

PROPHECY FLASH!

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

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How Much Longer Until the Great Tribulation?

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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 way of true life!

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 reveal the Kingdom of God! The prophet Amos declared, “*Prepare to meet your God, O Israel*” (Amos 4:12). Time is of the essence.

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How Much Time Left?

As this old world hurtles toward oblivion and self-destruction, as the news everywhere seems to be getting worse, we feel compelled to wonder and ask, “How much more time do we have before the Great Tribulation of the end of days, and the coming of the Messiah to save mankind from utter doom?”

Surely the signs are all around us of impending catastrophe and hard times! Never has mankind been so unprepared and so oblivious and bent on self destruction and annihilation. Economic turmoil, war fever, earthquakes, floods, drought, approaching global food crisis, they are all converging on mankind as an intensifying “perfect storm.” Are you prepared spiritually?

-- *William F. Dankenbring*

*“ . . . men who had understanding of the times,
to know what Israel ought to do”
– I Chronicles 12:32.*

When Will the Great Tribulation Begin?

How close is the coming “time of trouble” and the “Great Tribulation” and period of worldwide distress? With Red New Moon eclipses scheduled to appear on God’s annual holy days in 2015-2016, as a sign of the Imminent coming of the Messiah, is there further prophetic evidence that the 3 ½ year Great Tribulation may start in 2012? Are we now at a *turning point* in history and man’s sojourn on the earth?

William F. Dankenbring

Get ready now, for the perfect storm is coming.

Four times more jobs were lost in June than were forecast; sending economists reeling. U.S. automakers are bleeding – GM sales are down 18%, worst June in 17 years. Chrysler sales plunged nearly 50%. GM, Ford and Chrysler may have to consolidate, or be sold off to the highest foreign bidder, or even file for bankruptcy.

Starbucks is closing 600 locations, and canceling 200 new stores! Foreigners are quitting the U.S. dollar in disgust – the greenback is resuming its plunge on world markets.

Plummeting home prices have eliminated jobs in banking, real estate, construction, and furniture manufacturing. All across the country, manufacturers are closing plants and retailers like Starbucks are shuttering stores. And Wall Street just witnessed the most brutal first two quarters since 1970 and the worst June since The Great Depression began in 1930.

Oil, gold, food and many other commodities are at or near historic highs and threatening to surge higher. This news alert is from Martin Weiss, PhD who says that the truth is that the gulf between what Washington says and what we are really experiencing in the economy has never been greater.

Fortis Bank, a large bank and insurer in the Netherlands and Belgium, now predicts US financial market meltdown within mere weeks. Fortis expects bankruptcies will occur amongst 6000 American banks which have small insurance coverage currently. Or is another interest rate cut going to be implemented, which delays everything but makes the hemorrhage of the dollar even worse?

It is a bad time to be fully invested in stocks and bonds. The financial world is panicky and chaos could soon collapse the world economic system.

War continues in Iraq and Afghanistan, and President Bush warns Israel not to bomb Iran. One day before the demolition of North Korea's nuclear cooling tower, President Bush issued a declaration of national emergency. For the past 30 years America has been under one "national emergency" or another. Destruction of the cooling tower in North Korea is more show than substance. North Korea has a 100 nuclear warhead arsenal and intercontinental ballistic missiles targeted to deliver to New York City. Do not be deceived by the abrupt willingness of North Korea to destroy her main nuclear cooling tower, and by her willingness to hand over reams of documents to the Chinese.

There will definitely be another war soon! War is simmering and brewing in the Middle East once again. War could at the same time erupt between North Korea vs. South Korea, and U.S., already tied down in Iran and Afghanistan, would be like Gulliver, all tied up and helpless to intervene. And China, which has long coveted Taiwan and its high tech industry, could at the same time make its move on the island nation, with the U.S. helpless to stop it.

Meanwhile, heavy rains in the U.S. and drought in Australia signal that global harvests (particularly corn and soybeans) might fall far short of what's needed to help ease world food shortages. Food is growing short around the world, and even in the United States food shortages of rice have occurred.

A new book by Dick Morris, entitled *Fleeced*, has shot to the No.1 spot on Amazon.com's list of best sellers just three days after it was published. It is about how Barack Obama, media mockery of terrorist threats, liberals who want to kill talk radio, the do-nothing Congress, and companies that help Iran are scamming us and growing rich in the process. The book details how taxpayers are fleeced by our own government; by foreign countries like Dubai that are gobbling up American interests and spending millions to influence government decisions; and how we are fleeced by Washington lobbying firms that push the agendas of corrupt foreign dictators; and by hedge-fund billionaires collecting huge tax breaks courtesy of the IRS.

Says Morris, Barack Obama has called for \$1 trillion in tax increases over the next 10 years – and dressed them up as tax cuts. Obama has plans to raise taxes on anyone with a household income of more than \$100,000, and plans to extend health insurance to illegal immigrants, and even require the federal agents to notify terrorists

within seven days of the start of an investigation into their activities. The book explains why 50 of our Gitmo detainees are now back in Afghanistan fighting our own troops!

The world is surely topsy-turvy – a veritable “mad house”!

Where is it all leading? Could clouds foreshadowing the Great Tribulation even now be scudding across the horizon and approaching us?

The Word of God tells us with flat-out accuracy what is going to happen, and even WHEN disaster will strike! We must prepare ourselves!

The Mount Olivet Prophecy

Jesus Christ told His disciples on the Mount of Olives, days before His crucifixion, in a prophecy for the End Time, “For then there will be great tribulation (affliction, distress, and oppression) such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now – no, and never will be [again]. And if those days had not been shortened, no human being would endure and survive, but for the sake of the elect (God’s chosen ones) those days will be shortened” (Matt.24:21-22, Amplified Parallel Bible).

Moffatt has these verses, “For there will be sore misery then, such as has never been, from the beginning of the world until now—no, and never shall be. Had not those days been cut short, not a soul would be saved alive; however, for the sake of the elect, those days will be cut short.”

How close are we to that coming time of horror and grief?

The signs are mounting almost daily that we are rapidly approaching the most horrifying time to exist for mankind on planet earth! The signs are everywhere.

Jesus Christ gave us many details in His prophecy. He also warns world leaders, “When it is evening you say, It will be fair weather, for the sky is red, and in the morning, It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and has a gloomy and threatening look. You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times” (Matt.16:2-3, APB).

Can we interpret the signs of the times?

Christ warned of many things to look for which would herald His soon arrival back on planet earth. He declared, “For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom [that’s happening today]. And there will be famines [happening right now], pestilences, and earthquakes in various places” (Matt.24:7).

The natural order appears to have been upset. More and more new infectious diseases are being reported. AIDS ravages the world. Resistant strains of tuberculosis

are increasing in deadliness, and infectious diseases are a growing threat in hospitals due to antibiotic resistant bacteria.

Earthquakes are multiplying and shaking the ground in unheard of places. Floods, volcanoes, drought and famine stalk the nations of the world, and even the United States is greatly suffering from the after-effects.

What is happening?

Signs of the Times

This week the Supreme Court ruled that Americans have a right to own guns, without being part of a militia. The ruling is gratifying for hunters and self defence. However, don't hold your breath. There are serious problems in the offing.

1) The U.S. government will soon recognize the U.N.'s laws and treaties which supersede the laws of individual nations, including the U.S. The time will come when our guns will be taken away by a U.N. mandate.

2) The next planned terrorist attack will be used as the excuse by either the President or chief of FEMA who will announce that our entire government is immediately dissolved including the Constitution. This is the Illuminati plan for all nations whose citizens now elect their government leaders. Once the WWII designed to produce the "Masonic Christ" or Antichrist gets underway, planned terror attacks will occur all over the world. In each nation each ruler will announce that until the terrorists are vanquished, the present government must be abolished. (You think this couldn't happen?—it would be so easy.)

When the Antichrist appears there will be no freely elected governments in existence. All free governments will have been overthrown and replaced by an absolute dictatorship (the beast/Antichrist), all supposedly because of "terrorism" which is the excuse for taking away freedom of the people.

