigotry is sinful, whether it be racism, anti-Semitism, or homophobia,’ Kameny wrote. ‘Your God of Leviticus (and of the whole Bible) is clearly a sinful homophobic bigot. He should repent of his sinful homophobia. He should atone for that sin, And he should seek forgiveness for the pain and suffering which his sinful homophobia has needlessly inflicted upon gay people for the past 4,000 years,’ he continued.

“Kameny, an octogenarian, was honored June 29 when Obama talked about the homosexual ‘rights’ movement down through the years.

“ ‘That’s the story of a civil rights pioneer who’s here today, Frank Kameny, who was fired ... from his job as an astronomer for the federal government simply because he was gay,’ Obama said. ‘And in 1965, he led a protest outside the White House, which was at the time both an act of conscience but also an act of extraordinary courage. And so we are proud of you Frank, and we are grateful to you for your leadership.’

“Hear Obama’s praise of Kameny: LaBarbera commented: ‘Of course Frank Kameny’s outrageous statements about God are completely backwards: it is Frank who is the stubborn sinner who needs to repent. Thankfully, it is never too late for sinners to turn away from their sins and humbly accept God’s forgiveness through Jesus Christ.

“ ‘However, in one sense at least Kameny is forthright about how his homosexuality-celebrating ideology stands diametrically opposed to God’s plan for mankind, as revealed in the Bible. Unfortunately for Frank, he has no authority to judge sin and morality; that is the province of Almighty God alone,’ he said.

Kameny’s statement, delivered Oct. 13, continued, ‘It is not homosexuality which is always wrong, immoral, and sinful. It is homophobia, including the homophobia of your god himself which is wrong, immoral, and sinful. And so your god is a sinner, on this account (I deal with no other issue here).’

“Kameny also, on June 17, received from Obama the official White House pen the president used to sign his executive order delivering to some federal employees domestic partner benefits.

Kameny, who coined the ‘gay is good’ slogan, also was honored last year by John Berry, Obama’s homosexual director in the Office of Personnel Management. At that time, Kameny was given the Theodore Roosevelt Award ‘for more than a half-century of leadership in the struggle for civil rights.’

“Berry also gave Kameny a formal government apology for his firing.

“ ‘Folks, there’s no shortage of sinful pride and presumption among “gay” activists and their allies, that’s for sure,’ the Americans for Truth website said. ‘How appropriate is this coming from the hero of a movement that

redefines changeable sexual sin as a “civil right”?’

“LaBarbera previously documented when Kameny called believers ‘Christianofascists’” (WorldNetDaily Bob Unruh, 2010).

Strategic Grain Reserves – Sold Out?

“I received a disturbing email yesterday regarding massive amounts of grain shipping out of the U.S. to foreign countries. Granaries that long stood idle are going full-bore. Miles and miles of rail cars are filled and ready to transport our wheat, oats and corn reserves for shipment out of country. . . .

“We worry for our country during the next big disaster, whatever the cause. People who rely on their neighborhood grocery to fill needs at a moment’s notice will freak when stores are empty. They’ll realize they should have prepared long ago.

P Is for Panic

“Did you see how a bad snowstorm initiates panic buying? It’s the same tired lesson in every disaster; people still are ‘last minute Charlies’. This same scenario witnessed in Kansas, Missouri and the UK must have repeated over and over in our countries during the last two weeks.

“People in Venezuela picked shelves clean of food and durable goods in the last two days after Chavez sliced their currency in *half*. Chavez called in the National Guard to monitor grocery stores; they are ready for riots. Wouldn’t that look bizarre seeing armed soldiers when you buy a gallon of milk?

P Is for Practice

“What raised my alarm bells last week was a little covered story about a test of the National Emergency System. It was conducted in Alaska on Jan. 6 for a full 3 minutes. When has there EVER been a test for a *nationwide* emergency, one that can only be activated by the President? Never. Not ever. This was a first.

“Doesn’t that tell you something?

“After posting that news item I expected a flood

of email expressing concern, posing questions, reporting other weird events. There was dead silence on this issue.

“What will be the norm when the US dollar dissolves or is massively devalued or Wall Street crashes again or the rumored bank holiday comes to fruition or a disaster shuts your grocery or truckers no longer run? Friends, unpleasant as it is, you've got to consider these possibilities.

“You have food at the store for 3 days in good times. Panic cuts down food-on-shelves to hours, not days.

“It again demonstrates that people wait to the last minute to get their prep act together.

“For those relying primarily on precious metal stashes, gold and silver reserves won't solve the problem. Those who have understanding know that cash will not be king much longer – that metals are better than dollars. However, when things really hit the fan, people will hold onto their food reserves and other tangible necessities, and precious metals won't buy anything.

Turning Points

“Gold looks great in your Rolex and it fills tooth cavities, but you can't eat metal. As it says in scripture, your gold and silver will be as 'rust' (James 5:3). Bullion is a good hedge against inflation and a cratering market, but it won't keep your stomach full, it won't keep you warm and it's no substitute for medical supplies. The actual goods you have stored is what will help you through tough times.

“Even as a kid I always wanted to know how things worked, to learn how to do stuff, to be independent and not put my fate in the hands of others. It was better not to bug someone else to stop whatever task they were doing and lend a hand. These feelings have only multiplied over the years. Ignorance breeds vulnerability.

“Watergate was the turning point when I realized you can't trust politicians. Looking back at that whole debacle, it seems tame compared to what we witness on The Hill today. Integrity is gone. Politicians are self-serving, not serving their constituents. When skewered for explanations, adamant denial is the response. No one is *ever* guilty and if they're caught in the act without recourse, off they go to rehab. They are addicted

to dope, booze, sex, porn and most of all, power. Lies are all we hear. If we are told long enough that a purple vase is green, we start to wonder if we need glasses.

“For fact, we are running on borrowed time. Government today is not what our founders envisioned. Selling out our grain reserves after a lousy, no, "worst-on-record harvest" for many farmers is unforgivable. It gambles our future in a rigged game.

P Is for Planting

“As we look around and see many Americans so ill-prepared, so oblivious to what's going on in our beautiful Nation, our hearts sink. They won't be ready to fend for themselves. Many will feel defeated from the get-go and won't even try. Find your backbone and get busy! It is not too late, not yet.

“Over the last several years, Stan and I have talked casually with neighbors about preparing, planted the seed. We've given them copies of Dare To Prepare so they, too, can be ready. It's a tiny investment for peace of mind. In the long run you'll have helped yourself in addition to your friends, because they won't be banging on your door for food and medicine.

“For neighbors who haven't prepared, you will have to make a painful decision on who you can afford to help and those you will turn away. You can't feed everybody... It's about to get ugly” (Holly Deyo, *Millennium Ark*).

The Beast of the Potomac!

“Since the election of Barack Hussein Obama to the office of President of the United States, we have been watching a strange, clandestine, and grotesque power rising in Washington, D.C. It is quite obvious that something is very wrong. Because of my background in the occult before my conversion, I cannot help but to be acutely aware of occultism in our government and religions. In the world of the occult, the number thirteen is vitally important. It is the number of witches in a coven, and it indexes the number of spells cast by them. Everything is done in thirteen's. Neophyte witches are first allowed to enter the outer court of the circle at age thirteen. That number is also instrumental in the greater and lesser arcana of the tarot cards. In fact, in

the regular playing card deck, there are thirteen cards in each suit; and the joker, which is said to be Jesus, is left out, except in games of blasphemy.

“Barack Obama seems to be obsessed with the number thirteen. He recently commissioned thirteen teams of census workers to travel across our country in thirteen vehicles with banners promoting the 2010 census. Thousands of census workers are being hired temporarily with their average pay being around thirteen dollars per hour. In Obama’s recent State of the Union Address, the President announced that money was being allocated to build thirteen new light rail systems that will create thirteen thousand new jobs. There are so many more examples of Obama’s obsession with the number thirteen that I could not mention them all in this newsletter. I must mention, however, that Barack Obama broke national tradition by refusing to give his State of the Union Address on January 20th. Instead, he chose the date 1-27-2010. In occult numerology everything is broken down to single digits, and zeros mean nothing. Thus, the date 1-27-2010 totals thirteen! This is all beyond the realm of coincidence!

“There are many unanswered questions regarding Barack Obama. I have in front of me a picture of Barack and Michelle Obama, both standing at attention with their left hands over the right side of their chests as people do when they pledge allegiance to the flag or sing to the national anthem, only in reverse. Why are the Obamas doing it backwards? In the occult, this is called malediction, which is a curse. We must remember that Barack Obama is not an American. His real name is Barry Soetoro, and he was born in Kenya. He holds the office of President of the United States illegally.

“What demons possess this man who is called ‘The One’ that would cause him to be stuck on himself? In one speech, he referred to himself 132 times! Why is this Nobel Peace Prize winner spending more money on nuclear weapons than even George Bush? On January 14th, 2010, the Associated Press reported that Obama wants another 33 billion dollars for the war push. Incidentally, the number thirty-three is the number most sacred to the occult lodges of Freemasonry and the Grand Orient. We must also note that the five-sided death house, known as the Pentagon, called for a new department on

1-27-2010, the very day [anniversary] of the inauguration. They are calling for a new ‘Office of Strategic Deception.’ The primary question is: who are the ones that are to be deceived?

“Without a doubt, Barack Obama has no regard for the privacy of the American people while he himself is incredibly secretive. On February 11, 2010, Obama called for the tracking of all cell phones of the American people. The Obama Administration clearly stated the following: ‘Americans enjoy no reasonable expectation of privacy.....’ It is no secret that the Federal Government has become oppressive and top-heavy. Since Obama seized power, the Federal workforce has increased to 2.15 million. The Department of Homeland Security is projected to grow by 7,000 within the next year. The security of our homeland is more precarious than ever before. On February 3rd, 2010, agents from Britain’s M15 Intelligence Service revealed that Muslim doctors, trained at some of Britain’s leading teaching hospitals, have returned to their own countries where they are now implanting high explosives in the breasts of female terrorists. The explosive being used and disguised as ordinary breast implants is pentaerythritol tetrabitate. When have there ever been times like these, and when will all hell break loose?” (*Last Trumpet Newsletter*, March 2010).

Haiti’s Divine Punishment

“Witchcraft and the occult are not in the closet in these last days. These satanic practices are glorified in the movies and on television. The so-called ‘Christian’ pagan holidays also keep witchcraft alive and thriving in our day. It must be remembered, however, that there is always a curse upon those who use the occult in any way, and it must be repented of and forsaken. It is no joke!

“So much has been said about the nation of Haiti where the recent earthquake, which initially lasted only 35 seconds, eventually killed 230,000 people. This is a shocking and amazing tragedy, but we also know that many people were miraculously spared. The sad but true fact is that this nation was and is a hotbed of spiritual bacteria. Haiti is the voodoo capital of the world. Voodoo is a real religion, and it is a horrible religion of fear and terror. In this religion, evil spirits are commonly seen to ‘mount’ people and

drive them into frenzy. The primary god of voodoo is called Bondye, and the lesser spirits that are also worshipped are Iwa, the twin forces, and dead ancestors. There are six ritual functions of the voodoo priests and priestesses, and they are ritual healing, summoning and pacifying of spirits, initiation, telling the future and reading dreams, casting spells and creating protections, and the creating of potions for love and death spells.

“It is interesting to note that the city of New Orleans, Louisiana, has a significant Haitian population who adhere to the religion of voodoo. In fact, New Orleans is considered to be the sister of Haiti by many Haitians. We remember the great hurricane named Katrina (which means cleansing) that devastated New Orleans only a few years ago. It is quite obvious that Haiti and New Orleans are both strongholds of Satan. Recently, Sallie Ann Glassman, a voodoo priestess in New Orleans, said the following regarding the 5,000 Haitians that live in New Orleans: ‘They brought the rhythm, and soul of New Orleans. That’s why New Orleans dances to a different rhythm from the rest of the country.’

“There is great resentment and hatred for all Christians in Haiti. On February 1st, 2010, Max Beauvoir, the supreme master of voodoo in Haiti, complained about the aid and relief efforts offered by Christians. The voodoo master said, ‘The evangelicals are in control and they take everything for themselves. They have the advantage that they control the airport where everything is stuck. They take everything they get to their own people and that’s a shame.’ The real problem is these devil worshippers don’t want their people anywhere near Christians, even though the Christians are offering the most help. Satan is very protective of his stronghold in Haiti, and the people suffer greatly for it.

“There is another very amazing thing regarding the recent earthquake in Haiti. When the quake hit, it knocked out nearly all communications, and power failures shut down everything except for one radio station. That station was signal FM 90.5. As the buildings began to crumble and the earth convulsed violently, the man operating the radio station quickly ran outside. He had been playing music over the air and for some reason pushed the repeat button before leaving so the song would play over and over again. The song

that was playing was ‘Hotel California’ by the Eagles. The following quote is taken directly from a report by National Public Radio: ‘When the quake struck at 4:53 P.M. on January 12th, Signal FM was playing “Hotel California.” The earth groaned and the building shuddered. But just before the DJ ran out, he had the presence of mind to hit the “repeat” button. So for the first 30 minutes of Port-au-Prince’s descent into hell, the only thing you could hear on the radio was the Eagles standard – over and over and over.’

“Every Satanist and most witches know full well that ‘Hotel California’ is another name for the church of Satan. The song describes very clearly the captivating of the soul by Satanism. It even contains a verse describing human sacrifice, stating that the participants ‘stabbed him with their steely knives but could not kill the beast.’ It also describes the onlooker running for the door, where he was met by the ‘night man’ who told him, ‘. . . we are programmed to receive, you can check out any time you want but you can never leave.’ It is quite amazing that this song so compatible with voodoo was the only thing playing as judgment was falling upon that pagan land” (*ibid.*).

“Snowmageddon”

“One act of God that is truly obvious is the winter weather that has been covering our globe. This was supposed to be the year for all nations to unite against ‘global warming,’ so the Almighty has shown us repeatedly who is in charge. Blizzard after blizzard has crippled our nation and much of the world’s northern hemisphere. Washington, D.C., had to completely shut down for several days as record snow buried that city of marble idols, tombs, mausoleums, and corruption. The snow was so intense that even Barack Obama called it the ‘snowpocalypse.’ The West Wing of the White House was nearly buried with these snow crystals from Heaven. Over four feet of snow fell, and high winds from the northeast caused mountainous drifts that made roads and streets impassable. Even a Senate hearing on global warming and a speech by Al Gore had to be cancelled. . . . This winter weather has been nothing short of amazing as even the Deep South has been hit severely with ice storms and blizzards. In Florida, large icicles were hanging off the citrus trees” (*ibid.*).

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A New Look at the Khazars and European Jews

Are the Jewish People Really Jews?

Many Anglo-Israel groups and anti-Semitic churches claim that the modern Jews are not Jews at all, but really are descended from an ancient Turkish people dwelling east of the Caspian Sea known as the Khazars. Is this true? Just who were the Khazars, anyway? New astonishing historical research reveals the incredible answer!

William F. Dankenbring

When is a Jew not a Jew? Or, are modern Jews really Jews?

This may seem like a dumb question to some, but there are a number of churches and groups today who deny that the people identified as “Jews” are really Jews at all! Some go so far as to claim that the Germans are the true Jews, and that the holocaust which led to the extermination of six million Jews did not happen. Furthermore, according to this strange theory, the “Jews” who were killed in the concentration camps and in Hitler’s ovens, during World War II, were not really Jews at all but a people masquerading as Jews – actually descendants of an Asiatic kingdom known as the Khazars!

What about the Khazars?

When we look around the world today, we find that only ONE PEOPLE down through history have preserved the observance of the weekly Sabbath day, the observance of the annual Feast days of God (Lev.23) – and that people is the JEWS! Only one people have preserved the sacred calendar – known as the Jewish calendar, because they are the only people on earth who have maintained and preserved it – and that is, once again, the Jewish people!

How bizarre it would be to think that the Jews at some point in history disappeared, and were somehow replaced by an altogether different ethnic people – and to think that THAT people took on the responsibility of maintaining the Scriptures, the sacred calendar, the weekly Sabbath, the annual holy days – *and not the Jews!*

The vast majority of the Khazarian lay population accepted membership in the Eastern Slavic Church, while the nobles (who were in the Khazarian minority) remained faithful to Judaism, trekked westward, and joined their Jewish kinsmen of the faith in Europe. That the

Khazarian nobility were officially converted to the Jewish religion is clearly acknowledged by Rabbi Dan Cohn-Sherbok:

“Khazars (Chazars; Hazars). Turkish or Finnish tribe which settled in the lower Volga region. From the 8th to the 10th centuries the Khazar state extended westward as far as Kiev. In the 8th century a Judaizing movement manifested itself among the people and their king, Bulan, and thousands of nobles converted to Judaism. The central theme of Judah ha-Levi's *Kuzari* is the legendary disputation which resulted in this conversion. Chasdai ibn Shaprut believed that the Khazars were one of the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel; according to tradition, he entered into correspondence with their king, Joseph, in the 10th century” (*The Blackwell Dictionary of Judaica*, p.290; c1992, Blackwell Publishers: Oxford, England).

The man who converted the Khazarian nobles, Judah ha-Levi (1075-1141 A.D.), was a Sephardic Jewish religious thinker who lived in Spain. The Khazarian nobles were converted and officially initiated into Sephardic Judaism, not Ashkenazic Judaism (*Dictionary of Jewish Biography*, by Geoffrey Wigoder, p.244; c1991, Simon & Schuster). Chasdai ibn Shaprut (915-970 A.D.) was, also, a Spanish Sephardic Jewish scholar, and "he wrote a well-known letter to the king of the Khazars expressing his joy at their independent Jewish kingdom" (*The Blackwell Dictionary of Judaica*, p.239).

Writes David Whitaker, “Please note: If all modern European Jews were descended from the Khazars (as some current anti-Semitic groups allege), then European Jewry would be primarily Sephardic in character and culture! Rather, modern European Jewry is primarily Ashkenazic and would not have originated from Sephardic Judaism of the Khazarian nobles. The Khazarian nobles obviously accepted the Ashkenazic form of Judaism upon entering eastern Europe after the Russian invasion and conquest of the Khazarian Empire.”

Whitaker continues, “That Ashkenazic Judaism pre-dated the Khazarian Empire is a matter of clear historical record (see accompanying chart). The Ashkenazic Jews were the type of Jews living in the Holy Land during the First Century A.D., and they migrated to areas where Ashkenazic Jewish colonies existed. The Ashkenazic Jewish merchant, Joseph of Arimathaea, was known to have maintained a Jewish colony in early Briton (pre-Christian Britain); after the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple, some of the ‘Jewish refugees’ appeared in Briton, and, having joined themselves with the already-existing Jewish colony there, were called by the name ‘Culdees’ indicating their status as Pharisaic Judean refugees (*Celt, Druid and Culdee*, by Isabel Hill Elder, p.94; The Covenant Publishing Co., Ltd., London, England).

“Within Judaic history, it is well known how many wandering Jews sought employment as musicians, medical doctors, poets, jesters (comedians), and psychics in the royal courts of early England and Europe. Perhaps the most famous Ashkenazic Jew in early Britain was the Kabbalistic practitioner, Merlin, who is called both a ‘magician’ and a ‘prophet,’ i.e., one who is adept in Kabbalah Maasit (Practical Kabbalah). Merlin served as the personal Kabbalist to the British general Arturius who was later legendnated from ‘Comes Britanniarum’ (‘Count of the Britains’) into ‘King’ Arthur (*Le Morte D'Arthur*, by Sir Thomas Malory, ‘Introduction’ by Robert Graves, p.xii, and, p.22; c1962, Bramhall House: New York). Both legends and historical accounts exist which indicate the presence of Ashkenazic Jewish people scattered throughout British and European society long prior to the introduction of Khazarian survivors

into eastern European Ashkenazic Judaism.”

Koestler's Novel Twist

In his controversial book *The Thirteenth Tribe*, Arthur Koestler goes to great lengths to attempt to prove that the modern Jews of the Western world descend from the people of the kingdom of the mysterious Khazars. The Jews themselves, admit that the rulers and many people of the Khazars converted to Judaism in historical times. But Koestler puts a different spin on the facts of history.

In his book, Koestler points out that the Khazar Empire was a mighty Jewish state, which ruled from the seventh to the tenth centuries, A.D., and which dominated Eastern Europe between the Volga river and the Caucasus. It played a significant part in shaping the destinies of all of Europe and the world. An indication of the power and prestige of the Khazars is revealed in the fact that in the tenth century, letters addressed to the Pope in Rome, and to the Roman Emperor in the West, had a gold seal worth two solidi attached to them; however, letters to the King of the Khazars displayed a seal worth three solidi!

Who were these Khazars? Koestler says they were “a people of Turkish stock.” As we will see, however, this is a complete misidentification. The Khazars

“ . . . occupied a strategic key position at the vital gateway between the Black Sea and the Caspian, where the great eastern powers of the period confronted each other. It acted as a buffer protecting Byzantium against invasions by the lusty barbarian tribesmen of the northern steppes -- Bulgars, Magyars, Pechenegs, etc. -- and, later, the Vikings and the Russians. But equally, or even more important both from the point of view of Byzantine diplomacy and of European history, is the fact that the Khazar armies effectively blocked the Arab avalanche in its most devastating early stages, and thus prevented the Muslim conquest of Eastern Europe” (*The Thirteenth Tribe*, Koestler, p.13-14).

According to Professor Dunlop of Columbia University, whom Koestler quotes, the Khazars played a key role in history. Dunlop wrote of their importance, “It can . . . scarcely be doubted that but for the existence of the Khazars in the region north of the Caucasus, Byzantium, the bulwark of European civilization in the east, would have found itself outflanked by the Arabs, and the *history of Christendom* and Islam might well have been very different from what we know” (*ibid.*).

At the peak of their power, the Khazars controlled and exacted tribute from some thirty different nations and tribes inhabiting the vast steppes between the Caucasus, the Aral Sea, the Ural Mountains, and the steppes as far as the Ukraine. They ruled over Bulgars, Burtas, Ghuzz, Magyars (Hungarians), Goths, Greek colonies of the Crimea, the Slavs, and their armies raided Georgia and Armenia and even the Arab Caliphate of Mosul. Says Soviet archaeologist M. I. Artamonov, until the ninth century the Khazars had “no rivals to their supremacy in the regions north of the Black Sea and the adjoining steppe and forest regions of the Dnieper. *The Khazars were the supreme masters of the southern half of Eastern Europe for a century and a half, and presented a mighty bulwark, blocking the Ural-Caspian GATEWAY from Asia into Europe.*

During this whole period, they held back the onslaught of the nomadic tribes from the East” (Koestler, p.19).

Characteristics of the Khazars

Let us take note, now, of the characteristics of this powerful people, whom Koestler says were of “Turkish stock.” About the year 740 A.D. the King of the Khazars, his court, and the military ruling class, embraced the Jewish faith. Judaism became the state religion of the Khazars. This fact has astonished modern scholars. One Hungarian historian spent several chapters of his history of the Magyars dealing with the Khazars, who ruled over them, but he discussed their conversion to Judaism in just one brief paragraph! What amazed him was that the Khazars would convert to Judaism, which had no political support but was universally persecuted, when they could have converted to Christianity or the Muslim religion instead, which were also vying for converts.

After the destruction of their empire in the twelfth or thirteenth century, Khazar settlements are mentioned in the Crimea, Ukraine, Hungary, Poland, and Lithuania. Many of them migrated into the region where at the dawn of modern times the greatest numbers of Jews were also found. This has led several historians to conjecture that many Jews from Eastern Europe might be of Khazar origin. The assumption is, of course, that the Khazars were a non-Semitic people.

What is the truth? What kind of people were the Khazars?

Arab sources tell us that they were a mighty sheep and cattle herding people. They lived in houses built in a circular shape, which symbolized the transition from being tent dwellers to more permanent homes. They stayed in their towns only during winter. In the spring they packed their tents, left their houses, and sallied forth with their sheep and cattle into the steppes, or camped out in their cornfields and vineyards.

A Remarkable People

Arthur Koestler himself calls them a “remarkable people.” He quotes an Arab chronicler who writes, “their complexions are *white*, *their eyes blue*, *their hair flowing and predominately reddish*, the bodies large and their natures cold. Their general aspect is wild” (*ibid.*). These people certainly do NOT sound like or look like a “Turkish” race! White skinned, with blue eyes, red hair? If anything, these people sound like the Scots, or Anglo-Saxons -- that is, Western European in their physiognomy and general features!

The Arab geographer Istakhri, a main Arab source of information, writes of the Khazars:

“*The Khazars DO NOT RESEMBLE THE TURKS.* They are black-haired, and are of two kinds, one called the Kara-Khazars [Black Khazars] who are swarthy verging on deep black as if they were a kind of Indian, and a *white kind* [Al-Khazars], who are strikingly handsome.”

Who were these powerful, mighty people? It is known that they dominated the Caucasus

region in the sixth century, and were much in evidence a century earlier (in the mid-400s A.D.). Some of them were skilled gold and silver smiths. Some of the archaeological finds in Hungary may be Khazar in origin. The *Jewish Encyclopedia* points out, "In a time when fanaticism, ignorance and anarchy reigned in Western Europe, the kingdom of the Khazars could boast of its just and broad-minded administration." The Khazars practiced religious tolerance. In the capital city of the kingdom, Muslims were allowed to worship in their mosques, Christians in their churches, and each had their own courts and clergy. None was persecuted. Christians, Jews and Muslims all got along in the Khazar kingdom.

Another interesting fact is that the number 40 was very important to them. The king of the Khazars was allowed to rule for forty years, relates the Arab historian Ibn Fadlan. "If he exceeds this time by a single day, his subjects and attendants kill him, saying, 'His reasoning is already dimmed, and his insight confused.'"

The number "40," of course, is a very important number to the children of Israel. It rained 40 days and 40 nights during the Flood (Gen.7:4, 12). Noah opened the window of the Ark after 40 days (Gen.8:6).

The ancient Israelites wandered "forty years" in the wilderness" (Num.14:34). The land of Israel had "rest" for forty years on several different occasions (Judges 3:11, 5:31, 8:28), but God punished Israel for forty years on one occasion (Judges 13:1). The high priest Eli judged Israel for 40 years (I Sam.4:18). The first two kings of the dynasty of David, David himself and Solomon, reigned for "forty years" (II Sam.5:4). Moses was up in Mount Sinai receiving the Torah from God for 40 days, on two separate occasions (Deut.9:11, 18). The fact that this number was of deep significance to the Khazars is certainly very significant in identifying who they were!

In a world where Jews were being viciously persecuted, and harried by the Romans, it was only natural that they should migrate to a kingdom where tolerance and fairness and freedom of religion was a characteristic of the culture. Many Jews fled the confines of the Roman Empire, where Leo III had ordered all Jews to be baptized, and took refuge in the kingdom of the Khazars.

The Identity of the Khazars Revealed

The Khazar kingdom was located in the precise region where the northern ten tribes of Israel migrated and settled, after they were taken into captivity by the Assyrian Empire in 718-721 B.C. During the time following their release from Assyrian captivity, with the conquest of Persia and Babylon by Alexander the Great in 331 B.C., the Israelites blossomed and grew strong. But they had lost the sure knowledge of their identity during the 400 years spent in the steppes of Asia prior to the kingdom of the Khazars. They had lost the Torah, gone into Baal-pagan worship, and appeared just like the Gentile cultures and peoples around them, on the surface. They had departed from the laws and commandments of God, and had lost the religious and spiritual identification marks of their heritage. But they still had the same physical characteristics -- white-skinned, blue-eyed, red-hair common among them. King David himself was of a "ruddy" complexion (Heb., "fair of eyes"), and probably had reddish hair! (I

Sam.16:12).

Why, of course! These blue-eyed, often red-haired white skinned people, who practiced religious tolerance, and who were a mighty nation militarily, could be none other than a branch of the "lost" tribes of Israel, to whom the number "40" has a special significance.

This fact helps explain the mystery of why the Khazars converted to Judaism instead of Christianity or the Muslim religion -- for it was in reality the religion of their ancestors, centuries before!

What's in a Name?

The very name "Khazar" helps pinpoint their identity. In Hebrew, "ar" or "tsar" -- from which we derive the titles "Caesar," "Kaiser," and "Tsar" -- titles of rulership common to Rome, Germany, and Russia -- actually means, "lord," "chief," and "ruler." The prefix "ka" in Hebrew is "an adverb of quality," as "so, as much as possible," therefore "to be so in a very high degree" (*Gesenius Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon to the Old Testament*). Thus, using "ca" as a prefix of the word "sar," we have the inference of "very great or high king," "powerful ruler," "very high lord," or "mighty chief." There are no superlatives in Hebrew. Therefore, this combination of syllables or roots would have a meaning similar to "highest ruler," or "king of kings," or "lord of lords."

Interestingly, the word "sar" or "shar" also means, "to be left, to remain," and, "remnant"! These people, then, were a REMNANT of the lost tribes of Israel, who had been carried into captivity centuries previously! One of Isaiah's sons was named "Shar-Jashub," meaning "a remnant shall return" (compare Isa.7:3). God Himself prophesied of Israel, "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the REMNANT of Israel, and such as be escaped of Jacob, shall no more stay upon him that smote them; but shall stay upon the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth. *The remnant shall return, even the remnant of Jacob, unto the mighty God*" (Isaiah 10:20-21).

Thus the name Ka-Shar' could also mean the "special remnant," the "unique remnant" people -- meaning the REMNANT of the "lost ten tribes" in that region!

The conversion of the Khazar Kingdom in 740 A.D. is no doubt a "type" of the true future conversion of ALL ISRAEL, when they return to God, admitting their sins, and confessing their iniquities. God says, "For though thy people Israel be as the sand of the sea, yet a remnant of them shall return: the consumption decreed shall overflow with righteousness" (Isaiah 10:22).

Judging by the military exploits and leadership characteristics of these people, some of them seem to have been the descendants of the house of Joseph, long since carried into captivity -- very likely descended largely from the tribe of Ephraim itself! For the characteristics of the house of Joseph, see the prophecies concerning them in Genesis 48:15-20; 49:22-26; Deuteronomy 33:13-17.

The white-skinned, blue-eyed, red-headed Khazars were related directly to our distant, ancient, forebears! It appears that they were also of the tribe of Joseph, and “possessed the GATES of their enemies” -- the strategic passes that connected Asia, and Europe, through the Caucasus region. It was the descendants of Abraham, through Isaac, and Jacob, of whom God said, “Thy seed shall possess the GATE of his enemies” (Gen.22:17). Their descendants were to “possess the gate of those which hate them” (Gen.24:60).

During their time, the Khazars did this very thing, possessing the strategic passes into Eastern Europe, thus controlling and greatly influencing the course of history, and the future of the world for many generations!

Eldad HaDani and the Cochin Scroll

Eldad HaDani (circa 800 A.D.) collected legends extant in his day about the Ten Tribes of Israel and their locations, known as the Cochin Scroll. He mentions the tribe of Zebulon in the Paran mountains, to the east of Mesopotamia. Eldad said that the tribe of *Issachar* was in Carmania to the south and also east of the Caspian Sea. Also in Carmania were the *Pasagadae*, whose name means “sons of Gad.” The *Naphatali Huns*, in those times, were descended from the tribe of Naphatali, and were partly east of the Ural Mountains and in northern Scythia.

According to the Cochin Scroll -- the Ten Tribes of Israel migrated eastward. The tribes of Simeon, Ephraim and Manasseh settled the area of Margiana, north of Hara. In addition, some of Manasseh and Simeon settled in the Khazar kingdom beside the Caspian Sea. A famous king of the Khazars was *King Joseph* (circa 960 A.D.) -- obviously named for Joseph, son of Jacob, who was his ancient forefather!

Israeli scholar Yair Davidy in his new book, *The Tribes: The Israelite Origins of Western Peoples*, informs us:

“The Khazar kingdom is usually considered as having been centered north of the Caucasus but it has been shown that an important part of its population derived from the region east of the Caspian, in Chorasmia. The various reports therefore agree in tracing the Tribes of Simeon and Manasseh to this area.

“It should be noted that the Israelites had been exiled in stages after being split up, but not scattered, meaning that parts of one tribe could appear together with parts of another in several areas. Likewise the nomadic lifestyle imposed upon them by geographical and political necessity meant that they were highly mobile and therefore are difficult to localize historically” (p.71-72).

In those days, all of eastern Russia and even parts of northern China were populated by nomadic peoples whose dominant element were, report Chinese sources, fair-skinned, fair-haired, and fair-eyed. These were identified as Scythians, and Israelites were among them, though other types were also present. Writes Yair Davidy:

“The Cochin Scroll reported that parts of Ephraim, Simeon, and Manasseh settled in MARGIANA (Merv). The name MARGIANA is cognate with Maracanda of southern Bactria just north of Hara. In Sogdiana, to the northeast of Bactria, Ptolemy placed

the Marycae and the city of Maruca, which was also derived from the same root as Maracanda. MARACANDA was to be renamed 'Samarkand.' The name Samarkand appears to have been in honour of Samaria, the former Israelite capital in the territory of Manasseh" (p.73).

The Mercian Saxons and Myrings in Europe, Davidy says, came from around Bukhara, north of Bactria, "both places being named after the BACHRI who were a clan of Ephraim (Numbers 26:35). From the Bachrites came the Boruchteri who participated in the Anglo-Saxon invasions of Britain.

After discussing the various tribes of the Scythians, and how many of them identified with tribes of Israel, Davidy concludes:

"This Israelite-origin of the above nations of Scythia together with evidence of their migration to Northwest Europe is confirmed by similarity of names and legends as well as by the Hebrew-connection of related groups, such as the Parthians and Khazars, by archaeological findings, historical records, and Scriptural passages" (p.83).

Therefore, the Khazar Kingdom which converted to Judaism was not "Turkish" at all but undoubtedly Israelite in origin, composed primarily of remnants of the tribes of Simeon, Manasseh, and very likely, Ephraim. It is a historical fact that Ephraim and Manasseh often dwelt together. In ancient Israel there were Ephraimite cities located in the midst of the inheritance of Manasseh. In the book of Joshua we read, "And the separate cities for the children of Ephraim were *among the inheritance* of the children of Manasseh, all the cities with their villages" (Joshua 16:9). Likewise, Manasseh had cities located in the inheritance of Issachar and Asher (Josh.17:11). The tribe of Simeon, on the other hand, was prophesied to be "scattered" amongst the tribes of Israel, because of their cruelty and fierce anger (Gen.49:5-7).

Historically, the Khazars disappeared from history at the same time the greatest concentration of Jews entered Eastern Europe. Historians agree that immigration from Khazaria must have contributed to the growth of Polish Jewry. However, when we realize that these "Khazars" were undoubtedly primarily of the "lost" tribes of Israel, the strange idea that many Jews today are really "Turkish" people, descended from "Esau," falls flat on its face.