The Scriptures bear witness to this new form of world government. In the book of Revelation, we read of "kings of the earth, and of the whole world" (Rev.16:14). No mention of freely, democratically elected presidents, prime ministers, or others – but "kings" – that is authoritarian rulers, despots, dictators, monarchs, and the like.

Christ also mentioned vastly increased persecution of Christians as being a harbinger of the end.

Focus on the Family's Dr. James Dobson recently voiced strong words and feelings about statements made by Barack Obama, Democratic presidential nominee that twist, distort, and push a *fruitcake* interpretation of the Bible. Left-wing politicians wish to designate all Christians and Evangelicals as right-wing fanatics and extremists, and that sets them up for persecution.

Obama, who could be our next president, states that the 1) Sermon on the Mount is so *radical* that our own Defense Department would not survive its application. 2) He says, “Turning the other cheek” is not practical as a guideline for the conduct of nations. Dobson thinks that Christians are going to see a weird blend of pseudo-Christian beliefs which are totally contrary to the Bible. Obama wrongly drags Biblical understanding through the gutter. He argues that the religiously motivated people must frame debates over issues like abortion, not just in their own religious terms, but in arguments accessible to all people.

In other words, Obama, is saying he supports abortion rights and is trying to govern by the lowest common denominator of morality. What he is saying is that unless every body agrees, we have no right to fight for what we believe. That is dictatorship on our thoughts and beliefs – thought control. You won’t be able to express anything different from the common prevailing viewpoint of the government.

This was the way government was operated in the Roman Empire, and in Hitler’s Germany. America is traveling down the same ancient well-worn path in curtailment of liberty and freedom. Obama could be the one to literally open the door to the Antichrist. If he became elected, and our country began to implode with riots, rebellion, and revolution our people would begin to cry out for a Savior—a world ruler to bring order out of chaos and will welcome with open arms a charismatic Antichrist (impersonator of the real Christ).

“Wars and rumors of wars.”

After seven years of fighting, the U.S. and the super powers of the West have not been able to conquer the tiny country of Afghanistan and are on the verge of losing the war. On President Bush’s watch America has launched two wars and is losing both of them. The U.S is also about to lose the one Islamic ally it has, Pakistan, which borders Afghanistan and is now making its own peace deals and will not allow Americans to operate in Pakistani territory.

The world today is a different world and a different Middle-East. Things are beginning to threaten to explode! Saber-rattling between the Palestinians and Israel, and the United States and Iran, occupies the headlines daily. We are spiraling downward toward worldwide chaos: politically, nationally, weather, food supply, water supply, the economy—we are teetering on the edge of a global holocaust.

Never have world conditions been so frightening!

As Jesus prophesied, “And there will be signs in the sun and moon and stars [exploding galaxies, colliding galaxies, new black holes, super-nova, comets, asteroid near “misses,” fateful eclipses]; and upon the earth [there will be] distress (trouble and anguish) of nations in bewilderment and perplexity [without resources, left wanting,

embarrassed, in doubt, not knowing which way to turn] at the roaring (the echo) of the tossing of the sea.

“Men swooning away or expiring with fear and dread and apprehension and expectation of the things that are coming on the world; for the [very] powers of the heavens will be shaken and caused to totter.

“. . . Now when these things begin to occur, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption (deliverance) is drawing near” (Luke 21:25-28).

Financial Upheavals

Barclay’s Bank of England warns of a financial storm as Federal Reserve’s credibility begins to crumble. U.S. Central Bank recently released an *inflation shock* that will rock financial markets, says Ambrose Evans Prichard. He has advised their clients to batten down their hatches in this world-wide financial storm, warning that the U.S. Reserve has allowed the “inflation genie” out of the bottle and let its credibility fall below zero. This is going to be very negative on financial assets.

Sky-rocketing oil is over \$130 per barrel which is an all time high. The only deflationary item is the price of housing.

Thomas Sowell, Republican strategist and Hoover Think Tank member, says the U.S. is facing a great dilemma because of our choice of president now and the fact that Barack Obama is in the lead to become the next president. He states that there is no reason why someone as arrogant and foolishly clever, and ultimately as dangerous as Obama should become president, especially at a time when international terrorism and nuclear weapons loom over 300 million Americans. Many people, he says, seem to regard elections as an occasion for venting emotions like cheering for a favorite team, or choosing the homecoming queen. The leading candidates for their parties’ nomination for president are being discussed in terms of their demographics, race, age, and sex as if that is what the job is all about.

Says Sowell, “One of the most painful aspects of studying great catastrophes of the past is discovering how many times people were *preoccupied with trivialities* when they were teetering on the edge of doom.”

Are we teetering on the edge of doom?

If we believe the words of the Biblical prophets, the answer is YES!

Jeremiah declared, “Thus says the Lord: We have heard a voice of trembling and panic—of terror, and not of peace. Ask now and see whether a man can give birth to a child? Why then do I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor? Why are all faces turned pale?

“Alas! For that day will be great, so that none will be like it; it will be the TIME OF JACOB’S [UNEQUALLED] TROUBLE, but he will be saved out of it” (Jeremiah 30:7, APB).

Ezekiel wrote, “Thus says the Lord God: Behold, an evil is coming, [an evil so destructive and injurious, so sudden and violent, that it stands alone, not as a succession but as] only one evil.

“And END has come! The END has come! [The end—after sleeping so long] awakes against you. See, it has come!

“Your turn (your doom) has come upon you, O inhabitant of the land; the time has come, the day is near, a day not of joyful shouting, but a day of tumult upon the mountains [world’s nations]” (Ezekiel 7::5-7).

Ezekiel continues: “Behold, the day! Behold, it has come! Your doom has gone forth, the rod has blossomed, PRIDE has budded. Violence has grown up into a rod of wickedness . . . The time has come, the day draws near. Let not the buyer rejoice nor the seller mourn, for wrath is upon all their multitude. . . . They have blown the trumpet and have made all ready, but none goes to the battle, for My wrath is upon all their multitude. The sword is without and famine and pestilence are within. He who is in the field shall die by the sword, and he who is in the city shall famine and pestilence devour” (verses 10-15).

Daniel the prophet also foresaw this horrific, horrendous period of time in the earth’s future. He wrote, “And there shall be a time of trouble, straitness, and distress such as never was since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the Book [of God’s plan for His own]” (Daniel 12:1).

When will all these things be?

How close is the “time of trouble” – the END?

Daniel himself heard an angel from heaven ask, “How long shall it be to the END of these wonders?” (Dan.12:6).

He was told: “. . . it shall be for a time, times, and half a time [or three and one-half years]; and when they have made an end of shattering and crushing the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished” (v.7).

When Christ, the Messiah, intervenes to save His people from total extermination and extinction—annihilation—then all these things will be finished—completed. As John said in Revelation, “there should be delay no longer, but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets” (Rev.10:6-7, NKJV).

Daniel also speaks of a “final week” of prophecy, leading up to the coming of the Lord (Dan.9:27). Speaking of the time of the end, he writes, “And he [an end-time world leader or “prince”, potentate, tyrant] shall enter into a strong and firm covenant with the many for ONE WEEK [SEVEN YEARS]. And in the MIDST of the week he shall cause the remaining sacrifice and offering to cease [for the remaining three and one half years]; and upon the wing or pinnacle of abominations [shall come] one who makes desolate, until the full determined END is poured out on the desolater” (APB).

Three and one half “times” or “years” equals 1260 days, in prophetic Biblical language (see Rev.12:6, 14). These two verses equate 1260 with 3 ½ -- so the whole 7 year period under discussion would be twice that or 2520 days!

But in the 12th chapter of Daniel, we also read: “And from the time that the continual burnt offering is taken away and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be 1,290 days” (Dan.12:11). This is an extra 30 days! So we have:

1260	1st half of final 7 year period; at its end the daily sacrifice is taken away. Then another
1260	second half of the final 7 year “week”; then
<u>30</u>	another “30” days
2550	or a total of 7 years plus 30 days.