The Origin of Most European Jews

According to the book *Kitab Tathbit Dala'il Nubuwwat Sayyadina Muhammad* (The Book of the Establishment of Proofs about our Master Muhammad's Status as a Prophet), written by one 'Abd al-Jabbar ibn Muhammad al-Hamdani around the year 1009 or 1010, there was a Jewish missionary in particular who was responsible for persuading King Bulan and the tribes in the Khazar Empire to convert to Judaism.

Medieval Jewish scholars, including Rabbi Moses ben Nahman (Nahmanides) in *ToratAdonai Temimah* written in the 13th century and Rabbi Yehuda Aryeh ben Joseph Moscato in *Kol Yehudah* written in the 16th century, both name Yitzhak ha-Sangari (Isaac Sangari) as the Jewish rabbi who was involved in the religious disputation at King Bulan's court and who converted the king and taught him the principles of Judaism.

Judah ha-Levi, a native of Toledo, Spain, recorded the conversion in his famous masterpiece *Kitab al-Hujjah wa'l-Dahl fi Nasr al-Din al Dhalil* (The Book of Argument of Proof in Defense of the Despised Faith), which was composed in 1120-1140 and translated from Arabic into Hebrew in the mid-12th century. Popularly known as The Book of the Khazars (*Sefer ha-Kuzari* in Hebrew, *Kitab al-Khozari* in Arabic), it consists of five chapters and presents the merits of Judaism. In it, Judah ha-Levi clearly states that Isaac Sangari was the one responsible for the conversion of King Bulan and the nobles –

“Ultimately, the king [Bulan] and all the subjects of his kingdom converted to Judaism. The arguments of the rabbi [Sangari] were the catalyst for this event, for, through them, the king found spiritual peace and intellectual harmony (Yehuda HaLevi, *The Kuzari*, trans. N. Daniel Korobkin -- Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson, 1998, p. 1).”

According to Kevin Alan Brook,

“The adoption of Judaism by the Khazars was one of the most interesting events in medieval European history. It was once thought that Yehudah ha-Levi created the conversion episode as an imaginary tale, but it has become clear that the story of the conversion of the Khazars in the *Kuzari* reflected actual events. In 864, only a few years after Saint Cyril’s Khazarian mission, the Khazars were described for the first time (in *Expositio in Matthaeum Evangelistam*) as observers of Judaism (see Chapter 1)” (*The Jews of Khazaria*, Northvale, NJ: Aronson, 1999, p. 128).

The Khazarian nobles were converted and officially initiated into Sephardic Judaism, not Ashkenazic Judaism (*Dictionary of Jewish Biography*, by Geoffrey Wigoder, p.244; c1991, Simon & Schuster). Chasdai ibn Shaprut (915-970 A.D.) was, also, a Spanish Sephardic Jewish scholar, and “he wrote a well-known letter to the king of the Khazars expressing his joy at their independent Jewish kingdom” (*The Blackwell Dictionary of Judaica*, p.239).

If all modern European Jews were descended from the Khazars, as some current anti-Semitic groups allege, then European Jewry would be primarily *Sephardic* in character and culture! Rather, modern European Jewry is primarily *Ashkenazic* and would not have originated from Sephardic Judaism of the Khazarian nobles. The Khazarian nobles obviously accepted the Ashkenazic form of Judaism upon entering eastern Europe after the Russian invasion and conquest of the Khazarian Empire.

I find it interesting that the Khazars who converted to Judaism regarded themselves as being of the blood and seed of ancient Israel, as a simple matter of fact. Although some scholars consider this as being a “myth of Hebraic descent,” the fact remains that the *Khazars themselves* actually thought that they were descended from “the tribe of Simeon or the half-tribe of Manasseh” (*The Meaning of Jewish History*, vol.1, Abelard Schuman, 1963, p.42-43).

This certainly does NOT sound as if the Khazars themselves “refute” the belief or conclusion that they are descended, in part at least, from the “Lost Ten Tribes of Israel”! Yair Davidi concludes regarding the origin of the Khazars:

“The Agathyrsi (Akatziri) were to form the nucleus of the Khazar people. The Khazars converted to Judaism and at one stage became a world power. Their

center was in southern Russia, i.e. in Scythia. Ethnically the Khazars were related to the Anglo-Saxons and Scandinavians. Saksin the Khazar capital was known as 'The Saxon City.' The Agathyrsi have been linked to the Goths. Caucasian 'Subarian traditions maintain that the Agathyrrians originated in Asshur.' – i.e. there exists a tradition that the Agathyrrians came from Assyria and this is consistent with their having been Israelites who were exiled to Assyria and re-settled by the Assyrians on the fringes of their empire" (*Lost Israelite Identity*, p.269-270).

Davidy points out that the Agathyrsi Picts, representing microscopically all the northwest European peoples of Israelite origins, are descendants of Ay(g)-a-zar of Gilead of Manasseh. Most of the Picts and Scottish, he relates, are descended from Manasseh, the brother of Ephraim, son of Joseph, son of Jacob. He asserts:

“The Agathyrsi proper who came from Scythia derived from the clan of ‘Jeezer’ son of Gilead son of Manasseh (Numbers 26:30). The name transliterated as ‘Jeezer’ in Hebrew was probably pronounceable as ‘A-(g)a-zar’ and the Agathyrsi were also known as ‘Acatzari,’ Kharari, and Gazari. Those of the Agathyrsi (Acatzari) who remained in Scythia eventually formed the nucleus of the KHAZAR NATION and a tradition exists (related by Eldad HaDani in ca.800 C.E. and by the Cochin Scroll) that the Khazars came from the TRIBES OF SIMEON AND MANASSEH” (page 277).

New Evidence

Writes Barry Chamish, a Jewish author of note, “A generation ago, correspondence between a Spanish rabbi and the King of Khazararia a thousand years ago led to a series of books about a Jewish state that stopped the Muslim armies from capturing Europe. In a burst of Jewish pride, the authors told of a central Asian royal court that converted to Judaism, defeated the Islamic armies and saved Europe, just to its west.

“But one book, *The Thirteenth Tribe* by Arthur Koestler, took the thesis a step further and speculated that the fall of Khazararia in the 11th century led to a mass migration that created Ashkenazi, or European, Jewry. To Koestler's delight, his speculation became a hit book in America.

“Just so we know, Koestler was a rather inconsistent thinker. He was at times a communist, an anti-communist, and ended his career as a New Age author. But one philosophy stuck with him; in the '30s he moved to Israel and remained a Zionist all his life. He would twist in his grave if he saw how American anti-semites had twisted his ruminations. They view Koestler as a prophet of Jew-hatred and his book as belonging in the second tier of theocracy just behind the Bible.”

According to these anti-Semites, since the Jews are not God's chosen people, instead are proto-Turks masquerading as Jews, therefore they have no historical claim to Israel because they have no right to call themselves Jews.

Says Chamish, “Thus, only Sephardim are the real thing. What is planned for them in the future is never stated, but the Ashkenazim are fit for extermination, though only the most vicious

of the lot openly say so. But the lines aren't hard to read between.

“These anti-semites look for any excuse to attack Israel and her allies and sometimes the rationales are plainly absurd. They have no love for Arabs either but use Israel’s war on Gaza as the latest in a long line of useful whipping boys. Any excuse that's handy will do. Never mind that the Arabs don't buy into the Khazarian nonsense; they back them because they're fighting Jews even if they are ignorant of Koestler’s holy truth.”

Chamish tells of a caller who told him modern Jews are not really Jews at all but of a Turkic stock. In his book *Save Israel*, he writes: “This caller insisted that 95% of Jews are actually not descended from Abraham but rather of a Medieval Turkish tribe called the Khazars.

“ ‘Do you think, I asked, ‘that if 95% of Jews were from Khazaria we would have forgotten that? Jews have long, exact memories and we know where we were. If it was in Khazaria we wouldn't have forgotten it. And if we were Khazars, Yiddish would be a Turkish-based language, which it is not. I don't think there are any Khazarian words in Yiddish. The Khazarian royal court did covert to Judaism, mostly for political reasons, but the Khazar people didn't or we would have remembered it.’”

Chamish points out a major proof that indeed Ashkenazi Jews are really Jews, after all. He declares: “Today, I have an argument that *should* put the argument to rest forever, though I know a good hater never gives up. I know people who still think Russia is going to war against Israel next week. And there are those who think mankind has nothing to do with glaciers and ice sheets melting. In fact there are people who think ALL science is bunk, but especially genealogy.

“They may as well stop reading.

“To the rest of us: As for Khazarian nonsense, Google Jewish DNA. You will find that Sephardic and Ashkenazic Jews share the same DNA markers, Cohenim have the same DNA traits in all nations, and not a drop of Khazarian blood is found anywhere.”

Genetic Research

Researchers Anna C Need, Dalia Kasperavi, Elizabeth T Cirulli and David B Goldstein, studied this subject intensively and wrote their conclusions, saying:

“These possibilities can be distinguished to a degree by comparing the position of the full Ashkenazi Jewish cluster to a series of geographically distributed populations represented by the human genome diversity panel. We found that the full Jewish cluster fell between that of Middle Eastern and European populations. We also compared the average heterozygosity across the set of linkage disequilibrium-pruned polymorphisms in those with full Jewish ancestry to those without, and found that the subjects with four Jewish grandparents were, on average, slightly more heterozygous than the subjects with no Jewish ancestry. These data therefore suggest that the Jewish group is distinguished from non-Jewish Europeans more because of their genetic heritage in the Near East than due to population bottlenecks perturbing the genetic composition of Jewish groups.

Conclusion:

“We show that, at least in the context of the studied sample, it is possible to predict full Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry with 100% sensitivity and 100% specificity, although it should be noted that the exact dividing line between a Jewish and non-Jewish cluster will vary across sample sets, which, in practice, would reduce the accuracy of the prediction. While the full historical demographic explanations for this distinction remain to be resolved, it is clear that the genomes of individuals with full Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry carry an unambiguous signature of their Jewish heritage, and this seems more likely to be due to their specific Middle Eastern ancestry than to inbreeding.” (See <http://www.ety.com/HRP/jewishstudies/ashkenazi.htm>).

In another study, Dr. Karl Skorecki, who works on the cutting edge of molecular science, revolutionizing medicine through genetics and the use of stem cells to test anti-cancer therapies, has also become world famous for applying genetics to genealogy and transforming history.

Skorecki “has found evidence to support traditional claims that modern-day Jewish priests, Cohanim, are descended from a single common male ancestor - biblically said to be Aaron, the older brother of Moses. Skorecki's test found an array of six common chromosomal markers in 97 of the 106 Cohens he tested. Calculations based on variations of the mutations rooted the men's shared ancestry 3,300 years ago, or the approximate time of Exodus. He also discovered the common set of genetic markers in both Ashkenazi (European) and Sephardic (North African) Cohens, indicating they shared the same ancestry before their communities were separated more than 1,000 years ago.”

Says Dr. Skorecki, “It’s like an archeological finding. But instead of digging up in the sand, we dig in contemporary DNA.” (See

Peter Goodspeed in the *National Post* wrote: “But as a sideline, the former University of Toronto professor has become world famous for applying genetics to genealogy and transforming history. He has found evidence to support traditional claims that modern-day Jewish priests, Cohanim, are descended from a single common male ancestor -- biblically said to be Aaron, the older brother of Moses” (“Holy Discovery,” *Canadian National Post*, Oct. 29, 2009).

He went on: “Among the other intriguing findings he has uncovered: that 40% of Ashkenazi Jews can trace their descent to four "founding mothers" who lived in Europe 1,000 years ago, evidence that all Jewish communities share a common paternal origin in the Near East, and genetic evidence supporting claims southern Africa's Lemba tribe may be Africa's ‘Black Jews.’”

Fifteen years ago, as he attended Shabbat services at his Toronto synagogue, Dr. Skorecki says his mind wandered during the reading of the Torah. He says, “A Cohen [Jewish priest] of North African, Sephardic, non-Ashkanazi origin was called up to read the Torah and it just got me to thinking what we have in common.”

“I myself am also a Cohen, but of recent European ancestry. It struck me as interesting that, on one hand, our paternal genealogies have been geographically separated for at least a

thousand years. Yet, on the other hand, we share a Biblical oral tradition of common male ancestry dating back more than 100 generations.”

According to Jewish tradition, the status of priest (Cohen) was conferred on Aaron and his sons, and has been passed on from father to son ever since the Exodus from Egypt.

As he sat in his Toronto synagogue, Dr. Skorecki says, “I realized if that were true, then it was a scientific hypothesis that was testable.” He reasoned the Cohanim should all have a common set of genetic markers at a higher frequency than the general Jewish population. After consulting Dr. Michael Hammer, a geneticist at the University of Arizona and a pioneer in studying the Y chromosome, the two men developed an experiment to test his thesis.

Goodspeed continues: “Besides determining maleness, the Y chromosome consists almost entirely of non-coding DNA, which is passed from father to son without recombination. Therefore the genetic information on a Y chromosome of a man living today is basically the same as that of his ancient male ancestors, with rare mutations that occur along hereditary lines.

“By tracking those neutral mutations or genetic markers scientists can come up with the genetic signature of a man's male ancestry.

“Dr. Skorecki's test found an array of six common chromosomal markers in 97 of the 106 Cohens he tested. Calculations based on variations of the mutations rooted the men's shared ancestry 106 generations in the past -- 3,300 years ago, or the approximate time of Exodus.” (See <http://www.nationalpost.com/news/story.html?id=2152933#ixzz0fcysm44x>).

Ashkenazi Links

More evidence that modern Jews really are Jews comes from Rabi Yaakov Kleinman. He writes: “There is now new and exciting DNA evidence for common Jewish origin -- not just among Cohanim, the Priestly Class, but among Jews scattered all over the globe” (“Jewish Genes,”

Declares Rabbi Kleinman: “Recently published research in the field of molecular genetics -- the study of DNA sequences -- indicates that Jewish populations of the various Diaspora communities have retained their genetic identity throughout the exile. Despite large geographic distances between the communities and the passage of thousands of years, far removed Jewish communities share a similar genetic profile. This research confirms the common ancestry and common geographical origin of world Jewry.

“Jewish men from communities which developed in the Near East – Iran, Iraq, Kurdistan, Yemen – and European Jews have very similar, almost identical genetic profiles.

“Despite their long-term residence in different countries and isolation from one another, most Jewish populations were not significantly different from one another at the genetic level. The results support the hypothesis that the paternal gene pools of Jewish communities from Europe, North Africa and the Middle East descended from a common Middle Eastern ancestral population, and suggest that most Jewish communities have remained relatively isolated from

neighboring non-Jewish communities during and after the Diaspora.” (See M.F. Hammer, Proc. Nat'l Academy of Science, May 9, 2000)

“The basis of this new field of population research is the study of the Y-chromosome, which is passed virtually unchanged from father to son. The rare mutations -- which are changes in the non-coding portion of its DNA – can serve as markers, which can distinguish peoples. By studying the genetic signatures of various groups, comparisons can be made to determine the genetic relationships between the groups.

“Y-chromosome research of the Jewish people began as an outgrowth of the study of Cohanim – the Jewish priestly family. These studies showed a very high genetic affinity among present-day Cohanim, indicating that they do have a common paternal ancestor, estimated to have lived some 3,000 years ago.”

Kleinman continues: “The most recent genetic research consists of obtaining DNA samples, and doing laboratory analysis and comparison of the DNA markers on the Y-chromosome -- which is passed from father to son, and on the mtDNA (mitochondrial DNA) -- which is passed intact from mother to son and daughter. This genetic anthropology promises to be particularly informative for tracking the history of Jewish populations, and helping to resolve the debate on the origins and migrations of Jewish communities in the Diaspora.

“The researchers proposed to answer the question whether the scattered groups of modern Jews can be identified as the descendants of the ancient Hebrews of the Bible, or whether their common ancestry has been diluted through influx of converts and through intermarriage so that little remains of their "Jewish genes."

“The complex recorded history of dispersal from the Land of Israel and subsequent residence in and movements between various countries in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East is expected to produce a complex pattern of genetic relationships among Jewish populations as well as between them and the non-Jewish peoples among whom they lived.

“The research was based on samples from 29 populations, 7 Jewish, categorized into five major divisions: Jews, Middle-Eastern non-Jews, Europeans, North Africans, and sub-Saharan Africans.

“The findings were that most Jewish communities -- long separated from one another in Europe, North Africa, the Near East and the Arabian Peninsula -- do indeed seem to be genetically similar and closely related to one another, sharing a common geographical origin.

“These Jewish communities are more closely related to each other and to other Middle Eastern Semitic populations -- Palestinians, Syrians, and Druze -- than to their neighboring non-Jewish populations in the Diaspora.

“The results also indicate a low level of admixture (intermarriage, conversion, rape, etc.) into the gene pool of these various Jewish communities.

“Among the Jewish communities sampled, North Africans (Moroccans, etc.) were most closely related to Babylonian (Iraqi) Jews. These populations may best represent the paternal gene pool of the ancient Jewish/Hebrew population dating back to the First Temple period,

before the Babylonian exile (approx. 2,500 years ago).” For further information, go to <http://www.aish.com/ci/sam/48937817.html>).

Kleinman declares, concerning the Ashkenazi Jewish origins: “Although the Ashkenazi (European) Jewish community separated from their Mediterranean ancestors some 1,200 years ago and lived among Central and Eastern European gentiles, their paternal gene pool still resembles that of other Jewish and Semitic groups originating in the Middle East. A low rate of intermarriage between Diaspora Jews and local gentiles was the key reason for this continuity. Since the Jews first settled in Europe more than 50 generations ago, the intermarriage rate was estimated to be only about 0.5% in each generation.

“The findings oppose the suggestion that Ashkenazim are descended from the Kazars.

“The Ashkenazi paternal gene pool does not appear to be similar to that of present-day Turkish speakers. This finding opposes the suggestion that Ashkenazim are descended from the Kuzars, a Turkish-Asian empire that converted to Judaism en masse in or about the 8th century CE.”

The Amazing Jews

Dr. Kleinman goes on: “These genetic research findings support Jewish tradition — both written and oral.

“After over 1,000 years of history in the Land of Israel, Jews dispersed to many and distant locations throughout the world. Some Jewish exile communities were relatively stable for two millennia – such as in Babylonia (Iraq) and Persia (Iran). Others developed centuries later, following successive migrations to North Africa and Europe.

“All of these communities maintained their Jewish customs and religious observance despite prolonged periods of persecution. Jews remained generally culturally isolated from their host communities. These genetic studies are a testimony to Jewish family faithfulness.

“Only the Jewish people in the history of mankind has retained its genetic identity for over 100 generations, while being spread throughout the world – truly unique and inspiring.

“Perhaps, even more unique and inspiring, is that this most unlikely scenario was a prophecy and a promise.

And God shall scatter you among all the peoples from one end of the earth to the other end of the earth... (Deuteronomy 28:64)

And God shall return your captivity and be merciful to you, and will return and gather you from all the nations whither God has scattered you . (Deuteronomy 30:3)

As the natural laws are set before Me, so shall the seed of Israel never cease from being a nation before Me, forever. (Jeremiah 31:36)

Truly, the existence of the Jewish people today as a unique people is a divine MIRACLE! They have been preserved by the Hand of the Living God down through history. And He will continue to preserve them and to fulfill His faithful promises!

So when we look at all the evidence, the truth is plain as clear glass: The Jews really are Jews, descended from the tribe of Judah, and their ancient ancestor Judah himself, son of Israel! The claim that modern Jews are not really Jews is nothing but Satanic, anti-Semitic drivel, bogus nonsense, and hate-filled balderdash – a clear fabrication of those who hate the Word and promises of God, and the chosen people of God!

Rather than hate the Jews, let us have the attitude of the apostle Paul toward them. He wrote: “Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge” (Rom.10:1-2).

Paul declared, “I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh, who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises” (Rom.9:1-4).

Paul goes on, “I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew” (Rom.11:1-2). “For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel shall be saved” (Rom.11:25-26).

Like Paul, we should have a deep, abiding love for the Jews, descended from the tribe of Judah, and Benjamin, and Levi, primarily, our brethren according to the flesh. We should not begrudge them, or envy them, or be jealous of them – but grateful and thankful toward God for them, as potential co-heirs of the promises and eternal life, according to the plan of God.

Although many are blinded today, their eyes will be opened in the future – and, as Paul wrote, “ALL ISRAEL [AS A WHOLE] SHALL BE SAVED”!

What a wonderful day that will be! And, as Zechariah the prophet foretold, “Thus says the LORD of hosts: In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, ‘Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you’” (Zechariah 8:23). In those soon-coming days, “Yes, many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD” (Zech.8:22).

The Early Church and the Quartodeciman Passover

In the early centuries of the Church, a controversy raged over the Passover. The Church at Rome observed a day now called Easter on the first Sunday After the spring Equinox. The churches in Asia, led by Polycarp, observed The “Quartodeciman” Passover. This was observed at the very time and date That the Jews observed Passover. What day was this? Just what was the “Quartodeciman” Passover? On what day should we observe Passover today? The teaching and practice of the EARLY CHURCH is extremely important in settling this controversy.

William F. Dankenbring

Let's look into the historical evidence concerning the Passover in the early church, and see what all the controversy was about at that time. Few realize it, but there was an ongoing controversy from the first till the fifth centuries in the visible Church concerning Passover. That controversy has historically been referred to as the “Quartodeciman Controversy.”

Let us notice what led up to this controversy, and what all the fighting and wrangling were about. A true understanding of this important historical controversy will go a long way to clearing up the truth about the right time to observe the Passover!

Paul's Personal Practice

The apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthian Church these words: “For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old yeast of malice and wickedness, but with bread without yeast, the bread of sincerity and truth” (I Cor.5:7-8, NIV).

Notice! Paul said plainly enough, “Let us KEEP THE FESTIVAL”! The footnote of the NIV Bible on this verse states: “Keeping the Feast of Unleavened Bread (which followed Passover) symbolizes living the Christian life in holy dedication to God.” Not only did Paul in this verse exhort the Corinthians – many of whom were Gentile believers – to observe this Passover festival season, but he himself did so, setting them an example.

Notice again! Paul and his companions spent the Feast of Unleavened Bread at Philippi. The historian Luke records, “But we sailed from Philippi AFTER THE DAYS OF UNLEAVENED BREAD, and five days later joined the others at Troas, where we stayed seven days” (Acts 20:6). This clearly implies that Paul was still observing the festival ordained by God forever (Exo.12:15-18).

On another instance, Luke writes, “It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. When he saw this pleased the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened DURING THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD” (Acts 12:1-3). Luke writes plainly as if he regarded the Feast of Unleavened Bread as an existing fact – not something which had been done away, or abolished at the death of Christ! He speaks of it as being REAL, something he regarded as an important reference point.

Did Paul observe the ancient annual holy days of God? Remember, he was the apostle to the Gentiles (Gal.2:7-9). Anything he did would indicate the Gentile believers should do so also, since he conunanded them plainly: “FOLLOW MY EXAMPLE, as I follow the example of Christ” (I Cor.11:1).

These references to the Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread in the New Testament, clearly show that they held enormous importance to the early Church, including Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles. He observed them. And he commanded the Gentiles to follow his example, as he followed Christ's, who also observed them, along with the Jews of His time (see, for example, Luke 2:41-43; John 7:2, 10, 37). There is absolutely no indication in all the New Testament that they were ever abolished!

The Testimony of Scholars

Samuel Bacchiocchi, in his landmark scholarly book, *From Sabbath to Sunday.- A Historical Investigation of the Rise of Sunday Observance in Early Christianity*, writes concerning Paul's remarks in I Corinthians 5:7-8 concerning the Feast of Unleavened Bread: “The passage, moreover, provides limited support for a *LITERAL OBSERVANCE* of the FESTIVAL. . .” He continues, “The fact that Paul himself spent the days of Unleavened Bread at Philippi (Acts 20:6) and that he 'was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost (Acts 20:16; cf. I Cor.16:8), suggests that the Apostle STILL RESPECTED AND REGULATED HIS LIFE BY THE NORMATIVE LITURGICAL CALENDAR OF THE TEMPLE” (p.81).

Did the early Christians, then, observe the feast of Passover, with the Jews, albeit with the new understanding and new emblems Jesus gave at His last supper with His disciples?

Bacchiocchi asserts: “Moreover we know from the Quartodeciman's sources (i.e. those who kept Passover on Nisan 14 according to the Jewish reckoning), which APPARENTLY REPRESENT A DIRECT CONTINUATION OF THE CUSTOM OF THE PRIMITIVE CHURCH, that the *PASCHAL FEAST WAS INDEED OBSERVED BY CHRISTIANS*. Its celebration, however, did not take place on Sunday . . . but rather, as well stated by J. Jeremias, 'at the *SAME TIME AS THE JEWISH PASSOVER*, that is, *on the night of the 15th of Nisan*, and by the date rather than the day” (*From Sabbath to Sunday*, p.81).

Notice these incredible words! The Christians observed Passover at the very same night as the Jewish people – that is, on the night of the 15th of Nisan!

This is the record of scholarly research. This constitutes a powerful rebuttal to those who attempt to observe Passover on the previous evening of the 14th of Nisan, that is, at the beginning of the 14th!

Bacchiocchi adds to this statement, by J. Jeremias: “In a passage we shall later examine, Epiphanius (ca. A.D. 315-403) suggests that *until A.D. 135 CHRISTIANS EVERYWHERE OBSERVED PASSOVER ON THE JEWISH DATE, NAMELY, ON NISAN 15*, irrespective of the day of the week” (*ibid*).

Three pages later in his book, Samuele Bacchiocchi asserts, “The . . . Passover . . . initially celebrated Christ's passion and was observed by the FIXED DATE OF *NISAN 15* rather than on Sunday . . .” (p.84).

The History of the Early Church

There is not a great deal known about the early Church. After the deaths of the apostles, Jesse Lyman Hurlbut church historian, writes, “We name the last generation of the first century, from 68 to 100 A.D., 'The Age of Shadows,' partly because the gloom of persecution settled over the church; but more especially because of all periods in the history, it is the one about which we know the least. We have no longer the clear light of the book of Acts to guide us; and no author of that age has filled the BLANK in the history. . . . For fifty years after St. Paul's life a CURTAIN HANGS OVER THE CHURCH, through which we strive vainly to look; and when at last it rises, about 120 A.D. with the writings of the earliest church-fathers, we find a church in many aspects very different from that in the days of St. Peter and St. Paul” (*Story of the Christian Church*, p.41).

After the fall of Jerusalem in 70 A.D., the headquarters of the early Church, which was at Jerusalem, was no longer existent. “From the prophetic utterances of Christ the Christians received warning, escaped from the doomed city, and found refuge at Pella, in the Jordan valley. But the great effect upon the church of this destruction was that it put an end forever to all relation between *Judaism and Christianity*. *Up to this time the church had been regarded by the Roman government and by the people at large as a BRANCH OF THE JEWISH RELIGION*, but henceforth Jews and Christians were apart. A small section of Jewish Christians endured for two centuries, but with ever-decreasing numbers . . .” (p.42-43).

After the end of the war, the Church re-established itself in Jerusalem for a while. Says Hurlbut, "Simeon (or Simon, Mark 6:3), the successor of St. James as head or bishop of the church in Jerusalem, and like him was also a brother of our Lord; said to have attained the age of one hundred and twenty years. He was crucified by order of the Roman governor of Palestine in 107 A.D. during the reign of Trajan" (p.53).

The Christians who fled to Pella, who were known as the Jewish Christian sect of the Nazarenes, existed on into the fourth century. Samuele Bacchiocchi tells us that according to M. Simon, “they are characterized essentially by their TENACIOUS ATTACHMENT TO *JEWISH OBSERVANCES*. If they became heretics in the eyes of the Mother Church [at Rome], it is simply because they remained fixed on outmoded positions. *THEY REPRESENT*, though

Epiphanius is energetically refusing to admit it, THE VERY DIRECT DESCENDANTS OF THE PRIMITIVE COMMUNITY, of which our author knows that it was designated by the Jews by the same name of Nazarenes” (quoted in *From Sabbath to Sunday*, p. 156).

As Bacchiocchi says, if they are indeed the “direct descendants of the primitive community of Jerusalem,” then we would expect them to have “retained the *ORIGINAL PRACTICE OF JEWISH CHRISTIANITY*” (p.156-157).

Epiphanius, who accused them of heresy, admitted of them, “The Nazarenes do not differ in any essential thing from them [the Jews], since THEY PRACTICE THE CUSTOM AND DOCTRINES *PRESCRIBED BY JEWISH LAW*, except that they believe in Christ” (*ibid*).

Obviously, then, these early true Christians celebrated the Passover and holy festivals of God, at the very same time the Jews did! Accordingly, they did *NOT CHANGE* the date or time of keeping the Passover!

The Nazarenes represent the “ethnic and theological legacy of primitive Jewish Christianity,” and retained Sabbath-keeping as “one of their distinguishing marks” (*ibid*). In fact, the Jews of that time period introduced a “curse” which was regularly pronounced in the synagogues against the Nazarenes or Christians, to keep them from attending the synagogue services. This indicates plainly that “many Jewish-Christians in Palestine still considered themselves *essentially as Jews*” (p.159).

The Persecution of Hadrian

In A.D. 135 Emperor Hadrian ruthlessly destroyed the city of Jerusalem, because of the Bar Kochba rebellion among the Jews, who regarded Bar Kochba as the Messiah. The Emperor rebuilt on the ruins of Jerusalem a new city, Aelia Capitolina, and expelled all Jews from the city. He prohibited them from entering the city, and proscribed the practice of their religion, including Sabbath keeping and circumcision.

In many respects, Hadrian was an anti-type of Antiochus Epiphanes, the great persecutor of 165 B.C., and a type of the coming “Antichrist” or “Beast” of the book of Revelation! His reign is commonly referred to as “the age of persecution.” The Roman government forbade the study of the Torah, forbade circumcision of children, and commanded profanation of the Sabbath.

First Controversy over Passover

The early Church historian Eusebius writes of this period: “And thus, when the city had been emptied of the Jewish nation and had suffered the total destruction of its ancient inhabitants, it was colonized by a different race, and the Roman city which subsequently arose changed its name and was called Aelia, in honor of the emperor Aelius Adrian. And as the Church there was now composed of Gentiles, the first one to assume the government of it after the bishops of the circumcision was Marcus” (*NPNF* 2nd, I, pp.177-178).

It was at this time, says Epiphanius, that the controversy over the correct date of the

Passover, first arose.

He wrote, “The controversy arose [literally, “was stirred up”] after the exodus of the bishops of the circumcision [A.D. 135] and it has continued until our time.” According to Epiphanius, the fifteen Judaeo-Christian bishops who had administered the Church in Jerusalem up to 135 A.D. had, up to that time, practiced the Quartodeciman Passover – the *Jewish* Passover. They based this observance on a document known as the “Apostolic Constitutions.”

According to that document, the following commandment is given: “You shall not change the calculation of time, but you shall CELEBRATE IT AT THE SAME TIME AS YOUR BRETHREN who came out from the circumcision. WITH THEM OBSERVE THE PASSOVER.” (see Bacchiocchi's *From Sabbath to Sunday*, p.161. I strongly suggest all readers who are concerned with this issue, read Bacchiocchi's book and especially this section dealing with the early church!)

This document is cited by Epiphanius in his work *Adversus haereses*. It constitutes overwhelming evidence that the early Jewish Christians, directly descended from the very headquarter's Church in Jerusalem, observed the ancient PASSOVER at the historically correct time, and did not change the calculation of the time. They did not keep it a day early, a night early, or every year on a Sunday, or invent any other new calculation.

But remember – these words were written by a Catholic church leader and historian -- not as a friendly commentary, but as a diatribe, accusing them of following Jewish customs! Epiphanius was merely pointing out that the Nazarenes, descended from the primitive headquarter's church in Jerusalem, celebrated Passover at the same time as the Jews! This, to him, was an abominable heresy! He was merely commenting on the fact. As far as he was concerned, Christians should have nothing whatever to do with Passover. He wasn't arguing for observing it a day or night earlier. Not at all! He was merely stating an observed fact.

Since Epiphanius clearly says the controversy over Passover arose “after the time of the exodus of the bishops of the circumcision” from Jerusalem in 135 A.D., this clearly implies that “prior to that time the Quartodeciman reckoning was UNANIMOUSLY FOLLOWED,” points out Samuel Bacchiocchi (p.162).

Bacchiocchi continues:

“The fact that the controversy over the Passover date arose not prior to but at the time when the new anti-Judaic policy of the Emperor caused a reconstitution of the Jerusalem Church with Gentile members and leaders suggests, first, that up to that time the Church, composed primarily of Judaeo-Christians, had been *LOYAL TO BASIC JEWISH RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS, SUCH AS PASSOVER AND THE SABBATH*; and secondly that certain changes, particularly in the liturgical calendar, were occasioned by the new repressive measures taken by the Emperor against Jewish religious practices.”

Thus up to 135 A.D. the Jerusalem headquarters Church of God held closely to the Jewish religious traditions. History shows that there were in existence two rival religious communities, one Jewish-Christian and the other Gentile-Christian, well into the fifth century

A.D. Writes Bacchiocchi, “The survival in Jerusalem of such strong Judeo-Christian influence for centuries after the first destruction of the city, discredits any attempt to make A.D. 70 the historical breaking point between Sabbath and Sunday” (p.163).

History shows that the Judaeo-Christian community continued observing Passover at the end of the 14th of Nisan centuries after the first destruction of Jerusalem. But controversy continually flared up over it, because the Church at Rome wanted to divorce itself from any and all Jewish influence!

The Easter-Passover Controversy

Eusebius relates that Polycarp, a disciple of John, who had known several of the original apostles, strongly resisted the introduction of Easter in the place of Passover. He visited Rome in 154 A.D. to discuss the growing heated controversy with Anicetus, the Roman bishop. Polycarp was bishop of the Church of God at Smyrna. He was baptized by John, the brother of James. He held to the Passover as an institution handed down by John, the last living original apostle of Christ.

At the meeting nothing was resolved. Eusebius records: “For neither could Anicetus persuade Polycarp not to observe it [the Passover] because he had always observed it with John the disciple of our Lord, and the rest of the apostles, with whom he associated; and neither did Polycarp persuade Anicetus to observe it who said that he was bound to follow the customs of the presbyters before him.”

Eusebius relates that Polycarp was later taken and executed “on a great sabbath day.” The marginal note explains that the “GREAT SABBATH DAY” was the Feast of Unleavened Bread!

Controversy Explodes Again

The controversy flared up again toward the end of the second century. The two major protagonists of the controversy were Victor of Rome (A.D. 189-199) who championed the Easter-Sunday tradition, on one side, and Polycrates, the disciple of Polycarp, who was the bishop of Ephesus and representative of the Asian Churches, who strongly advocated the traditional Passover date of Nisan 14. Victor attempted to “*cut off whole churches of God, who observed the tradition of an ancient custom,*” the true Passover, says Eusebius.