What could this mean?

From the time of the daily sacrifice taken away and the Abomination of Desolation set up, there shall be an additional 1290 days, after the first half of the week totaling 1260 days. Thus we have 1260 days, 1260 days, plus 30 days which equals 2,550 days.

Did you know that *this very year* according to the Jewish calendar, from this year’s Feast of Trumpets (Yom Teruah) until Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) in 2015 is *exactly 2,550 days!*

Could this mean that this prophecy will be fulfilled/completed in 2015?

But then Daniel is told: “Blessed, happy, fortunate, spiritually prosperous, and to be envied is he who waits expectantly and earnestly (who endures without wavering beyond the period of tribulation] and comes to the 1,335 days!” (Dan.12:12).

Could this pinpoint the time or date of the Messiah’s return and arrival?

Yet Another Prophecy

But there is even more!

In the book of Ezekiel we read that the prophet was told to lie upon his side for 390 days as a sign to Israel. “And you, son of man, take a tile and lay it before you, and make upon it a drawing of a city, even Jerusalem.

“And put SIEGE works against it, build a siege wall against it, and cast up a mound against it; set camps also against it and set battering rams against it round about.

“Moreover, take a plate of iron and place it for an iron wall between you and the city; and set your face toward it and it shall be besieged, and you shall press the siege against it. This is a SIGN to the house of Israel!

“Then [bound as you are] lie upon your left [and north] side to bear symbolically the iniquity of the house of the TEN TRIBES of Israel upon that side. According to the number of days that you shall lie upon it you shall bear their iniquity.

“For I have laid upon you the *years of their iniquity, according to the number of days*, 390 days [representing 390 years]; so you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Israel” (Ezekiel 4:1-5).

This is talking about the times of Israel’s punishment!

In Leviticus 26, God says to Israel, if they disobey Him and break His covenant, reject His Torah, His laws and way of life: “I will chastise and discipline you *seven times more* for your sins” (Lev.26:18); “I will bring seven times more plagues upon you” (v.21); “I will smite you seven times for your sins” (v.24); “I also will chastise you seven times for your sins” (v.28).

Notice! So if you take 390 years of punishment God decreed on Israel, and multiply it by “7” times, you come to 2,730 years. $390 \times 7 = \underline{2,730}$ years.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 2730 \text{ years} \\
 \underline{-722-21 \text{ B.C.}} \\
 2008-09 \\
 \underline{\quad +1} \text{ (because no year zero)} \\
 2009-2010 \text{ A.D.!!}
 \end{array}$$

Israel was besieged by ancient Assyria beginning in 721-22 BC. If you subtract (that is, go forward) 2,730 years from that date inclusively, guess what? It brings you to 2008-2009, *this very year!*

If you add Daniel’s final 7 years to 2008-2009, it brings us to 2015-2016!!!

On the other hand, notice this! In 718 B.C. the *siege ended*, with Israel being deported from the land and carried off into captivity.

If you count from 718 B.C., then, the final year of the 3-year siege, then it brings us to 2012!!!

$$\begin{array}{r}
 2730 \text{ years} \\
 \underline{-718 \text{ B.C.}} \\
 2012 \text{ A.D.} \\
 \underline{+1} \text{ (no year zero)} \\
 2013 \text{ A.D.}
 \end{array}$$

But if you count inclusively of the year 718, the answer would be the year 2012 A.D. – just four years from now! Could that year be the MID-POINT of the final WEEK of years – the MID-POINT of the last week when the Great Tribulation begins?

Could 2012 be the year of the “end-time” captivity, after 3 years of economic besiegement, of end-time Israel?

Could the year 2012-2013 be the year of the final beginning of the 3 ½ years of Great Tribulation?

This is something to meditate and think upon.

The Transit of Venus

Another phenomenon which could well be a “sign” of the heavens that the END of this age is approaching is the fact that the planet Venus which transits the face of the sun twice, eight years apart, about every 200 plus years, made such a transit in 2004 and will again eight years later, in 2012. 2004 is the very year of the ‘end’ of 6000 years, counting from the time Adam and Eve were ejected from the Garden of Eden for their disobedience to God. Their punishment occurred in 3997 B.C., seven years after they were created, according to the book of Jubilees. Archbishop Ussher places their creation 4004 B.C.

This means that the very next transit of Venus between the earth and sun will be 2012 – the year the earth’s present cycle ends (end of the age of man) according to the Mayan calendar. Could that be the year that the “beast” sets up the Abomination of Desolation in the Temple of God, meaning that he himself goes into the “holy of holies” and claims he is God the Messiah?

If this should be true, it means that the Great Tribulation would start in the year 2012, four years from now, and Daniel’s 70th week would start next year in 2009. The coming Great Tribulation and the second coming of Christ are pinpointed between 2012 and 2017. We can’t know the exact day, or year. But it is interesting to look at these figures and Biblical prophecies that God gave us for a reason--to give us a clue as to how much time we have left before the end of the age. Put this together with the world news, if we are wise and “understanding the times” as the sons of Issachar did, by studying astronomy and the Bible signs then we can come to certain approximations.

As we earnestly and prayerfully study the Bible, God's Word, and pray for understanding and wisdom, discernment and enlightenment, the results become stark and transparent: *No matter how you slice it, there are not very many days left!*

The end has finally come. We are in the very foothills of the beginning of the time of Great Tribulation! There is very rough passage ahead. It is time to hunker down, duck and cover, and prepare for the greatest time of world trouble ever to fall upon this once blessed and beautiful planet!

God knows exactly when the time will be for the return of the Messiah. Make yourself ready (now), make your garments white while you have time. Keep your heart single minded, focused on serving God. "Look carefully then how you walk! Live purposefully and worthily and accurately, not as the unwise and witless, but as wise (sensible, intelligent people), making the very most of the time [buying up each opportunity], because the days are evil. Therefore do not be vague and thoughtless and foolish, but understanding and firmly grasping what the will of the Lord is" (Ephesians 5:15-17, Amplified Parallel Bible).

Something to Think About

Here is an interesting parallel drawn between Abraham Lincoln and John F. Kennedy:

<p><u>Abraham Lincoln</u> <u>Elected</u> to Congress in 1846 President 1860</p>	<p><u>John F. Kennedy</u> Elected to Congress in 1946 President 1960</p>
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Both were: particularly concerned with civil rights

Both wives lost their children while living in the White House
 shot on a Friday, both in the head
 assassinated by Southerners
 succeeded by Southerners named Johnson

Lincoln's secretary was named Kennedy. Kennedy's secretary was named Lincoln

Andrew *Johnson*, who succeeded Lincoln, was born in 1808

Lyndon *Johnson*, who succeeded Kennedy, was born in 1908

John Wilkes Booth, who assassinated Lincoln, was born in 1839

Lee Harvey Oswald, who assassinated Kennedy, was born in 1939

Both were known by their three names.

Both names are composed of fifteen letters.

Lincoln was shot in a theater and his assassin ran and hid in a warehouse.

Kennedy was shot from a warehouse and his assassin ran and hid in a theater.

Both assassins were assassinated before their trials.

A week before Lincoln was shot he was in Monroe, Maryland.

A year before Kennedy was shot, he was with Marilyn Monroe.

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Allah and The Muslim Menace

Who is “Allah”? What is the real religion of Mohammed?
Is violence and war a key element of the Muslim religion?
What does history show? What is meant by the term “jihad”?
Should the western world be alarmed by the new militancy
of the Muslim nations of the earth? Which religion is the
TRUE religion? Is Allah just another name for the true
Creator God? What lies ahead for the Western civilization,
and the “Christian” world and the “Muslim world”?

William F. Dankenbring

The religion of Mohammed is once again out to conquer the world! In the world today there are over .1.2 billion Muslims, or one fifth of the world’s population. It is rapidly growing in Asia, Africa, and even in Europe and the United States.

Despite claims to the contrary, Islam has had a very violent history and fought religious wars of conquest against neighboring countries, tribes, and peoples.

Make no mistake! History proves that the Muslim religion is one which has always sought to dominate and rule the world. Muslim armies sought to conquer Europe and the wars between Europe and the Muslim empire were bloody beyond human imagination and determined the course of world history in the West!

Is the Muslim religion once again on the march?

The Growing Threat

In Europe about 31 million Muslims live, work, and carry on their business. How many of these have been seduced by the appeal of “jihad” and Muslim extremism is anybody’s guess. The numbers, however, are no doubt growing and pose a serious threat, especially to such countries as France where they are a major population group. In Europe, the Muslim population poses a real threat to the European way of life. In Britain, terrorist plots have been nipped in the bud – but the danger remains at a high level.

Even in the United States, there is a vast Muslim subculture which is no doubt infected with Muslim extremists who are potential terrorists and who sympathize with al Qaeda and its militants. There are about six million Muslims in the U.S.

In *Onward Muslim Soldiers*, written by Robert Spencer, and published in 2003,

the Muslim terrorist threat is carefully documented. Spencer asserts that radical Islam exists, and is widespread, and that terrorists and militants around the world are using the Koran and teachings of Islam to recruit and motivate terrorists, making use of the doctrine of “jihad.”

Says Spencer, jihad is a vital part of Islamic theology. Jihad teaches that non-Muslims must be fought – that there can be no peaceful state of coexistence between Muslims and non-Muslims. Sheikh Muhammad Al-Khasif said, “There are . . . millions who lift up their eyes to Osama bin Laden as a savior” (quoted on page 11). Says Spencer: “*Many of these are in the United States right now*” (*ibid.*).

The Wahhabi sect is considered the most dangerous, and its birthplace is Saudi Arabia, supposedly an American ally in the Middle East. Their teachings are dispersed around the world through mosques and schools bankrolled by Saudi oil money. Wahhabism routinely identifies “Jews and Christians” as the enemy of Muslims.

A typical example of their rhetoric is sheikh Muhammad Saleh Al-Munajjid who said in a Saudi mosque: “It is impossible to ever make peace with the Jews . . . The Jews are defiled creatures and satanic scum . . . The Jews are our enemies and hatred of them is in our hearts.” His prescription for fighting the Jews, and Christians, is to wage “jihad” against them – warfare, both spiritual and physical. Muslims, he said, must “educate their children to Jihad . . . educating the children to Jihad and to hatred of the Jews, the Christians, and the infidels; educating the children to Jihad and to revival of the embers of Jihad in their souls. This is what is needed now” (p.14).

Muslim Textbooks

Textbooks of Muslim schools in the United States are provided by the Saudis and promote this same hatred. One text so used states, “Judaism and Christianity are deviant religions,” and goes on: “Befriending the unbelievers, through loving and cooperating with them while knowing that they are unbelievers, makes those who are their friends the same as them.”

Even the radical terrorist group Hezbollah has a core membership in the United States at this time and has been infiltrating into this core those who have been through their terrorist training camps, developing terrorist skills.

Muslim American apologists claim the threat of Jihad is misleading and irrelevant, and dismiss the idea that it refers to real war and acts of terrorism. They claim “Jihad” is merely a “spiritual struggle.” This blithe dismissal plays down the martial element and is intended to put the American public and government at ease – off guard. But the truth is not so gentle. Says Spencer, “The first thing we must do is end our myopic complacency and accept the nature of the threat from radical Islam” (p.290).

Spencer warns, “There is unmistakable evidence that Islamic radicalism may have penetrated deeply into the fabric of American Islam” (p.292). Among the evidence is the

Wahhabi bankrolling of mosques and schools; the hate-filled venom in the textbooks; the rejection of American identity by Muslim students; discovered al Qaeda cells; and support for radical Muslim terrorism by Muslim professors and educators.

Teachings from the Koran

In his book *Secrets of the Koran*, Don Richardson reveals that the heart and core of Islam is violence. He writes, “In fact, there are at least 109 identifiable *war verses* in the Koran. One out of every 55 verses in the Koran is a war verse. War verses are scattered throughout Mohammed’s chapters like blood splatter at a crime scene” (p.28).

Here are some enlightening examples from the Koran, the “Bible” of the Muslim world, that we would all do well to understand:

“Fight against them until idolatry is no more and God’s religion reigns supreme” (Koran 2:193).

“Strike off their heads. Strike off their finger-tips! . . . because they defied God and his Apostle” (Koran 8:12-13).

“Prophet! Rouse the faithful to arms. If there are twenty steadfast men among you they shall vanquish two-hundred . . . A prophet may not take captives until he has fought and triumphed in the land [or, “until he has made a great slaughter in the earth” – Rodwell’s rendering of this last phrase]” (Koran 8:65, 68).

“Seize them and put them to death wherever you find them” (Koran 4:89).

“Believers, make war on the infidel who dwells around you” (Koran 9:123).

“When you meet the unbelievers in the battlefield strike off their heads and, when you have laid them low, bind your captives firmly” (Koran 47:4).

“When the sacred months [Ramadan] are over slay the idolaters wherever you find them. Arrest them; besiege them; and lie in ambush everywhere for them. If they repent [“convert,” Rodwell’s translation] and take to prayer and render the alms levy, allow them to go their way” (Koran 9:5).

Mohammed taught that both Jews and Christians were to be fought, even though the Scriptures were given to them. He considered them as “unbelievers,” because they do not follow his own teaching or accept him as a true prophet. For example, he considered Christians as idolaters and polytheists because of the teaching of the “Trinity” doctrine and Jesus Christ as being divine. He taught that such “idolaters” were to be sought out “relentlessly” (Koran 4:104) and called upon his followers to “annihilate the infidels” (Koran 3:141) (p.61, *Secrets of the Koran*).

The Muslim “Allah”

“Allah” is the standard Arabic word for “God.” It is a compilation of the definite article “al” and “ilah” meaning “a god. In ancient times, the term was used by pagan Meccans as a reference to the creator-god, possibly the supreme deity in pre-Islamic Arabia.

Says the Wikipedia Encyclopedia, “The concepts associated with the term *Allah* (as a deity) differ among the traditions. In pre-Islamic Arabia amongst pagan Arabs, *Allah* was not the sole divinity, having associates and companions, sons and daughters, a concept strongly opposed by Islam.”

Thus the name “Allah” derives from pagan idol worshippers, pagan Arabs in pre-Islamic Arabia. It is a vestige of PAGANISM!

In Islam, however, the name *Allah* is now said to refer to the supreme and all-comprehensive divine Creator.

Pre-Islamic Arabia

Says Wikipedia, “In pre-Islamic Arabia, Allah was used by Meccans as a reference to the creator-god, possibly the supreme deity. *Allah was not the sole divinity and the notion of the term may have been vague in the Meccan religion.* Allah had associates and companions, whom pre-Islamic Arabs considered as *subordinate deities.* Meccans held that a kind of kinship existed between Allah and the jinn. Allah had sons and the local deities of al-Uzza, Manat and al-Lat were his daughters. The Meccans possibly associated angels with Allah. Allah was invoked in times of distress. Muhammad's father name was Abdallāh meaning the ‘servant of Allāh.’”

Although Muslims say “Allah” refers to the supreme deity, it has ancient pagan connotations and derives from pagan, pre-Islamic religious usage. They claim he is the God of Abraham, but the Scriptures plainly tell us the name of the God of Abraham is Yahveh (YHVH), or El Shaddai, or Elohim.

Says Wikipedia, “According to Francis Edwards Peters, ‘The Qur'an insists, Muslims believe, and historians affirm that Muhammad and his followers worship the same God as the Jews (29:46). The Quran's Allah is the same Creator God who covenanted with Abraham.’” On the other hand, Peters states that the Qur'an portrays Allah as “both more powerful and more remote than Yahweh, and as a universal deity, unlike Yahweh who closely follows Israelites.”

Thus the Muslim religion demotes the God of the Bible, to a subsidiary position beneath their “god.” Yet the Bible states, “In the beginning GOD [Elohim] created the heavens and the earth” (Gen.1:1) – and furthermore, the God of the Bible states, “Thus says the LORD [YHVH], the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: *I am the First and I am the Last; besides Me there is no God*” (Isaiah 44:6).