According to Eusebius (ca. 260-340 A.D.), Polycrates, claiming to possess the genuine apostolic tradition transmitted to him by the apostles Philip and John, refused to be frightened into submission by Victor's threats.

Irenaeus, bishop of Lyon from about 176 A.D., tried to intervene as peacemaker in the controversy. He warned Pope Victor not to break the unity with “the many bishops of Asia and the East, who *WITH THE JEWS CELEBRATED THE PASSOVER* on the fourteenth day of the new moon” (*NPNF*, 2nd, III, p.370). In addition, Apollinarius, bishop of Hierapolis (ca. A.D. 170), declared: “The 14th Nisan is the *TRUE PASSOVER OF OUR LORD*, the great Sacrifice;

instead of the lamb, we have the Lamb of God” (Bacchiocchi, p.199, footnote).

However, around 400 A.D. those Christians who maintained the Jewish Passover ritual were strongly attacked by Severian, bishop of Gabala. Epiphanius, bishop of Salamis (ca. A.D. 315-403) declares that the "heresy," as he called it, of the Quartodeciman Passover was still rising up in the world in his own time.

Notice the words of Eusebius in his Church history:

“A question of no small importance arose at that time [the close of the second century]. For the parishes of Asia, as from an OLDER TRADITION, held that the FOURTEENTH DAY OF THE MOON, on which day the Jews were commanded to sacrifice the lamb, SHOULD BE OBSERVED AS THE FEAST OF THE SAVIOUR’S PASSOVER . . . the bishops of Asia, led by Polycrates, decided to HOLD TO THE *OLD CUSTOM* handed down to them. He himself in a letter which he addressed to Victor and the Church of Rome, set forth in the following words the tradition which had come down to him.

“ *We observe the EXACT DAY, neither adding, nor taking away.* For in Asia also great lights have fallen asleep, which shall rise on the day of the Lord's coming, when he shall come with glory from heaven, and shall seek out all the saints. Among these are Philip, one of the twelve apostles . . . and, moreover, John, who was both a witness and a teacher, who reclined on the bosom of the Lord . . . and Polycarp in Smyrna, who was a bishop and martyr . . . *Those observed the fourteenth day of the Passover according to the gospel, DEVIATING IN NO RESPECT, but following the rule of faith*” (*Anti-Nicean Fathers*, vol. 8, pp.773-774).

They observed scrupulously the EXACT DAY of the PASSOVER. This means they observed it at the end of the 14th of Nisan, as all **the** Jews had for centuries. They did not “change” it by observing it a night early, or take away from it. They did not “change” it to “Easter Sunday,” either. In fact, they deviated from the Jewish Passover time, calculation and date “*in NO respect*”!

How different from mainstream Christianity which embraces the pagan “Easter” Sunday, which stems from ancient Babylon! And how different from some Churches today who profess to observe the “Passover,” but confuse it with the “Last Supper” of Christ and His disciples. They not only change the date to the evening before the Jewish Passover, but also take away the Passover “meal” itself, the dinner, including the prescribed “bitter herbs” and lamb!

Sadly, faithful Polycrates’ letter did not persuade Victor, whose extravagant estimation of his own position led him to think of himself as the head of the entire worldwide Church, as the bishop of Rome. He “excommunicates the churches of Asia Minor for clinging to a usage in regard to the celebration of Easter [Passover, sic] which had been handed down to them from the Apostles,” wrote J. B. Lightfoot in *The Apostolic Fathers* (pp.68-70). Victor was furious. Nothing could stop his wrath. At this time entire churches were excommunicated, disfellowshipped, by the bishop of Rome, for adhering to the faith once delivered to the saints, and observing the Passover at the same time as the Jews!

Their whole problem, according to Victor, was their tenacious adherence to the JEWISH PASSOVER! It was anti-Semitism at its most virulent and pestilential form! It was every feature of "Jewishness" that the Romans wanted to expunge!

Anti-Semitism in the Roman Empire

The first non-observer of the 14th Nisan Passover, Irenaeus indicates, was actually bishop Sixtus of Rome (ca. 116-125 A.D.). But the 14th Nisan Passover was even observed in Rome by some churches prior to Pope Victor's time. Apparently it was under bishop Sotus, the successor to Anicetus, that relations became "more tense" between the advocates of Easter-Sunday versus the Jewish Quartodeciman Passover.

Says Bacchiocchi of this issue: "The conflict and tension between Judaism and the Empire, which became particularly acute under Hadrian, may well have induced Bishop Sixtus to take steps to SUBSTITUTE those distinctive JEWISH FESTIVITIES AS THE PASSOVER AND THE SABBATH with new dates and theological motivations IN ORDER TO AVOID ANY SEMBLANCE OF JUDAISM" (p.203).

Rome and Alexandria, after having "*eliminated* the Judaizing Quartodeciman tradition, *REPUDIATED EVEN THE JEWISH COMPUTATIONS, MAKING THEIR OWN TIME CALCULATIONS*, since such a dependence on the Jews must have appeared humiliating" (M. Righetti, quoted by Bacchiocchi in *From Sabbath to Sunday*, p.206).

By the time of the Nicaean Council, in 325 A.D., during the reign of Emperor Constantine, the hatred of everything "Jewish" had reached a peak in the Roman Empire. Constantine, desiring that Christianity be completely free from any and all Jewish influence, wrote:

"It appears an unworthy thing that in the celebration of this most holy feast we should follow the practice of the Jews, who have impiously defiled their hands with enormous sin, and are, therefore, deservedly afflicted with blindness of soul . . . *Let us then have NOTHING IN COMMON with the detestable Jewish crowd.* . . . All should UNITE in desiring that which sound reason appears to demand, and in AVOIDING ALL PARTICIPATION IN THE PERJURED CONDUCT OF THE JEWS" (Eusebius, *Life of Constantine*, 3,18-19; *NPNF* 2nd, 1, pp.524-525, quoted in Bacchiocchi, p.206).

This same anti-Jewish resentment and hostility is revealed in an even earlier document, dated to circa A.D. 243, where a certain Pseudo-Cyprian in *De Pascha computus* says: "we desire to show . . . that Christians need at no time . . . to walk in blindness and stupidity behind the Jews as though they did not know what was **the** day of Passover . . ." (quoted by Bacchiocchi, p.206).

Gradually, the influence and pressure of the Roman emperors, and the apostate Church in Rome, prevailed in the Empire and the observance of the Jewish Passover by Christians ceased within the bounds of the Empire. Gentile Christians *turned their backs on the true faith* delivered to the saints.

Emperor Constantine, a pagan worshipper of the sun, but who was "baptized" on his death

bed, wrote the following to those who persisted in observing the true Passover in his day:

“Forasmuch, then, as it is no longer possible to bear with your pernicious errors, we give warning by this present statute that none of you henceforth presume to assemble yourselves together. We have directed, accordingly, that you be deprived of all the houses in which you are accustomed to hold your assemblies; and forbid the holding of your superstitious and senseless meetings. . . .” (Eusebius, *Life of Constantine*, bk. 3).

The Nicean Council

At the Council of Nicaea in A.D. 325, during the reign of Emperor Constantine, the bishops of the Catholic Church decreed concerning the Passover that: “All the brethren in the East who formerly celebrated Easter [Passover] WITH THE JEWS [the Jews never celebrated what we call “Easter”], will henceforth keep it at the SAME TIME AS THE ROMANS, with us and with all those who from ancient times have celebrated the feast at the same time with us.”

Emperor Constantine, having been totally disgusted with the disagreements and controversies within the Christian community regarding the date of “Easter,” then exhorted all the bishops of the universal Church to embrace “the practice which is observed at once in the city of Rome, and in Africa; throughout Italy, and in Egypt” (*NPNF*, 2nd, I, p.525). Henceforth the power of the Roman Empire was used to *enforce Easter observance upon “Christians,”* and to prohibit and forbid true Passover observance!

Thus by 325 A.D. the true celebration of the ancient Passover, which had been the practice of the Jews, the family of Jesus, Jesus Himself, the apostles, and the early Church in Jerusalem, and throughout the region of Asia, as well as various other portions of the Empire, including some churches in Rome itself, was systematically rejected, repudiated and abolished, because of its connection with the hated and maligned Jews. Instead, the pagan worship of Easter Sunday observance was now transferred to the Church, supposedly in honor of Christ’s resurrection. Though its very name, “Easter,” is the name of a pagan goddess of spring and fertility, its very name emblematic of its true origin, it was cleverly slipped into the Church in the place of Passover observance.

The long struggle between Passover and Easter was finally decided – by the power of Rome – in favor of Easter! True Passover observance, by Christians, was halted, ended, by the force and power of Imperial edict and decree of the apostate Church in the Roman Empire.

By 364 A.D., at the Council of Laodicea, both the Passover and the Sabbath were completely abolished by the Roman state. The new state religion, a bizarre blending and amalgamation of paganism and Christianity, devoid of any remaining “Jewish” influences, became the dominant religious power in Europe for over one thousand years. Paganism, cloaked in outer “Christian” appearing clothing, triumphed over the truth. Satan’s great deception was complete. The “Great Whore” had triumphed.

But only temporarily. God is working and restoring His TRUE PASSOVER for all who desire to obey Him and keep His commandments!

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Holy Days for 2010

Passover Seder Evening	Wednesday	March 31
1 st Day of Unleavened Bread	Thursday	April 1
Wave Sheaf Offering Day	Friday	April 2 (Omer Count Begins)
7 th Day of Unleavened Bread	Wednesday	April 7
Pentecost (Shavuot)	Friday	May 21 (Sivan 6)
Feast of Trumpets (Yom Teruah)	Sabbath	September 11
Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)	Monday	September 20
1 st Day of Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot)	Sabbath	September 25
7 th Day of Feast of Tabernacles	Friday	October 1
8 th Day (Shemini Atzeret)	Sabbath	October 2

Write for your own copy of the 2010 New Moon and Holy Day Calendar for the coming year!

When Should the Passover Really Be Observed?

Why are people so blind to the true Passover? Here is a letter we received which investigates one more PROOF when the Passover ought to be observed.

Nick Wood

“Shabbat Shalom. I hope everyone in Omak is keeping fit and in good health. We are all doing fine over here apart from appearing to be at the start of a new ice age. Talk of global warming seems a little far-fetched at the moment as the UK and most of north-western Europe have suffered nearly 3 weeks of snow and sub-zero temperatures with no let up for at least another week.

“I was given an interesting challenge over these last couple of weeks, by someone who is convinced that we at Triumph are keeping Passover at the wrong time and proclaims that we should go back to the old WCG time of the beginning of the 14th Nisan. I have tried my best to reason with this person, but to no avail. I was told that the “TRUTH” was to be found in the Septuagint, as this was the version of the Old Testament most often quoted from in the New Testament.

“Not being one to shy away from a challenge, I literally blew the dust off my copy of the Septuagint (not having used it for a while), and the person who challenged me to look into the Septuagint was absolutely correct on one thing. The TRUTH about the timing of the Passover shines out from the Septuagint like a brilliant shining beacon.

“I have the “Brenton” translation of the Septuagint into English and here is what I found in what I believe are the TWO KEY scriptures on Passover in the Old Testament.

“In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, BETWEEN THE EVENING TIMES, is the Lord’s Passover. And on the fifteenth day of this month, is the feast of unleavened bread to the Lord; seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread.”

Leviticus 23:5-6. “Brenton” Septuagint.

“Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel saying, ‘On the tenth of this month let them take each man a lamb according to the houses of their families, every man a lamb for his household. . . . And it shall be kept by you till the fourteenth of this month, and all the multitude of the congregation of the children of Israel shall kill it TOWARD EVENING.’”

Exodus 12:3-6. “Brenton” Septuagint.

“This expression ‘TOWARD EVENING’ in Exodus 12, can have no other possible meaning other than ‘IN THE AFTERNOON OF THE 14TH TOWARDS THE BEGINNING OF THE 15TH AT SUNDOWN.’ How clear this is was absolutely astounding to me and even more amazing is how anyone could fail to understand the crystal clear meaning.

“I have also just recently come across a brand new translation of the Septuagint accessible on the internet at the following website.

<http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/nets/edition/>

“It is called ‘A New English Translation Of The Septuagint’ (NETS) and was completed in 2007, so it is bang up to date incorporating the very latest scholarship. Here is how this translation renders these same TWO KEY scriptures as follows.

“In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TIME APPROACHING EVENING, is a PASCHA to the Lord. And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread to the Lord; seven days you shall eat unleavened things.”

Leviticus 23:5-6. A New English Translation of the Septuagint (NETS).

“Speak to the whole congregation of the sons of Israel saying, ‘On the tenth of this month let them take each person, a sheep according to the paternal houses, a sheep for each household. . . And it shall be kept for you until the fourteenth of this month, and all the multitude of the congregation of the sons of Israel shall slay it TOWARDS EVENING.’”

Exodus 12:3-6. A New English Translation of the Septuagint (NETS).

“This new translation of the Septuagint is even clearer than Brenton’s translation on the time of the Passover, especially Leviticus 23. How can anyone not see this?

“Surely God’s Word is TRUE, UNBREAKABLE, INVIOLEATE and UNCOMPLICATED. Why then some people try their utmost to complicate and cloud the whole issue of the time of Passover is completely beyond me.”

* * * * *

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A New Look at the Passover

When Should the Passover Be Observed?

Luke and the Passover Question!

When Is the New Testament Passover?

The Incredible Passover Plot!

When Did the Early Church Observe the Passover?

Mysteries of the Passover

Four Special Bible Course Lessons on the Passover

Was the “Last Supper” Really the Passover?

Was the “Last Supper” really the “Passover”? How could that be since Jesus died that year as our Passover Lamb, at the very time the Passover was commanded to be killed?

William F. Dankenbring

I recently received this question from a lady about the Passover. She wrote:

“I was reading ‘Seven Proofs the “Last Supper” was not the Passover’. In Matt. 26:17-21 it states. ‘Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread (Passover Week), the disciples came to Jesus and said to Him, where do You wish us to prepare for You to eat the Passover supper? He said, Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, The Master says: My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples. And accordingly the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they made ready the Passover supper. When it was evening, He was reclining at table with the twelve disciples. And as they were eating, He said, Solemnly I say to you, one of you will betray Me! . . .’

“The disciples asked Jesus where He wanted the Passover Supper and Jesus told them where. After the meal, they went to Gethsemane – and it was there Jesus was taken and later crucified.

“To me, the Last Supper was the Passover Supper. Especially since Jesus told the disciples where they would have the Passover supper and with whom He would have it, (with the disciples).

“Will you comment on these verses (from Amp. Bible) that I’ve given you?”

The “Preparation” of the Passover

Let’s look at the verse in Matt.26:17 and Luke22:8 again. What does it really say? Jesus sent Peter and John telling them, “Go and prepare *the Passover* for us, that we may eat.” In context, then, He is telling them to “*Prepare* for the coming Passover Feast” – all the seven days of "Passover" (verse 1). They had to prepare – that is, obtain “unleavened bread,” and all the things necessary for observing the Passover for seven days. That is why this day was called a day of preparation.’ Jesus was telling His disciples to ‘PREPARE’ for the up-coming Passover – that is, to GET READY and make preparations. He did not say the meal that very night would be the Passover! Luke plainly calls it “supper” – not “Passover” – as we shall see!

IF this very evening was the time they were going to eat the Passover, and Jesus at this very late moment told them to “go and prepare,” wasn't He asking them to do the well-nigh impossible? Would it not have been a little late to think about beginning preparations? What about the lamb? What about taking the lamb to the Temple, having it properly approved, then killed, and roasted? No way could this have occurred as the sun set at the start of Nisan 14!

Actually, Nisan 14, when the Passover lambs are killed, in the afternoon, between 3 and 6 PM, is the final ‘preparation day’ for the Passover Festival! The ‘preparation days’ begin on Nisan 10, when the lambs are selected (Exodus 12:3). It was actually on the morning of Nisan 13 when Jesus told His disciples to ‘go and prepare the Passover.’

How do we know this?

The answer is simple: After this final supper, Jesus was seized by the Pharisees and Sadducees, interrogated that night, condemned by the Sanhedrin the following morning (Matt.27:1-2), and delivered to Pilate for judgment that same morning (verse 2). Pilate then sent Him to Herod (Luke 23:1-12). This had to be the daylight portion of Nisan 13. Herod then sent Jesus back to Pilate, and we read in the book of John:

“When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha.

“And it was THE PREPARATION OF THE PASSOVER, and about the *sixth hour*: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King!” (John 19:13-14).

Now when was the “sixth hour”? In his gospel, John always used JEWISH TIME reckoning (see John 4:1-6). The “sixth hour” meant TWELVE NOON! Jesus said, “Are there not twelve hours in the day?” (John 11:9). Daylight begins around 6 AM in the morning and ends around 6 PM in the evening. But in Jewish time reckoning, the first hour of daylight is hour “one,” and therefore the “sixth hour” would be TWELVE NOON, our time – the *middle of the day*! That is when Pilate finally condemned Christ to be crucified!

This had to be Nisan 13, the middle of the day. Then Jesus was whipped, scourged, and delivered to prison, and was led out to be crucified the next morning, and was nailed to the stake at the “third hour” of the day – NINE A.M., in the morning, our modern time (see Mark 15:20, 23-25). This could not have been the same day Pilate condemned Christ to death, because that sentencing occurred at twelve noon, the middle of the day, and Jesus was nailed to the stake at 9:00 A.M., in the morning of the day He was crucified! Otherwise, we would have the strange anomaly of Christ being crucified three hours *before* He was judged and condemned!