God, says the Qur'an, "loves those who do good," and two passages in the Qur'an express a mutual love between God and man, but the Biblical precept to "love God with all your heart" is *nowhere* formulated in Islam.

Islam is just one more PAGAN-derived religious system in opposition to the TRUE GOD of Israel, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – the true God who created the Universe, and who sent Yeshua – Jesus the Christ – to be the Savior, Redeemer and Intercessor for all mankind!

***But Is "Allah" Just another Name
For the True Creator God?***

If "Allah" were another name for the true CREATOR God of the Universe, then His teachings and commandments could not be different from the teachings of the One we KNOW is the true Creator – the God of the Bible!

For God says, in the Scriptures, "I am the LORD [Yahveh], that is My name; and my glory I will not give to another" (Isaiah 42:8, NKJV).

He says further, to His people Israel, "You are My witnesses, says the LORD, and My servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe Me, and understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, nor shall there be after Me. I, even I, am the LORD, and besides Me there is no saviour. I have declared and saved, I have proclaimed, and there was no foreign god among you; therefore you are My witnesses, says the LORD, that I am God. Indeed, before the day was, I am He; and there is no one who can deliver out of My hand; I work, and who will reverse it?" (Isaiah 43:10-13).

This is the TRUE GOD! Yeshua the Messiah declared, "The Scripture cannot be broken" (John 10:35). This is the TRUTH! And He said further, "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him MUST worship in spirit and truth" (John 4:24).

Speaking of His true disciples and the Holy Scriptures, the Messiah Yeshua also said, "They are not of this world, just as I am not of this world. Sanctify them by Your TRUTH. Your WORD IS TRUTH" (John 17:16-17).

If the God of Islam, "Allah," were the same God as the true God of the Scriptures, then the Koran would agree with the Scriptures in every teaching! If the Islamic "Allah" were the true God, then He would verify and agree with the God of the Holy Scriptures!

But the teachings of the Koran do NOT conform to the Holy Scriptures of truth!

The apostle Paul wrote to Timothy of the Hebrew Scriptures, "And that from a child you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that

the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work” (II Tim.3:15-17).

The Koran does not agree with the inspired, God-breathed Scriptures of the Bible, therefore it is a FALSE GOSPEL – A FALSE MESSAGE OF A FALSE IDOLATROUS “GOD”!

As the apostle Paul wrote, “We know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is no other God but one. For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as there are many gods and many lords), yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live” (I Cor.8:4-6).

There is but ONE “Father,” or Creator God, and ONE Messiah – Jesus Christ, Yeshua Ha Moshiach! All others are false gods and false prophets!

Christ Himself said, “Most assuredly I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly” (John 10:7-10).

He said also, “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber” (verse 1).

Christ also declared: “I am the way, the truth, and the life. *No one* comes to the Father *EXCEPT THROUGH ME*” (John 14:6).

Paul himself plainly declared, also: “Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for ALL MEN . . . For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is ONE GOD and ONE MEDIATOR between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time” (I Tim.2:1-6).

Islam does not teach that Christ IS “the way.” It does not teach that He is the Saviour. In only regards Him as a “prophet,” and less in importance than Mohammed, a man who claimed to have a vision in the seventh century, and began teaching a new religion in the name of “Allah,” whom he claimed was the God of Abraham, and Ishmael, the ancestor of the Arabs. But his teachings differed greatly from the teachings of the Word of God, Holy Scripture! The Muslims reject the Holy Days of God and the Sabbath. They observe Friday as their day of rest, instead of the seventh day Sabbath God commanded (Exo.20:8-9). Their calendar is a totally different calendar, based on the moon’s orbit alone, causing the months to revolve through the year and its seasons.

The bottom line is, as Paul says, we ought to PRAY for ALL men, including Muslims, and love our neighbors, that God would in His time lead them to repentance and salvation, but we should not compromise our faith or allow ourselves to be blinded by their false teachings, true motives, and ignore their violent tendencies and warlike aspirations! The Muslim religion is another tool in the hands of Satan the devil, the god of this world, who “DECEIVES THE WHOLE WORLD” (Rev.12:9). Satan is the “god of this world” (II Cor.4:4), and the real one whom all false religions worship, not knowing any better, in their ignorance of the true God and His Scriptures, the Bible revelation from the true God to mankind!

The religion of Islam, therefore, is a FALSE RELIGION – another one of the vast conspiracies of the last days prophesied to spread throughout the world! It is one of the religious deceptions of Satan the devil to trap people in spiritual ignorance and darkness!

“Christianity” in Darkness Also

That being said, however, we must also look with great caution towards the great so-called “Christian” religions of the world, for they, also, have rejected the Scriptures, the Word of God, and departed from the TRUTH of God! They “pretend” to serve God, but they DISOBEY His Word, and are reprobate! As Paul writes, “They *profess* to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient and disqualified for every good work” (Titus 1:16).

The true teachings of Christ have been trampled in the mud by deceivers and religious mountebanks. Paul warned it would happen, and it began in his own lifetime. Paul wrote to the church in Antioch, “Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch [out] . . .” (Acts 20:28-31).

A Warning for Today

A great, false end-time Church was prophesied in your Bible. Jesus Christ Himself foretold in the Mount Olivet prophecy, speaking about the time just before His second coming, “TAKE HEED that no man DECEIVE you. For MANY shall come in my name [many shall come claiming to be His ministers, representing Him!], saying, I am Christ [admitting that Jesus is the Messiah, the Anointed One of God]; *and shall DECEIVE MANY*” (Matt.24:4-5).

He added, “And many false prophets [preachers, teachers] shall rise, and shall DECEIVE MANY” (Matt.24:11). The Catholic Pope and Muhammed both fall into this category of deceivers!

But, Yeshua said, this end-time “Dark Age” will be darker, and worse, and more

deadly and sinister, and fraught with peril and terror, than any comparable period in the history of humanity, or the history of the world! He warned, “For in those days shall be AFFLICTION, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, nor shall be. And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved [alive]: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days” (Mark 13:19-20).

We are entering a final age of worldwide RELIGIOUS OPPRESSION, tyranny, and evil! The apostle Paul also foretold it. He prophesied:

“This know also, that in the LAST DAYS perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, TRAITORS, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a FORM of godliness, but denying the power thereof: *from such turn away*” (II Tim.3:1-5).

Paul said of this end time that men would be “ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth” (verse 7). He added, “But evil men and seducers shall wax WORSE AND WORSE, *deceiving and being deceived*” (verse 13).

Paul admonished Timothy, in warning about these days (which were paralleled to some extent during his own time, therefore the words apply both to Timothy's day, and to our "last days" -- see chapter 3, verse 1 again, for the time setting):

“For the time will come when they will NOT ENDURE SOUND DOCTRINE but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall TURN AWAY their ears from the truth, and shall be TURNED UNTO FABLES” (II Tim.4:3-4).

That time has come! We are now seeing, worldwide, a wholesale departure from what truth remains within the Evangelical churches and the remaining bastions of “Protestantism” and a widespread stampede – like a whole herd of millions of buffalo stampeding across the ranges of the Wild West hundreds of years ago – back into the fold and embrace of the Pope of Rome, who calls himself the “vicar of Christ”!

The resurgence of wickedness in the last days, and the parallel arising of the Great False Church, was also foretold by Paul. He wrote, forcefully:

“Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day [the day of Christ's return – see verses 1-2] shall not come, except there be a FALLING AWAY [that is, a tremendous APOSTASY] first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. . . . For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now restraineth will restrain, until he be taken out of the way AND THEN SHALL THAT WICKED [ONE] BE REVEALED [the final Age-End Anti-Christ and Pope!], whom the Lord shall consume [destroy] with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is AFTER THE WORKING OF SATAN with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with ALL DECEIVABLENESS of unrighteousness in them that perish; because

they received not the LOVE OF THE TRUTH, that they might be saved” (II Thess. 2:3-10, KJV).

The rise of such a great global religious apostate system was prophesied for the end of days, before the coming of the Messiah!

We read in the book of Revelation, “And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the GREAT WHORE that sitteth upon many waters [nations]: with whom the *kings of the earth* have committed [spiritual and political] fornication [adultery], and the inhabitants of the earth have been made DRUNK with the wine of her fornication” (Rev.17:1-2).

A great “whore” in the Bible is descriptive language which means a great “false church” It is a great church which “sells itself” and its support, politically, to the nations of this world in turn for which it seeks recognition as the “official church,” and the support of the state – and the long arm of the state which it seeks to use to ferret out and destroy all “heretics.”

In the Middle Ages the nations of Europe joined forces with the Papacy to launch “crusades,” not only against the Moslems in the Middle East, but against the Albigenses and Waldensians in France, independent true Christian groups which foreshadowed the Protestant Reformation by several hundred years, and “crusades” against the Jews in Eastern Europe. The “cross” of the Church was bathed in blood from one end of Europe to the other, and in the Middle East!.

Blood Bath of the Great Inquisition

Says Adam Clarke in his Commentary, regarding the Church of Rome:

“ ‘Who can make any computation,’ says Bishop Newton [Sir Isaac Newton, scientist and renowned physicist who became a bishop of the Church of England], ‘or even frame any conception, of the numbers of pious Christians who have fallen a sacrifice to the BIGOTRY AND CRUELTY OF ROME? Mede upon the place hath observed, from the authorities, that in the war with the Albigenses and Waldenses there perished of these poor creatures IN FRANCE ALONE A MILLION. From the first institution of the Jesuites in 1580, that is, in little more than 30 years, NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS WERE SLAIN, and these all by the common executioner. In the space of scarce thirty years the inquisition destroyed, by various kinds of torture, a HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND CHRISTIANS. Sanders himself confesses that an INNUMERABLE MULTITUDE OF LOLLARDS [SABBATARIANS] and Sacramentarians were BURNT THROUGHOUT ALL EUROPE, who yet, he says, were not put to death by the pope and bishops, but by the civil magistrates.’ The dragon in a new shape, or Roman empire of Germany, acted a very conspicuous part in this nefarious WARFARE against the remnant of the woman’s seed, who kept the commandments of God, and had the testimony of Jesus Christ. See the imperial edict of Frederic II, against heretics, in Limborch’s History of the Inquisition” (Vol.3, p.1019, Rev.13:7 comment).

When the Protestant Reformation began, it was met head on with military power, and the armies of Catholic Europe sought viciously to suppress the fledgling new movement, and to destroy it before it hatched. But to no avail. God was behind the Protestant Reformation, and wanted the world to have several centuries of religious freedom – before the crushing weight of Roman Catholic power would once again rise to the surface, and attempt to stamp out and destroy all dissent, in one final bloodbath at the end of this Age!

In the Middle Ages, millions died – were martyred – gave their lives for religious freedom, liberty, and the right to worship God according to their conscience, and the Word of God! The Bible, which had long been suppressed in Catholic lands, and kept from the hands of the laity, was translated into the common tongue, and men everywhere began reading it, and it opened their eyes to see the evils of Popery and Catholicism. But before religious freedom could be achieved, bloody wars were fought in Ireland, England, and across the European continent, as the Catholic Church struggled to maintain her dominion over the entire western world.

The Coming Great Holocaust

This great martyrdom of the Middle Ages, however, was merely a forerunner – a type – of what Bible prophecy says is going to occur once again during these LAST DAYS! Our generation will not be exempt! We read in the book of Revelation:

“And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were SLAIN FOR THE WORD OF GOD, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, UNTIL THEIR FELLOWSERVANTS also and their BRETHREN, THAT SHOULD BE KILLED AS THEY WERE, should be fulfilled” (Rev.6:9-11).

Jesus Christ Himself declared, of these last, fateful, days pregnant with labor and strife: “They shall put you out of the synagogues [churches, meeting places]: yea, and the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service” (John 16:2).

The current surging ecumenical movement will end in disaster. It will end up in the greatest Holocaust, and Persecution, and Inquisition, and Tribulation, that this world has ever witnessed in all human history!

The “woman” and her “daughters” – the Great False Church that John saw in vision – represents the reunion of apostate Rome with her “Protestant” daughters, all coming together in one final evangelical “Mission” for the Third Millennium to stamp out *true religion* from the face of this earth!

It will be “The *Final CRUSADE*”!

Mystery, Babylon the Great

Blood will flow like rivers around the world. John sees this woman, dressed in purple, and scarlet, and decked with precious stones and gold and pearls, with a cup in her hand full of “abominations and filthiness of her fornication.” John says:

“And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

“And I saw the woman DRUNKEN WITH THE BLOOD OF THE SAINTS, and with the BLOOD OF THE MARTYRS OF JESUS” (Rev.17:4-6).

This wicked “Jezebel” Church masquerades as the “bride of Christ” (compare Rev.19:7-9) which is the true Church of God, and which will “marry” Christ when He returns in power and glory to set up the Kingdom of God on this earth.

But this false church, this abominable WHORE, this spiritual Prostitute which commits lewdness with the nations of THIS world, this abominable Worldwide Church of Satan the Devil, will *persecute and cause to be killed* those who belong to God’s true people – all dissidents, and “heretics,” and those who refuse to come into her fold and under her teaching and control!

To see how the devil has warped and twisted Christianity, and created a vast, far-flung FALSE pagan religion, write for our articles, “Beyond the DaVinci Code – The Babylon Code!”, “The Pope, Papacy, and Prophecy,” and “The Fall of Protestantism.”

The world today is divided into two primary religious camps – the so-called “Christians” – Catholics, Protestants, and similar churches – and the Muslims, divided primarily into Shiites and Sunnis. Another worldwide, global religious BLOOD-BATH is in the offing, and will be a major cause of World War III!

Religion of Conquest

The Shiites, dominant in Iran, but the Sunnis are the majority in the Arab countries. Although Muslims acknowledge both Christians and Jews as “people of the book,” they do not regard them as equals, and throughout history have persecuted both, enslaved them, and forced them to convert to Islam, by the sword if necessary.

Don’t let politicians and government leaders deceive you. The Muslim religion is NOT a religion of Peace! It is a religion of WAR – CONQUEST! The “god” the Muslims worship is not the true God of the Bible! It is an “idol” itself – derived from the ancient pagan cosmogony which preceded the religion of Mohammed! The religion teaches “death to the infidel!”

Following Mohammad’s teaching, Islamic armies conquered far and wide,

extorting wealth from Jewish and Christian populations, thereby funding their ongoing conquests. Islam has a secret plan for world domination and seeks to “prevail over all religions” (Koran 9:33; see also 48:28; 61:9).

Says Don Richardson, “Islam has again set its sights on a conquest of Europe and of European civilization, wherever the latter has spread to North and South America and other regions. Muslim strategists ask their followers, *Why do we find in these modern times that Allah has entrusted most of the world’s oil wealth primarily in Muslim nations?*”

What is their answer? “Allah foresaw Islam’s need for funds to finance a final politico-religious victory over what Islam perceives as its *ultimate enemy: Christianized Euro-American civilization*. So, Islam follows Nazism, fascism and communism as the world’s latest hostile takeover aspirant” (p.161).

With this understanding, we ought to discern that the presence of Islamic schools, mosques, and peoples in our nations is nothing less than a dangerous “Trojan horse” getting ready to attack our nations *from within our own borders!*

Muslim radicals seek to exploit massive immigration – both legal and illegal – into western nations. With millions of Muslims now in place, and enemy countries thoroughly infiltrated, they will seek to take over by influencing the political process, and acts of violence and terrorism.

The Islamic threat looming over America, Britain, Canada, and the European nations, is serpentine, mostly hidden, but growing increasingly dangerous, and ought to be of highest priority and of urgent concern. Though not all Muslims seek war, the “true believers” who adhere to the Koran – who are a growing and forceful group – seek nothing less than all-out Jihad against the West!