The preparation period for the Passover, then, was from Nisan 10 through the 14th, when the lambs were killed in the afternoon – at the very time Jesus Himself, our Passover Lamb, died on the cross (I Cor.5:7). Killing the lamb was just *the final part* of

the preparation needed to properly observe the Passover Feast.

During the preparation period, all leaven had to be put out of the homes of the people, and gotten rid of, and preparations had to be made for the obtaining of unleavened bread, wine, groceries, rooms had to be cleaned and or rented, and other preparations for the Passover dinner on Nisan 15, and the rest of Passover week, had to be made.

Thus the days from Nisan 10 to the 14th of Nisan was a very busy, sometimes hectic, time of "preparation." Finally, on the afternoon of the 14th, the lambs, themselves, had to be taken to the Temple, and inspected by the priests to be sure they were "kosher," and had no blemishes, and then had to be killed during the afternoon of Nisan 14, between roughly 3 and 5 o'clock, as Josephus the Jewish historian states.

When the Lambs Were Killed

Josephus, a leading Pharisee and Jewish general of the first century, and the greatest Jewish historian of ancient times, wrote concerning this subject. In his book *Wars of the Jews*, he declared: "So these high priests, upon the coming of their feast which is called the PASSOVER, WHEN THEY SLAY THEIR SACRIFICES FROM THE NINTH HOUR TO THE ELEVENTH . . ." (*Wars*, Bk.VI, ix, 3).

Edersheim describes the preparations of the Passover in his book *The Temple: Its Ministry and Services* --

"The special preparations for the Passover commenced on the evening of the 13th of Nisan, with which, according to Jewish reckoning, the 14th began, the day being computed from evening to evening. Then the head of the house was to search with a lighted candle all places where leaven was usually kept, and to put what of it he found in the house in a safe place, whence no portion could be carried away by accident. Before doing this, he prayed: 'Blessed art thou, YHVH, our God, King of the Universe, who hast sanctified us by Thy commandments, and commanded us to remove the leaven.' And after it he said: 'All the leaven that is in my possession, that which I have seen and that which I have not seen, be it null, be it accounted as the dust of the earth.' The search itself was to be accomplished in perfect silence and with a lighted candle. To this search the apostle may have referred in the admonition to 'purge out the old leaven' (I Cor. 5:7)" (p.172).

Edersheim continues about events during the daylight portion of the "preparation day" of Nisan 14:

"Early on the forenoon of the 14th of Nisan the feast of the Passover may be said to have begun. In Galilee, no work was done all that day; in Judaea it was continued till mid-day; the rule, however, being that no new work was to be commenced, though that which was in hand might be carried on. . . . The strictest opinion fixes ten o'clock as the latest hour when leaven might be eaten, the more lax eleven. From that hour till twelve o'clock it was required to abstain from leaven, while at twelve it was to be solemnly destroyed, either by burning, immersing it in water, or scattering it to the winds."

Edersheim points out that the regular “evening sacrifice,” of the Passover day, was slain an hour earlier than on other days – at 1:30 in afternoon. Customarily, on most days it was slain at 2:30 P.M. and offered at 3:30, but on the eve of Passover it was killed an hour earlier. (If Nisan 14 fell on a Friday, then it was killed two hours earlier, or at 12:30 in the afternoon, so as to prevent any breach of the Sabbath day, so that all Passover sacrifices would be accomplished before sunset and the beginning of the weekly Sabbath.)

The Passover lambs had to be slain also, as part of the “preparation” for the Passover. They had to be slain at the Temple or sanctified areas. Edersheim describes the scene in this way:

“It was done on this wise: -- The first of the three festive divisions, with their Paschal lambs, was admitted within the Court of the Priests. Each division must consist of not less than thirty persons (3 x 10, the symbolic number of the Divine and of completeness). Immediately the massive gates were closed behind them. The priest drew a threefold blast from their silver trumpets when the Passover was slain. Altogether the scene was most impressive. All along the Court up to the altar of burnt-offering priests stood in two rows, the one holding golden, the other silver bowls. In these the blood of the Paschal lambs, which each Israelite slew for himself (as representative of his company at the Paschal Supper), was caught up by a priest, who handed it to his colleague, receiving back an empty bowl, and so the bowls with the blood were passed up to the priest at the altar, who jerked it in one jet at the base of the altar. While this was going on, a most solemn hymn of praise was raised, the Levites leading in song, and the offerers either repeating after them or merely responding . . .” (p.175).

“If the ‘Hallel’ had been finished before the service of one division was completed, it was repeated a second and, if needful, even a third time. . . . Next, the sacrifices were hung up on hooks along the Court, or laid on staves which rested on the shoulders of two men (on Sabbaths they were not laid on staves), then flayed, the entrails taken out and cleansed, and the inside fat separated, put in a dish, salted, and placed on the fire of the altar of burnt-offering. This completed the sacrifice. The first division of offerers being dismissed, the second entered, and finally the third, the service being in each case conducted in precisely the same manner. Then the whole service concluded by burning the incense and trimming the lamps for the night” (p.177).

Thus the Passover preparation day of the 14th of Nisan was filled with activity, as the people got ready for the Passover seder/dinner at the beginning of Nisan 15.

The “Last Supper”

The disciples asked Jesus about preparing for the Passover. He told them what to do, and they did it. The Passover was still several days away – it took time to prepare. It could not have been that very evening, because the Passover lambs must be slaughtered on the afternoon of the 14th of Abib, then roasted several hours, and then eaten on the 15th of Abib, the beginning of the “Feast” of Passover/Unleavened Bread.

So that evening, after the disciples did as He said, they all sat down at a final farewell type of meal, just a regular supper but superimposed with meaning because it would be their last one together. It was not and could not have been the Passover itself, because that year Jesus WAS the sacrificed Passover lamb – and He was killed at the very time the Passover lambs were being slain. Therefore, this meal was BEFORE the Passover (John 13:1). It was not the Passover. How could He both eat it and BE it the same year? He was already dead and buried when the Jews began eating the Passover lambs.

The lady in her letter quoted, “When it was evening, He was reclining at table with the twelve disciples. And as they were eating, He said, “Solemnly I say to you, one of you will betray Me!” This occurred later that same day, at evening, but it does not say it was the Passover! This was that same evening, but does NOT mention the Passover – just that they were “eating.” There is no mention of the requirements for the Passover – i.e. lamb, bitter herbs, unleavened bread (see Exodus 12).

If the Passover was that very night, then surely He would have advised them *much sooner* to begin preparations for it! The common interpretation of this passage makes Jesus out to be a disorganized, confused individual who asked His disciples to "prepare" for the Feast, but waited till the *very last minute* to do so! If we assume the traditional Passover was that very night, then they had to kill and roast the lamb, themselves, that very night, without taking it to the Temple for the priests to approve of it (the Temple was closed at night). This would have taken *hours*.

The whole idea is preposterous nonsense!

No, the fact is Jesus told His disciples to prepare DAYS in advance -- the actual day was Monday, Nisan 12. That night, Nisan 13, He held the "last supper." Later that night, He was arrested, and arrayed before Pilate and Herod the next morning, and finally condemned by Pilate at 12 o'clock NOON on Nisan 13. And He was finally crucified at 9 o'clock in the morning, of Nisan 14 – the very day the Jews killed their Passover lambs!

The ‘Last Supper’ therefore has NOTHING WHATSOEVER to do with the Passover dinner itself! Those churches and ministers who confuse the two things are totally and sadly mistaken. They should know better!

Now if Jesus was indeed setting us an example to take the “Passover” that very night, then it should be obvious that He and the disciples did not eat until about 10-12 P.M.! The sun would have set around 6:00 P.M., then they would have gone into Jerusalem to find the man, and followed him to his house, then they had to make the room ready and prepare for the “Passover.” The lamb had to be roasted (if this was a true "Passover"), and certainly all these preparations would have taken from 7:00 P.M. until about 11:00 P.M. or even later. If this is what modern churches believe to be the Passover, then WHY don't they keep it about 11:00 P.M.?

The whole idea reeks of folly and foolishness!

What The “Lord’s Supper” Really Was!

But what, then, was this special meal, or dinner, they were to have that very night? Could it also have been classified or considered as "part of the Passover"? It was certainly a very special occasion. But it occurred BEFORE Passover Week! It occurred on one of the prior "preparation" days. It was a meal that concluded the final instructions Jesus had to give His disciples, before His impending death. It was certainly very special. But *it was not the “Passover”!*

Rather, as David Stern writes in a footnote of the *Jewish New Testament Commentary*, this was a kind of banquet celebrating the conclusion of a period of study and instruction, after completing a course of special education. They had been with Jesus three years. They had completed a course of religious instruction, to prepare them to become apostles. And, this was a final meal celebrating their accomplishment, and preparing them for the future, when He would no longer be literally among them on the earth.

Says David Stern:

“However, Joseph Shulam has suggested that it may have been not the *Seder* but a *se’udat-mitzvah* the ‘celebratory banquet accompanying performance of a commandment’ such as a wedding or *b’rit-milah*.’

“Here is the background for his argument. When a rabbi and his students finish studying a tractate of the Talmud, they celebrate with a *se’udat-mitzvah* (also called a *se’udat-siyum*, ‘banquet of completion,’ i.e., graduation)” (*Jewish New Testament Commentary*, page 77).

According to Joseph Shulam, “since Yeshua knew he was to die, he may have regarded it as appropriate to complete his disciples earthly ‘course of study’ with a banquet” (*ibid.*). Says David Stern, “This solution would also resolve the perceived conflict between Yochanan [the gospel of John] and the Synoptic Gospels over the timing of the Last Supper” (*ibid.*).

We must not assume, or jump to conclusions, that this dinner was the Passover, without real solid evidence. The whole picture puzzle must fit together, with each piece fitting in perfectly, without “forcing” them, to get the right picture!

The apostle John records this event: “Now *before the Feast of the Passover*, when Jesus knew that HIS HOUR HAD COME that He should depart from this world, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. And *supper being served* [“ended” is a poor translation; my Bible margin says, “*during supper*”], the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, Jesus . . . *rose from SUPPER . . .*” (John 13:1-4).

Notice! This was “*before the Feast of the Passover*”! Therefore it could not have been the traditional, normal *Passover*! Supper was still being served when Jesus arose to wash the disciples’ feet. John nowhere calls this meal a “Passover.” He simply

calls it “supper.”

The Word “Artos”

What about the use of the word “artos” for “bread” at the last supper? What kind of bread was this? The word itself simply means “bread,” or even “food.” It is a generic word, and generally refers to regular (leavened) bread. It is used also in Matthew 4:4 and Luke 4:4 in reference to bread, generally speaking – or “food.”

Says *Thayer’s Lexicon*, “bread; food composed of flour mixed with water and baked.” Also, “food of any kind.” “A small loaf or cake,” says *Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words*. Says *Vine’s*, “The loaf at the Lord’s Supper.” Also, “bread of any kind” (Matt.16:11). (It is number 740 in Strong’s Concordance).

The word for “unleavened” bread, on the other hand, such as matzos, would be “*azumos*.” (#106 in Strong’s Concordance.) It means, “unfermented, free from leaven” (*Thayer’s Lexicon*). Says *Vine’s*, “denotes ‘unleavened bread,’ i.e. without any process of fermentation.” “With the article it signifies the feast of unleavened bread.” (See article “Bread,” page 77, Greek section).

Therefore, the bread at the Last Supper, *artos*, would have been regular leavened “bread,” which in this case Jesus dipped in a sop or sauce. This would be normal. If it had been “unleavened bread,” why didn’t Luke call it “unleavened bread” – that is, *azumos*! He didn’t because it wasn’t unleavened bread. The Jews would not begin eating “unleavened bread” until the night of Nisan 14, beginning of Nisan 15, when the FEAST of ‘Unleavened Bread’ began!

David Stern calls it “matzah” unfortunately, in *The Jewish New Testament*, simply because he *assumes* it was unleavened, because he *assumes* the last supper likely was the Passover, and in that case the bread would have to have been unleavened – like matzah. So he did not simply translate the word as it should be, “bread,” but rendered his own interpretation on the passage, and used the word matzah, which is unleavened bread. His usage is an interpretation, not a “translation.”

At this “supper” they ate regular “bread,” because the Feast had not yet begun (verse 1). The Greek word for “bread” used for this evening’s bread is *artos* and normally refers to leavened bread unless qualified otherwise with a modifier. The Greek word for *unleavened bread* is *AZUMOS*. The bread Jesus and the disciples ate this evening was the kind that one would “dip” into a gravy, as a “sop.” Jesus told John, when he asked Him who would betray Him, “It is he to whom I shall give a *piece of bread* when I have *dipped* it” (John 13:26). “And having *dipped the bread*, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. Now *after the piece of bread*, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, What you do, do quickly” (verse 27).

The next verse explains that no one knew why Jesus said this to Judas. “For some

thought, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus had said to him, ‘Buy those things *we need for the Feast,*’ or that he should give something to the poor” (verses 28-29).

Now if this was the PASSOVER DINNER, doesn't it seem strange that the disciples thought Jesus was *sending Judas away from the Passover, right in the middle of it, to BUY GROCERIES FOR THE FEAST?*

That makes no sense at all!

If this was the Passover, then the markets would have most likely been closed, and certainly no shopping would be allowed to interrupt the very Passover dinner itself! The very fact that the disciples had such a thought in their minds indicates plainly that they knew this meal itself was not the Passover, but indeed was a very special meal eaten together as a "love banquet."

Now notice Luke 22:14: “And when the *hour had come*, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him.” This compares with John 13:1: “Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew *His hour had come* that He should depart from this world to the Father . . .” In neither passage does it say that the “hour” of the Passover had come! Rather, it was the “hour of His betrayal” that had come. Jesus knew that this night would be His last with His disciples, until after His forthcoming death and resurrection.

A “Forbidden” Desire

Now we come to the most enigmatic, perplexing verse of all. This is the verse which is the most misunderstood verse in all the New Testament, I believe. Notice! We have been studying this subject in context, bringing together all the related Scriptures. Now we come to Luke 22, verses 15-16. Here Jesus said to the disciples:

“With *fervent desire* I have desired to eat *this Passover* with you before I suffer; for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”

Let’s take a spiritual microscope to this verse, and analyze it very carefully. Let’s notice what it *does* say as well as what it *does not* say.

What, then, did Jesus mean when He said, “With fervent desire I have desired to eat *this Passover* with you before I suffer”? The word for “desire” in this verse is an unusual word, *epithumia* in the Greek, and means “a longing, especially for that which is *forbidden*” (see *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*, #1939). The word for “desire” in this verse is very important to understanding the context of Jesus’ words. Says *Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon*, “desire, craving, longing,” “specifically for what is *forbidden*.” This is the “strongest expression of intense desire,” whether good or bad, says the Jamieson, Fausset, Brown *Critical-Experimental Commentary*.

In other words, Jesus here very likely was saying He desired to eat the normal, traditional Passover with His disciples, which would be held two *evenings* from then [i.e. the Last Supper was on the beginning of the 13th and the Passover seder would be at the

beginning of Nisan 15], but He knows that such a thing will be *impossible* – that it is *forbidden* – that for Him to fulfill God's PLAN He must be dead and in the grave that evening, and therefore it is *forbidden* and *impossible* for Him to eat that Passover seder meal with them, with all its special meanings and integral significance! HE COULD NOT BOTH “EAT” THE PASSOVER AND “BE” THE PASSOVER AT THE SAME TIME!!!

Suppose a man was talking to a friend in the world, and told him a few days before Thanksgiving, "With desire I have desired to celebrate *this Thanksgiving* with you before I leave, but unfortunately I have to take a long trip and won't be here for the holiday. But I won't be able to keep Thanksgiving with you this year."

In other words, it is nothing more than *pure assumption* on the part of some ministers and teachers to conclude that this verse “proves” Jesus was celebrating the Passover that very evening! This verse proves nothing of the kind – in fact, it says, in reality, that it would be IMPOSSIBLE – “FORBIDDEN” – for Christ to “eat” the Passover that year with His disciples! His statement proves that the last supper was NOT and could NOT be the “Passover” at all! The truth is the very opposite, when we understand the context!

Is It Really “Passover”?

One person asked me, “Why did Christ call the last supper ‘Passover’?” “Is that a mistranslation”? But wait. As I have written in this article, did Christ *really* call the last supper ‘Passover’? No He did not. When He sat down with them, at the supper, and said, “I have desired to eat *this Passover* with you,” He was not referring to that very meal, but the upcoming Passover which would be celebrated by all the Jews at the end of Nisan 14, beginning of the 15th, as they did all throughout history.

People get confused over His use of the word “this” and ASSUME He was talking about that very meal. But there is too much evidence that such could not possibly be the case. It was the wrong time. No lamb is mentioned, nor were they slain on the 13th anyway, but the afternoon of the 14th.

In other words, Jesus here was saying He really desired to eat the normal, traditional Passover with His disciples, which would be held on the *end of Nisan 14, beginning of Nisan 15*, but He knows that such a thing will be *impossible* – that it is *forbidden* – that for Him to fulfill God's PLAN He must be dead and in the grave that evening, and therefore it is *forbidden* and *impossible* for Him to eat that upcoming Passover meal with them, with all its special meanings and integral significance! – Rather, He would BECOME our “Passover lamb” and be sacrificed Himself, for us! Otherwise, God’s plan could not be completed, and we would not have our opportunity for salvation, or all mankind, for God made “Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God through Him” (II Cor.5:21).