What Can YOU Do?

These things are coming down the track, as sure as a locomotive hurtling out of control. What we can do to stop it? Nothing! It is prophesied! But we can take action to SAVE OURSELVES from this crooked, wicked, perverse generation! The apostle Peter declares, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38). He added, “Be SAVED from this perverse generation” (verse 40).

And Christ Jesus, Yeshua, said: “But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man” (Luke 21:34-36). Repent now, before it is too late, and turn to God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength! Do it now! The clock is ticking.

Prophecy Briefs

Return to the Planet of the Apes?

A leading scientist has warned a new species of "humanzee," created from breeding apes with humans, could become a reality unless the government acts to stop scientists experimenting. In an interview with *The Scotsman*, Dr Calum MacKellar, director of research at the Scottish Council on Human Bioethics, warned the controversial draft Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill did not prevent human sperm being inseminated into animals. He said if a female chimpanzee was inseminated with human sperm the two species would be closely enough related that a hybrid could be born. He said scientists could possibly try to develop the new species to fill the demand for organ donors. Leading scientists say there is no reason why the two species could not breed, although they question why anyone would want to try such a technique. Dr MacKellar said he feared the consequences if scientists made a concerted effort to cross humans with chimpanzees, He said: "Nobody knows what they would get if they tried hard enough, The insemination of animals with human sperm should be prohibited said the resulting creature could raise ethical dilemmas, such as whether it would be treated as human or animal, and what rights it would have

Christians Who Study Bible Prophecy – Nuts?

If you are a Christian, and you believe that Bible prophecy is being fulfilled in this generation, then you are probably the oddball in your church. In fact, scratch 'probably'. It is pretty much a dead-bang certainty that you are. It is fascinating to me that a person can be pro-choice, anti-Israel, pro-gay marriage, and be labeled a 'Christian progressive'. But if you believe that God not only knows the future, but recorded it for us in advance, well, then you're a nut. Most Christians are ok with the idea that God created the universe. Whether or not they accept it as a literal 'creation' or some kind of modified evolutionary scheme notwithstanding, few Christians would argue that creation is beyond God's power. For reasons nobody has ever been able to logically articulate to me, Christians have

no problem agreeing that the First Advent of Jesus Christ was prophesied. But prophecies pointing to His Second Advent are merely symbolic and not to be taken literally. If you do, then you are a nut. There are some churches, on the other hand, that are wholly given over to the study of Bible prophecy for the last days. If you are a member of a church like that, not only are you a nut, but you probably belong to a cult. If you wanted to draw a cartoon in which you wanted one of the characters to be instantly recognized as being a couple of sandwiches short of a picnic, the most recognizable way would be to draw a guy with a long beard wearing a burnoose and brandishing a sign saying, 'Repent! The end is near!' And that's just the way the subject is treated by other Christians. To the world, if you study Bible prophecy, you are probably not just crazy, but dangerous.

Missing Nukes!

"The US military cannot locate hundreds of sensitive nuclear missile components, according to several government officials familiar with a Pentagon report on nuclear safeguards. Robert Gates, US defence secretary, recently fired both the US Air Force chief of staff and air force secretary after an investigation blamed the air force for the inadvertent shipment of nuclear missile nose cones to Taiwan.

"According to previously undisclosed details obtained by the FT, the investigation also concluded that the air force could not account for many sensitive components previously included in its nuclear inventory. One official said the number of missing components was more than 1,000. The disclosure is the latest embarrassing episode for the air force, which last year had to explain how a bomber mistakenly carried six nuclear missiles across the US. The incidents have raised concerns about US nuclear safeguards as Washington presses other countries to bolster counter-proliferation measures.

"In announcing the departure of the top air force officials earlier this month, Mr. Gates said Admiral Kirkland Donald, the officer who led the investigation, concluded that both incidents had a 'common origin' which was 'the gradual erosion of nuclear standards and a lack of

effective oversight by air force leadership.’

“Mr. Gates added that the Pentagon was evaluating the results of a ‘comprehensive inventory of all nuclear and nuclear-related materials [conducted] to re-establish positive control of these sensitive, classified components.’

“Adm. Donald briefed Congress on the results of his investigation on Wednesday. Bryan Whitman, Pentagon spokesman, declined to comment on the classified report. A senior defence official said the report had ‘identified issues about record keeping’ for sensitive nuclear missile components. But he stressed that there was no suggestion that components had ended up in the hands of countries that should not have received them.

“But Daryl Kimball, executive director of the Arms Control Association in Washington, said the revelation was ‘very significant and extremely troubling’ because it meant the US could not establish the positive control referred to by Mr. Gates. ‘It raises a serious question about where else these unaccounted for warhead related parts may have gone,’ said Mr. Kimball. ‘I would not be surprised if the recent Taiwan incident is not the only one.’

“A senior military officer said the military leadership, including Adm. Mike Mullen, the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, was ‘deeply troubled’ by the findings of the Donald report. (Prophecy News Watch, June 20,2008).

Israel Mulls Strike on Iran

“The Israeli government no longer believes that sanctions can prevent Iran from building nuclear weapons. A broad consensus in favor of a military strike against Tehran's nuclear facilities – without the Americans, if necessary – is beginning to take shape.

“Dani Yatom, a member of the Israeli parliament, the Knesset, was invited to attend a NATO conference in Brussels last year. While reviewing the agenda, Yatom, a retired major general, was surprised to see that the meeting was titled ‘The Iranian Challenge’ and not ‘The Iranian Threat.’

“When a speaker with a French accent

mentioned that a US military strike against Iranian nuclear facilities would be the most dangerous scenario of all, Yatom said, politely but firmly: ‘Sir, you are wrong. The worst scenario would be if Iran acquired an atom bomb.’

“Yatom, 63, has spent most of his life in the military. He was a military adviser to former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and, in the mid-1990s, was named head of Israel's Mossad intelligence agency. Nevertheless, Yatom, a member of the Labor Party, is not some reckless hawk. Unlike most Knesset members, he flatly rejects, for example, a major Israeli offensive against the Islamist Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

“But Yatom's willingness to strike a compromise ends when he is asked what he considers to be the best response to the Iranian nuclear program. ‘We no longer believe in the effectiveness of sanctions,’ says Yatom. ‘A military operation is needed if the world wants to stop Iran.’

“When Israeli Transportation Minister Shaul Mofaz, a former defense minister, expressed similar sentiments 10 days ago, they were viewed, especially in Europe, as the isolated opinions of a card-carrying hardliner seeking to score points with the electorate in a bid to succeed Prime Minister Ehud Olmert. In truth, however, there is now a consensus within the Israeli government that an air strike against the Iranian nuclear facilities has become unavoidable. ‘Most members of the Israeli cabinet no longer believe that sanctions will convince President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad to change course,’ says Minister of Immigrant Absorption Yaakov Edri.

“The one question over which Israel's various political groups disagree is the timing of an attack. The doves argue that diplomatic efforts by the United Nations should be allowed to continue until Iran is on the verge of completing the bomb. That way, Israel could at least argue convincingly that all non-military options had been exhausted.

“The hawks, on the other hand, believe time is running out. They stress that there is now a ‘favorable window of opportunity’ that will close with the US presidential election in November, and that Israel can only depend on American support for as long as current US President

George W. Bush is still in charge in Washington. They are convinced that the country cannot truly depend on any of the candidates to succeed Bush in office. Barack Obama, the Democratic candidate, has already said that he favors direct negotiations with Tehran. And even if Republican John McCain wins the race, politicians in Jerusalem do not expect him to be ordering an attack as his first official act – despite his performance, at a campaign appearance last year, of the Beach Boys’ song ‘Barbara Ann’ with the lyrics: ‘Bomb bomb bomb, bomb bomb Iran.’