In other words, it is nothing more than *pure assumption* on the part of some to

conclude that this verse proves Jesus was celebrating the Passover that very evening! This verse proves nothing of the kind -- in fact, it implies the very opposite, when we understand the context!

Alfred Edersheim in his excellent book *The Temple: Its Ministry and Service*, in his chapter on "The Paschal Feast and the Lord's Supper," makes an excellent comment showing why this final meal Jesus held with His disciples *could not possibly be the "Passover,"* if it were held a day or more prior to the actual Passover.

Alfred Edersheim was born in 1825 and died in 1889. He was born to Jewish parents in Vienna and was converted to Christianity as a young man. He studied theology in Edinburgh and Berlin and was one of the leading authorities of his time regarding the doctrines and practices of Judaism in the centuries preceding and during the time of Christ and the early Christian era.

Edersheim states in blunt and incontrovertible terms:

"At the outset we may dismiss, as unworthy of serious discussion, the theory, either that our Lord had observed the Paschal Supper at another than the regular time for it [Nisan 15], or that St. John meant to intimate that He had partaken of it on the 13th instead of the 14th of Nisan. **To such violent hypotheses, which are wholly uncalled for, there is this one conclusive answer, that, except on the evening [latter part] of the 14th of Nisan, NO PASCHAL LAMB COULD HAVE BEEN OFFERED IN THE TEMPLE, AND THEREFORE NO PASCHAL SUPPER CELEBRATED IN JERUSALEM**" (P.193).

This historic point, offered by Edersheim, proves that *if* this last supper were the "Passover," then it had to occur at the end of Nisan 14, beginning of Nisan 15. Since we have already proved that Jesus was slain at the time of the Passover lambs, prior to the Holy Day of Nisan 15, then plain and simply, this final meal *could not constitute the true historic Passover!*

The Spirit of Error

Many churches today have it all wrong. And they will be judged by Almighty God and Jesus Christ for their careless and false teaching on this subject! Beware and be warned of false teachers who will strive to distract you, lure you with their arguments, and puffed up "authority," and attempt to make "merchandise" of you! This is far too serious a matter to take lightly, or off-handedly, or to trust some clerical figure with your salvation! Beware lest any man "steal your crown" and cause you to lose out on God's gift of salvation which He offers to those who OBEY Him and keep His commandments (Matt.19:17; 5:19-20). It is time to stop assuming and "contend earnestly" for the faith once delivered to the saints! (Jude 3). For more information on this subject, write for our free articles on: "Jesus' Last Week," "The New Testament Passover," "A New Look at the Passover," "When Should the Passover be Observed?," "The Plot Against the Passover," "What Do You Mean, 'The Sixth Hour'?", and our four free Bible Correspondence Course lessons on the Passover.

Astounding PROOF! THE UNITED STATES is Really “EPHRAIM”!

Astonishing as it may seem, most people who understand the ancient identity of the Anglo-Saxon peoples HAVE IT BACKWARDS! They are terribly CONFUSED as to who is really “Ephraim” and who is “Manasseh”!

The United States and Britain are *often* mentioned in END-TIME Bible prophecies! But most people don’t understand WHO IS WHO! The world has been in TOTAL ignorance of the amazing prophecies in the Bible about EPHRAIM! The whole book of Hosea the prophet seems to FOCUS on this people! But WHO ARE THEY?

Ephraim now stands IDENTIFIED in the world today AS AMERICA! Great Britain stand identified as the people of “Manasseh”! The evidence is in – and it is overwhelming. Ephraim was prophesied to be much greater than his older brother Manasseh! Moses wrote of the “thousands of Manasseh, and the TEN THOUSANDS of Ephraim” (Deut.33:17). Correlating evidence from history, the Talmud, Jewish commentaries, the ancient study of heraldic emblems and the Biblical record, William F. Dankenbring sets forth the amazing CASE FOR EPHRAIM being the United States!

But what does it all MEAN? What difference does it make? A true grasp of Bible prophecy depends on this knowledge! Make no mistake! Your FUTURE depends on this knowledge! In *America and Great Britain: Our Identity Revealed! Ephraim and Manasseh in the End of Days*, William Dankenbring also explains what is going to happen to these peoples in the onrushing future and Great Tribulation. Price: Now only \$20.00. Buy one, next one HALF PRICE (\$10.00)! 450 incredible pages. Sample chapters include:

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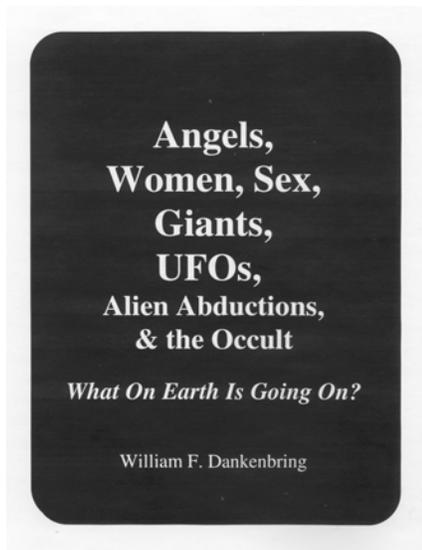
Yes, by all means, I don’t want to remain ignorant. Rush me *AMERICA AND GREAT BRITAIN – OUR IDENTITY REVEALED! EPHRAIM AND MANASSEH IN THE END OF DAYS!* Please send _____ volumes. Enclosed is _____ to cover cost.

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Return of the Nephilim –

Did Celestial Beings Marry Women Before the FLOOD?



Did ancient beings from another dimension come down to earth, and breed with human women, producing offspring known as “the Nephilim,” Zamzummin, Rephaim – the “giants” of antiquity? Who were they? What was their purpose? Can “angels” – celestial beings – become flesh and blood and cohabit with women, siring children? What really happened in the days of Noah, that brought on the wrath of Almighty God?

Many ancient sources testify that certain celestial beings, under the influence of Lucifer, rebelled big time against the God of heaven, and violated His laws which ordain that there must be no inter-breeding between different “kinds” or “species” among the created beings of the Universe.

The Bible itself bears witness. In Genesis 6:1-4, we read: “The *sons of God* saw that the daughters of men were fair, and they took wives of all that they desired and chose. . . There were giants in the earth in those days – and also afterward – when the *sons of God* lived with the daughters of men, and they bore CHILDREN to them” (Amplified Parallel Bible). Who were these “sons of God”? The Septuagint Version has this verse, “the sons of God (*Alexandrian*, ANGELS of God) having seen the daughters of men.” Josephus, in *Antiquities of the Jews*, says, “for many angels of God accompanied with women, and begat sons that proved unjust, and despisers of all that was good, on account of the confidence they had in their own strength, for the tradition is that these men did what resembled the acts of those whom the Grecians called GIANTS” (Jos., *Ant.*, Bk.1, III, 1). Says the translator William Whiston, in a footnote, “This notion, that the fallen angels were, in some sense, the fathers of the old giants, was the constant opinion in antiquity.” Angels are called the “sons of God” in the book of Job: “Now there was a day when the *sons (ANGELS) of God* came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan (the adversary and accuser) also came among them” (Job 1:6). Did some of these angels rebel against God and have sex with women? Read the evidence and discover the astounding, mind-boggling TRUTH!

Please rush me your book on *Return of the Nephilim: Angels, Women, Sex, Giants and UFOs.*

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Letters from Our Readers

“May God richly bless you all, keep you from the evil one, and make His face to shine upon you all. I love you all very much even though I’ve never seen your faces. I cannot adequately express my real gratitude for your gift to me of 20 teaching pamphlets which I recently received at your expense. Thank you so very much for the sacrifices you all must be making to be able to so generously publish the Word of God abroad.

“My search for God’s pure and holy truth has been a difficult one and unfortunately I have exposed myself to a great variety of teachings in my desperate graspings to be sure I know and believe what God wants me to know and believe. I am sometimes confused and uncertain as to what is really the real truth. I was very attracted to Herbert Armstrong’s work and subsequently Gerald Flurry’s, but even as I read much of their material something ‘felt’ wrong. I couldn’t deny the ‘correctness’ of the things they said but sometimes the spirit of their work was frightening. I felt like a brainwashing subject or like I was being indoctrinated into something that seemed righteous but felt unclean. I wanted to surrender to their spiritual authority but something held me in check and I was cautiously apprehensive. It seemed I was close to something holy and good but was still on a slightly wrong track. I despaired to know if there was a real family of God truly living according to God’s divinely ordained lifestyle and doing so ‘spiritually’ and not ‘religiously.’

“As I examine your teachings I find that ‘comfortableness’ I could never release myself to under Mr. Flurry and Mr. Armstrong. Somehow I love these two men very much but am also a little concerned or frightened by obeying or following them. They seem (forgive me Lord if I’m wrong or lying) a little cultish or demagogue-ish. I’m afraid that joining their church could actually cost me my salvation through legalism and worship of men. I cry out to the Lord every day to accept me in Christ and to lead me to His real true family of children, the real spirit and true worshippers of the one true and holy God. Is there such a thing? There must

be. Am I worthy? I doubt it, but maybe God and Jesus Christ will mercifully make me so. I want the real power of God’s holiness in my life, not some self-delusional religious window dressing. I don’t care what the world or my family thinks, I want to find God’s true fellowship and abandon myself to it completely. My desire and willingness to completely submit also presents me with a dilemma. What if I choose the wrong group or church? I will have sold out to a lost and wandering camp, and opened myself up to receive deception. Please pray for me that God’s Holy Spirit will lead and guide me and please join me in agreement that God will give me a strong and a sure confirmation as to my spiritual directions and choosings.

“. . . I believe that my discovery of your church and its publications was no accident. I have been crying out to God for nearly 2 years to deliver me to the truth, then just a few months prior to my release another inmate introduced me to your material. I had never heard of you all prior to that. I loved what I read and ordered several pamphlets for myself. You responded quickly and my spirit rejoiced at what I read. I have no learning or understanding about how to properly observe all things we children of God are supposed to be observing. . . .

“The ‘church’ here at my unit is extremely steeped in Baptist theology. The chaplain has been in place for several years and even the outside ministries which come here are his spiritual associates. They have services virtually every day EXCEPT on Saturday. They judiciously AVOID having worship services on this particular day. . . I have to tell you the truth, I do attend the Sunday services here and try to offer sincere worship when I do, but then I am grieved by many of the things I hear from the pulpit. I feel guilty when I don’t go, but grieved when I do. This whole unit is deeply indoctrinated into eternal security and grace only teachings and these doctrines are weekly reinforced so eloquently I myself become confused and concerned that I’m ‘Judaizing’ myself and ‘falling from grace’ with my belief

and hope that law keeping is part of salvation. I NEED the reinforcement of a SABBATARIAN fellowship but there is none to be had, and every time I make mention of my beliefs on Biblical doctrine I get seriously rebuked. I get everything from indignation to pity. The peer pressure is immense and I wonder to myself 'how could all these other seemingly sincere believers be so wrong or misled? Maybe I'm wrong.' But then I open my Bible and see all those 'IF'S.' Why does everyone want to ignore the 'if's'? There are literally hundreds of them, both Old and New Testament. Yes, God's promises are marvelous blessings given only because He is merciful, kind and gracious and loving, but how can so many people deny that they are all conditional? . . .

"The point is, I desperately want and need to have personal fellowship with other believers who aren't afraid to go up against the popular Christian culture's grain. I want terribly to be a part of the 'little flock' and 'be certain of the things I have believed.' Will you all take the time to help me? Will someone contact me for correspondence

"I still believe my confession of Christ and my water baptism were/are both sincere and valid as they were done in faith and obedience to the light I had at the time. But I have never been fully satisfied with my experience as a believer or in my relations to the 'church.' I always felt out of place and that there was something more to the faith and religion to which I've claimed to belong.

"Also, when I first came to Christ, I saw and believed the Old Testament promises and commands of God and believed we were still supposed to obey and follow them, but I was in a mainstream church and was taught against that impulse/notion and actually told to be afraid of those ideas as 'deception.'

"Needless to say, I now experience confusion and doubts about what God really desires from us as His children. Am I 'offending' God and Christ if I love, embrace and obey His Law? How could this be? But yet there are those who will tell you so, they will accuse you of not 'trusting' Christ or that you don't believe He is 'good enough' to save you alone. I do believe Jesus is the only sacrificial offering which can qualify me to come before God and that without His holy blood I cannot ever hope to be clean in God's sight and that I cannot ever cleanse

myself. But having how been made clean, what must I do? Can I carelessly live a haphazard, mediocre life and just keep expecting grace to make up the slack? Having been healed and delivered by mercy and grace shouldn't I be careful not to lose my free gift? Shouldn't I now gratefully worship Him according to His eternally established standards? What if I squander, waste, or fumble this incredibly precious gift of life and gracious opportunity extended to me by the loving and merciful hand of God? I deserve to go to hell for all the awful, ugly and unclean things I've thought, said, and done. There's no way I can undo them all or even try to make them right, only God and my High Priest Jesus Christ can atone for me and give me salvation freely by grace. But now that they have called me to repentance, can I irreverently and disrespectfully insult this awesome and holy Spirit of grace by saying, in effect, 'Your Law, commandments, and statutes have no rule over me, I will only just follow my own conscience unto whatever good I think/feel is right.' 'I'll make my own good and establish my own righteousness according to my own understanding. I don't need Your codified Law to govern me, I'll just obey/follow the Spirit and observe whatever practices "feel" right to me, without checking them with the guides and values You gave us in Your Law.'

"Is this the sort of 'Liberty' Christ died to win for us? Did He wash, clean, sanctify us and bring us into the family of God so we all could be a bunch of self-governing loose cannons? . . .

"Oh yes, I also want you to know I'm sharing and spreading around the ones you've already sent, so they are in circulation and are being used to promote the truth with others than just myself. Well, God Bless you very much and keep up the awesome Work!!"

-- Texas

"May this letter find you in the most wholeness of health. And your new year off to a tremendous start. I'm writing as an unlettered prisoner serving a life term. Currently incarcerated in one of California's isolation units for the past 36 months. I've had numerous publications come across my path over the years.

"The most eye-opening was the July-August 2009 Prophecy Flash, 'Behold, the White Horse! The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse.'

"I am realizing at the age of 37 I have obviously been on the wrong road going nowhere with my life. I have to honestly say its been hard working on my morality, faithfulness in the ways of God. Which brings me to this point in order to make some improvement in my conditions. And seeking much needed education and awareness. I'm writing to ask if you can possibly take me under consideration to be a subscriber of Prophecy Flash? Because I know I can truly benefit from your firsthand information within the publication. . . .

"Mr. Dankenbring, as you can see I'm thirsty for knowledge/insight for improvement in my life. Thank you for taking the time to view this brief letter for it's extremely appreciated. I look forward to hearing from you soon. My love and prayers to all."

-- California

"I have been reading borrowed materials of yours, from a faithful brother of mine.

"It is awe-inspiring and I would now ask that you please send me a catalog of all of your available free literature , please. I am a very serious student of God's Holy Bible and I study fervently all day long, daily. It is evident that your literature is the next step God wants me to take, as it is a clearer, deeper and more profound approach and declaration of God's truth. I must have understanding of real truth, my life in Christ depends upon knowing, declaring and living it. While reading your study booklets, I immediately felt an inner growth in intimacy begin toward God and Jesus His Son. This removed an impersonality which was a hindrance to my spiritual growth. I thank you in advance, and do look forward to growing in Christ through a greater, more personal understanding, by way of your faithful witness."

-- Texas

"I just finished reading Nov/Dec. 2009 issue and was very happy with all the newest facts and figures re: our nations economy crisis. I for one am watching prophecy unfold at an alarming pace. Thank you very much for your faithfulness in keeping the Body of True Believers informed.

"I am deeply into Jasher and I Enoch ... and really enjoying the spectrum of information. I can understand much better now where numerous 'doctrines' came from. I am withholding my final opinions until I gather

more info though. I try very hard now to keep an open mind because I try to make all course corrections as new revelation opens my eyes!! Being elderly now, I find it a challenge to rethink years of 'brainwashing' from numerous denominational stances. I now consider myself a simple believer in the Holy Scriptures...with no real connection with any specific group. But I do lean towards the Hebrew names and concepts, a lot.

"I am passing your materials around...and people who are REAL TRUTH SEEKERS are happy with your straight-forward and scriptural basis. . . .

"May Yahweh make His face to shine upon you, Brother Dankenbring, and I sincerely pray you have GREAT PEACE added unto you!!"

-- Texas

"May I call you Bill? I don' want to presume to be too familiar, but I hold you in high regard as a brother, no, more like my spiritual father, for if I hadn't been introduced to your writing I may have never had come to Christ. Before reading your book about Ephraim and Manasseh, I believed in the so-called 'scientific' theory of evolution, and had no use for religion. I was a staunch atheist and began my Bible study for the sole purpose of finding the 'contradictions' in the Bible to use to ridicule my Christian counterparts. I fully repent of this and hope to grow into a good Christian.

"Here lately I've been studying your articles on Revelation and Daniel's 1260, 1290 and 1335 day prophecy in order to assist me in keeping the time line in order. I drew up a chart of sorts of the last week. For a little bit I was confused because I thought you meant the 'extra 30' fell within the year #7 of the week, but then I read about the prophetic significance of the years 604 B.C., 657 A.D., 1917 AD, 1947 AD, and 1992 AD and the fact that they are a perfect picture of the last week (2520, two 1260s) and 'extra' 30 and 45 years. These fulfillments of prophecy absolutely blew my mind. So when I incorporated this into my chart, I noticed a very strange thing. If one takes the fact that the 7th seal trumpet plagues) constitute the day (year) of the Lord, it stands to reason that the other 6 seals may also stand for a 'day' each. Not that I mean that the effects of the first seal (white horse) stop after a year, but that a year after the first seal is opened the second is, and a year after that, the

third is opened, etc. Following this time line, the Beast of Revelation is/will rise to 'power' after his head wound, 6 months after the 'pale' or 'green' horse begins his ride, who you quite reasonably equate with the king of the south. The activities of militant Islam is a perfect excuse for the king of the north to consolidate his power. He would then thrash the king of the south for the next six months before the job is done and the 5th seal is opened and begins the persecution of saints, no longer having his hands full with the king of the south. Note again that I mean that the seals overlap, the first being in effect for up to all seven years, the second during (up to) the last 6, #3 up to the last 5, etc., so that the persecution continues until the second coming of the Messiah.

"Now the seventh seal takes up the last 'day' of the week, and the seventh trumpet takes up the 'extra' 30 days, the hour of Babylon's judgment, then maybe the first six trumpets are evenly divided across the last 'day', taking 2 'hours' or months each. This makes sense because as Revelation 9:20 states, the trumpet plagues are meant to incite repentance. Two months seems a reasonable amount of time, but the first woe seems to show that the six trumpets will also overlap. According to the idea of every two months, woe #1 is blown at the start of month 9 of year 7 and lasts 5 months, #'s 9, 10, 11, 12 + the 'extra' 30 equals 5.

"The 'extra extra' 45 days still have me a bit stumped, but I think I may have a solution to it. It says in Revelation 8 that at the opening of the 7th seal there is silence in heaven for about a 'half hour' – if an hour is 30 days, then half would be 15. Rev.18:6 says to put in Babylon's cup a 'double portion' of the wine of wrath. So maybe Babylon's (just the capital city or maybe Rome) would get twice the wrath, or another 30 days? This is all speculation and probably wrong because in the day for a year interpretation, the extra 45 are all together, not divided into portions . . ."

-- Texas

"I've recently been truly blessed by a fellow brother and believer and a man who helps share the 'truth' I've been seeking in our God's most precious word. I had/have been praying for an ever increasing knowledge and to gain wisdom and understanding for God's Word. And Boom – this brother who you know is a Godsend to me . . . He has been gracious enough to share all of

the literature he has with all of us here. Especially to those who the Lord is opening their eyes and ears of their hearts – revealing Himself to us more fully as never before. It's what my spirit and soul have been hungering for, for months on end.

"I had found in reading the Scriptures that I had more questions than answers. I so desired to fill in the Blanks and now—the Keys of His Kingdom have and are being placed in my hands by a faithful servant who you guys have helped train and God is using mightily. His heart is so big and he gives us hope and vision of God's glorious Kingdom and how it all fits together.

"So I eagerly write you all this day and to request to be put on your mailing list to receive the Triumph Prophecy Flash News Magazine and also the following studies to help me get caught up and share with my brothers as my brother has shared with me. He loaned me the book of Jasher, and the "Lost books of the Bible and Forgotten books of Enoch and the Sept/Oct. issue of Prophecy Flash. He also said he will loan me the books of Enoch and Jubilees when he gets them back from someone else who is reading them along with the 'Lost Chapter of Acts.' I feel as if Yahweh opened the Floodgates of Heaven—but I also realize this is just the beginning of the deluge of Him pouring Himself out on me as it says in Joel 2:28. . . ."

-- Texas

"I am writing on behalf of trying to obtain some more of your insightful 'literature.' Your Prophecy Flash has taken me by Storm! I have gathered precious knowledge from your works and message. Not only have I learned, but I've shared with fellow peers and we are all astounded by what we've read and found in our Bibles.

"I must admit that the Best Thing I've gotten out of this current incarceration is the Chance to have run across one of your booklets. You are truly Heavenly Sent! Keep up the Great Work and may God Continue to Bless You in Your Daily Struggles."

-- Texas

"You guys are SOOOOO awesome. I have . . . must have read the Bible many times over . . . and never until your articles and booklets, has it made such great sense! Thank you SOOOO very much for these insights, for these blessings. I

even have other religions in awe reading those things. I am trying to convert all the prison and I have some fire-power now, thanks to your anointment from the Lord!

“God bless you all there at your ministries . . . and please continue to bless me with your insight and deep understanding concerning the Word. . .

“Thank you again SOOOO very much. I have never been SOOOO inspired or more hungry for the truth . . . for the Word!”

-- Texas

“For entertainment, I have been shoveling snow and chipping ice. Hope you are not doing the same in Omak. I know here in Ohio, there is real winter weather about every 30 years so this is just about normal weather. Al Gore’s global warming is just another way to steal from the average man.

“Barry Sotelo (AKA Obama) has set up a 10 governor council so called. It will give more power to the federal government. Also I was wondering if the 10 divisions that Nixon divided the US into when he was president and now Barry has appointed 10 governors over 10 divisions would be an example of the 10-headed beast of Daniel 7:20 to Daniel 7:25.

“The Chinese generals want the Chinese government to dump US dollars to punish the US for selling a few arms to Taiwan. Barry already caved in to China because he only allowed a small amount of arms to be sold to Taiwan.

“It looks like Haiti is being pushed into the New World Order. Some people that were in Haiti said the US military was grand-standing and causing more harm than helping. Clinton and Bush are begging for more money as they seem to give the job of subjecting Haiti to the New World Order.

“China is really building up their military and Russia is upgrading their military while the US is wearing their military out in useless military operations.

“China and India have both developed power sources that surpass anything the US has. The US says we have to go green but use the most inefficient means to do anything. The US has

lost the lead in new inventions and seems to be sinking fast.

“Israel will not repent so we will have to suffer the wrath of God. Yah bless His people.”

-- Ohio

“I have just finished reading your most recent *Prophecy Flash!* And I must give you all a long and loud standing ovation. Keep up the great work, you are opening eyes!”

-- Texas

“I would like to receive your magazine *Prophecy Flash* again. It has been a long time since I last received one. Sorry I didn’t follow up keeping in touch. I am a member of the ICG [International Church of God], but haven’t attended services since last Feast of Tabernacles 2009. I, and one of the other ladies I attended services with, are the only two of the small group that keeps the Passover on the 15th of Nisan. The ICG started services on April 7th at sundown; and all the next day they could eat leavened bread, all they wanted, till the next day at evening, which started on the 9th through the 15th 2009. Its been the same thing every year at Passover.

“Well, I don’t argue the issue with any of them. *They are right.* My friend and I are ‘*dead*’ *wrong*, so *they* say. I believe what the Bible teaches and that’s how I stand.

“Do you have a calendar that shows the true Holy Days and when they are to be kept? I would greatly appreciate one. I would love to help support your ministry and will – I hope I can reach you at this address . . .”

-- Tennessee

“I would like to request the following articles. Also I want to thank you for supplying these articles free of charge. You are truly following the example of Christ. These articles are very enlightening, encouraging and informative. As a prisoner here in the state of Texas, these articles are preparing me to be ready and watching with all perseverance. As a child of God I am very grateful for TPM for putting the truth out for all to see and holding nothing back. May you all at TPM be blessed with every spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ Jesus! Thank you and God bless you!!”

-- Texas

“It has been awhile since I wrote you. In fact, many months. I am trusting that you and yours have enjoyed the fall festival fellowships and all the blessings of a new year in spite of the usurper to the American Throne of power. I am also trusting that our wonderful God is blessing you in very personal ways, physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually and financially. In short—‘Shalom L’Chiam’ = Live long and Prosper/Peace unto Life for the perfect will of God always.

“I want to thank you for the wonderful material you have been so gracious to endow me with. I just received this month’s issue of Prophecy Flash and as always it is power-packed with info that feeds the soul. From what I read, our country is in serious trouble. Only God can spare us. He has been so gracious to us, and continually warns us of coming disaster because of our rebellion against Him and His Word. Not only through men of God but through natural events like that which has occurred in Haiti. When I saw the devastation on the news, it reminded me of a Biblical event: ‘And Yeshua answering said unto them, Suppose you that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans because they suffered such things? I tell you, No; but except you Tashuvah (repent), you shall all likewise perish. Or: those eighteen upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think you they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Yerusalem? I tell you, No; but except you repent, you shall all likewise perish’ (Luke 13:2-5).

“Those souls were in like rebellion to God and His Word as are the people of this nation. It is for this cause that the darkness of this nation has been revealed through the perfidy of our own leaders, whether elected, appointed, or usurped. Unless the Call of the Gospel – ‘Repent, Make straight you the way of the Lord, the Kingdom of God is near (now), is made clear and thundered from coast to coast, there is little hope for this melting pot of the nations called America.”

-- Colorado

“Should we be shocked that an earthquake has taken place in Satan’s playground? Haiti is known for occult rituals and demon possession. It has had a totally corrupt government. AIDS is an epidemic, and drug abuse afflicts the country. The vices go on and on. While we should feel deeply for what has happened, we must remember that, such a disaster was bound to

happen. The consequences for such a depraved island should, and must impress upon God’s people the urgent need for God’s Kingdom.

“How many Churches of God elaborated on the quake at Sabbath services? I ask because so many do not give sermons on bible prophecy, and the United congregation my parents attend has only had three in about 8 years. We are to the point that many brethren sadly will have to experience the very events we hear about on the news .

“On Saturday it was reported that a 5.0 quake hit Iran, and earlier today it was reported on FOX News that a 6.0 quake has rattled Guatemala. How long until cities such as LA, San Francisco Portland, Seattle, Memphis or Boston are hit?

“I’m becoming more concerned about the sending of our troops to countries affected by natural disasters. With hundreds of thousands committed to Iraq and Afghanistan, what is going to happen if multiple catastrophes hit areas at once or in succession? Will this be one way in which our military’s ranks are thinned? I am beginning to think so.

“Keep up the good work you are doing. Hopefully brethren in many of the churches of God will see the urgency of the times, and realize that time is short. Such a statement has been made numerous times and has seemed to lose its impact.”

-- Ohio

“Brothers, I was just reading about the blood red moons that will occur in 2014 & 2015, on your website. That is fascinating to say the least!! Brothers the way it’s beginning to look with the signs of the times that 2014 & 2015 will be the mid-point of the trib period. What do you think? p.s. Thanks very much for the work you've done on your research on the blood red moons . . .

“I am a big fan of your ‘Apocalypse and the End Times’. If I can let me share with you what I have figured out through Bible prophecy when the End will be!! The parable of the Fig Tree is the crux of Jesus’ Olivet Discourse. The generation He referenced in the prophecy, the mean average life span is seventy years (Psalm 90:10) So 1948 plus 70 = 2018. So if ‘all will fulfilled’ by 2018 then Daniel seventh week, the

trib period will begin in 2011. Daniel's seventh week will have to begin in the month of Nisan (Mar-Apr) – why, because his seventy weeks started in the month of Nisan, that's in Nehemiah and Daniel. So if we believe in a pre-trib rapture as Jerome called it, it should be in the Feast of Trumpets in 2010 (Month of Tishri-around 1st of Sept.) or Feast of First Fruits around the Apr-May time from in 2010. IF anyone wants to discuss this future I'll be glad to, have them contact me. “

-- Email

COMMENT: We don't believe in a “pre-trib rapture’ fantasy. Matthew 24 lays out the time frame of the second coming, and notice – Christ's coming FOR the saints (verses 30-31) occurs AFTER the tribulation period! (verses 21-29). See our articles, ‘The Secret Rapture – Fact or Fiction?’ and ‘The Rapture, Wedding Supper, and Place of Safety.’

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“What an amazing series of storms that have hit the country for the past few weeks. When seeing what is taking place I am actually asking myself where the snowmageddon series of mega-storms are leading. Not only is what is taking place deeply sobering, but I find that I have a deep respect for God's way of life in a way I never have before. All of God's people need to closely watch conditions intensely and to make sure that the relationship with God is deeply anchored.

“If ever there has been a time in which God's judgment is seen upon the nation, it is now. The stench of the sins occurring in the king's castle in Washington, D.C., has reached the nostril of God and Christ, and the aroma has stirred their anger. The nation is paying a very serious price as a result of the wicked king of modern day Ephraim, and a nation that defies the very Creator" that has blessed us beyond any nation in history. .

“It was announced today that Washington, D.C., is experiencing the heaviest amount of snowfall since records were kept in the late 1880s. The storms have picked up in intensity from the coast of California, and state after-state has been hit with the impact of a sledge hammer. The impact of God's judgment is being felt from one end of the country to the other, and the intensity of the mega-storms have ended up at the doorsteps of America's first dictator, and his Godless servants.

Is it any wonder? The United States is under a curse as Obama does everything in his power to deliberately destroy the country. Obama promoted the lie of global warming in Copenhagen. Soon, thereafter, the winter storms began and have been relentless ever since. Over 107 million Americans in 25 states have felt the impact of storms that are now hitting with a 1-2 punch. In New York City, for each inch of snow it costs \$1 million to dig the city out. It is broke, and it only compounds the financial woes of the city. Few people realize how bankrupt the city of New York and the state are. City after city is suffering under financial debt, and can ill-afford what is happening. We have already been declining rapidly, and this only compounds the financial problems. Not only has Obama been shown God's anger in Washington, but his home turf, Chicago, experienced a 3.8 quake.

“Do we realize how disturbed God and Christ are with who we have leading the country? We have a leader who will replace all the wicked kings of ancient Israel. As God's people we need to stop viewing Obama as just a bad president, but realize we have a tyrant and the first official Marxist in office. What is even more disturbing is that he is not only Marxist, but a convert to Islam. Where is the anger? God sees that it doesn't exist in this country as it should be, so his anger is being expressed by events that are becoming increasingly evident.

“For some time I have been deeply concerned about mega-disasters. As you stated in one of your tapes that I just listened to, the Great Tribulation is a time of destruction, and it will be greater than anything ever seen, or will be seen thereafter.

“I can't shake a deeply held view that the churches of God simply don't get it. Where is the urgency? I know I mention this in almost every letter I write, but there continues to be a lukewarm view of events as if it is all about personal salvation, and somehow God will work out his plan for everyone else? Am I missing something? I hope not, but in all honesty I only hear you explaining in detail just what the problems are. I am embarrassed for the Churches of God because leaders of organizations have their members convinced they are doing ‘the work.’ I not only beg to differ, but such a view can only be maintained by leaders and members who are totally out of touch with what a true

warning is. Isaiah 58:1 is not in the equation of how a warning message is given in one Church of God after another. Leaders of one church organization after another have been given the pink slip by God, but head ministers are color blind. Such is also the case for many local ministers under the same organizations.

“Thank you very much for the tapes I receive. I appreciate your enthusiasm and insight into the very mind of God. The chasm is widening by the day, and the spiritual separation is becoming so bad that the Great Tribulation won’t even be recognized when it comes. The year 2012 is looking more credible, but I know from the letters I receive that there are many brethren who scoff at the date. It is simply viewed as the Y2K hoax was, yet when stating why such a date is not viewed as credible, vague reasons are given. What a tragedy to see what has happened to God’s people, and it shows what happens when led by ministers who are just as clueless.

“I continue to pray for you and Cappy, as well as those involved in helping in a personal way. Keep up the good work, and I know God and Christ smile upon what you are doing, and what is taking place in Omak is a sweet incense in their sight.”

-- Ohio

“Obama underwrites off shore oil drilling in BRAZIL. This is a perfect example why I refrain from watching the news on ABC, NBC, CBS, or MSNBC.

“Today on a segment of the ‘Glen Beck Show’ on FOX (Fox Cable News) was the following: ‘Today, even though President Obama is against off shore drilling for our country, he signed an executive order to loan 2 Billion of our taxpayers dollars to a Brazilian Oil Exploration Company (which is the 8th largest company in the entire world) to drill for oil off the coast of Brazil ! The
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oil that comes from this operation is for the sole purpose and use of China and NOT THE USA ! Now here’s the real clincher...the Chinese government is under contract to purchase all the oil that this oil field will produce, which is hundreds of millions of barrels of oil’. We have absolutely no gain from this transaction whatsoever!

“Wait, it gets more interesting. Guess who is the largest individual stockholder of this Brazilian Oil Company and who would benefit most from this? It is American BILLIONAIRE, George Soros, who was one of President Obama’s most generous financial supporters during his campaign. If you are able to connect the dots and follow the money, you are probably as upset as I am. Not a word of this transaction was broadcast on any of the other news networks!”

-- California

“Well, thanks to the Prez stating that he wants to allow gays to serve openly in his Union address last week, this week the top brass including the Secretary of Defense AND THE Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the Pentagon and retired luminaries such as Colin Powell (who is no Patton, Grant or any true war general), have endorsed this new policy.

“Also, the Air Force Academy has erected a stone altar for druids and pagans to worship the Earth Goddess...in the name of freedom of religion. I tell you and some evangelicals have echoed this...our beloved military, of which I am a honorably discharged veteran, will suffer a major military defeat/catastrophe in the future from God for allowing all of this to happen.

“As one commentator stated, ‘King David wouldn’t have openly gay soldiers nor would he allow pagan worship at any army camp...if there was sin in the army camp, Israel would more than likely suffer defeat! David would get rid of the sin by banning it or worse.’ We are in the last days.....Lord have mercy on us.”

-- Illinois