“President Bush, however, has recently been sending out signals that are suspiciously reminiscent of the run-up to the Iraq war. Then, as today, he insisted that ‘all options are on the table.’ And then, as today, he sought to appease the Europeans by saying that all diplomatic channels would be exhausted first. But during his recent visit to Slovenia, Bush said: ‘There’s a lot of urgencies when it comes to dealing with Iran, and the Israeli political folks ... if you go to Israel and listen carefully, you’ll hear that urgency in their voice.’

“An Iranian nuclear bomb would overshadow all other threats that Israel has faced during the 60 years of its existence. As costly as its wars have been, and as horrific the suicide bombings of radical Islamists may be, they can never pose a serious threat to the existence of the Jewish state.

“But a single nuclear strike would have devastating consequences for this small country, which is only about half the size of Switzerland. In fact, international strategists commonly refer to Israel as a ‘one-bomb country.’

“Jerusalem’s military leaders claim that Tehran could curtail every Israeli military campaign – in the Gaza Strip, for example – with only the credible threat of a nuclear strike. Despite its military strength, they say, the country would be practically defenseless. Even worse, the mere existence of an Iranian nuclear bomb, the government in Jerusalem believes, would trigger an exodus of the educated elite that could spell disaster for the country, both economically and culturally. ‘Iran would be in a position to destroy the Zionist dream without even pressing a button,’ says Ephraim Sneh, a retired general and cabinet minister for many years.

All experts agree that the Iranian bomb doesn’t

yet exist. Nevertheless, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad continues to threaten the Jewish state with destruction at every opportunity. ‘If the enemy thinks they can break the Iranian nation with pressure, they are wrong,’ he said last week.

A United Europe – Really?

“A mere two years ago, the British author and thinker Mark Leonard published a book titled ‘Why Europe Will Run the 21st Century.’ Today, one wonders to what degree Europe will even participate in the 21st century. It’s not just the deadly blow struck by Ireland’s rejection of the Lisbon Treaty reorganizing the European Union. I’ve spent six of the past eight years in the capital of the European Union, and I’ve noticed over this period a steady loss of self-confidence in Europe, a turning inward and a growing pessimism about the future.

“For all the focus on the ills of the American economy, few Europeans feel they are about to inherit the world. Germany’s economy is riding high these days, but it is exceptional, and even Germans fear it may be temporary. The pleasure Europeans take in the weak dollar and the high euro is a welcome distraction from deeply rooted fears that the Asian giants are overtaking and out-competing Europe in the international economy. Europe’s big neighbor also causes angst. Every day some European official pleads for a common energy policy to confront predatory Russian monopolists, but every day the Russians cut a new deal favoring one European interest at the expense of another.

“Europeans worry about immigration and cultural identity much more than they did when I arrived here. Most elections in Europe these days have immigration and assimilation issues as a subtext, and most people I talk to doubt Europe will be able to integrate the new immigrants. Even secularists worry that what they call ‘Christian’ Europe is being undermined by the endless flow of Muslims and Muslim culture – hence the outcry early this year at the archbishop of Canterbury’s suggestion that sharia law be accommodated in Britain. The Lisbon Treaty was supposed to solve some of these problems. It would have created two potential leaders to represent Europe on the world stage: a president and a foreign minister. Names being bandied about for the two jobs, from Tony Blair to Sweden’s Carl Bildt, made it possible to imagine

Europe taking a stronger role in the world, even amid all the doubts. To Euro-enthusiasts across the continent, the new constitution was the answer to Europe's malaise and the next step toward global leadership. But what now, since the treaty is dead" (Washington Post, 6-13-08).

Global Population to Hit 7 Billion in 2012

"The world's population will reach 7 billion in 2012, even as the global community struggles to satisfy its appetite for natural resources, according to a new government projection. There are 6.7 billion people in the world today. The United States ranks third, with 304 million, behind China and India, according to projections released Thursday by the Census Bureau.

"The world's population surpassed 6 billion in 1999, meaning it will take only 13 years to add a billion people. By comparison, the number of people didn't reach 1 billion until 1800, said Carl Haub, a demographer at the Population Reference Bureau. It didn't reach 2 billion until 130 years later. "You can easily see the effect of rapid population growth in developing countries," Haub said. The global population is growing by about 1.2 percent per year. The Census Bureau projects the growth rate will decline to 0.5 percent by 2050. By then, India will have surpassed China as the most populous country. The Census Bureau updates projections each year on a variety of global demographic trends, including fertility and mortality rates and life expectancy. U.S. life expectancy has surpassed 78 years for the first time, the National Center for Health Statistics announced last week" (Prophecy News Watch, June 20,2008).

Tensions with Iran Escalate

"Tensions are rising over the question of Iran's nuclear program. President Bush is seeking new sanctions against Iran. At the same time, Israeli officials are arguing that a military strike may be necessary to halt Iran's nuclear plans. The International Atomic Energy Agency has expressed 'serious concerns' about Iran's nuclear ambitions and has sought answers from Tehran.

President Bush said Wednesday in Germany that "all options are on the table" if Iran does not halt its uranium enrichment programs.

As usual, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has been defiant. "They've tried by military threats ... and political pressure to stop you from your luminous path," he told a rally in Iran Wednesday. "But today they have seen that all their planning has failed. Today the Iranian nation is standing on the nuclear height."

"Israeli hawks are talking about a targeted strike on Iran's nuclear facilities. President Bush has met with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert twice in recent weeks on the Iranian question. U.S. intelligence chief Mike McConnell has traveled to Israel for briefings. Israeli Transportation Minister Shaul Mofaz declared that a military strike on Iran may be 'unavoidable.'

"The key question is whether U.S. or allied intelligence can verify that Iran is advancing a nuclear weapons program. If so, diplomacy should be tried first. A military strike on Iran would spark attacks on Israel and U.S. forces. There would be other repercussions.

"The United States cannot afford to fight another war at this point" (Washington Daily Times, June 12, 2008).

Selling America Away

"Foreign investment in the United States is on the rise and key U.S. businesses and infrastructures such as roads and airports are being sold to foreign investors. Now comes word from the U.S. Department of Commerce the Bureau of Economic Affairs will stop publishing a key report tracking those foreign dollars.

"WND reported earlier on a decision by the Federal Reserve to quit publishing M3 data, a money-supply measure watched closely by economists.

"Last month, econometrician John Williams reported on his subscription website, 'Shadow Government Statistics,' that the M3 statistic he

compiles from available government data shows the growth of M3 at historically high rates last seen in June 1971, two months before President

Nixon closed the gold window and instituted wage and price controls.

“Charles McMillian, president and chief economist at MBG Information Services in Washington, D.C., also has expressed concern over the recent decision by the Department of Commerce to discontinue publishing foreign investment data and warned that may forecast an unprecedented surge in foreign investment anticipated by the Bush administration.

“In the announcement, BEA claimed funding limitations necessitated halting future reports.

”The most recent report, released Wednesday, showed direct foreign investment in U.S. businesses reached \$276.8 billion in 2007, the second largest amount recorded and the highest since 2000, when new foreign investment outlays peaked at \$335.6 billion.

“Of the direct foreign investments in the U.S. in 2007, only about 10 percent, approximately \$21.9 billion, established new U.S. businesses, while foreign investments to acquire existing U.S. businesses totaled \$255.0 billion.

“Nearly 37 percent of the foreign investments in 2007 involved European investors, although the BEA noted investments from Asia and the Middle East rose substantially.

“McMillian noted in an e-mail that the BEA decision to discontinue publishing foreign investment data comes at a time when public and congressional concerns have increased over the acquisition of U.S. assets by foreign investors

“McMillian referenced the recent attempt by "China's mysterious but closely state-aligned Huawei" to acquire 3Com, a key supplier of Internet security technologies to the U.S. Department of State, in conjunction with Boston-based Bain Capital, a private equity firm founded by Republican 2008 presidential candidate Mitt Romney.

“In March, Bain pulled out of the deal after learning that the secretive Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, or CFIUS, organized in the U.S. Treasury Department, planned to block the deal.

”In May, during a four-day trip to the Middle

East that included Saudi Arabia and Dubai, U.S. Secretary of Treasury Henry Paulson encouraged foreign investment in the United States, arguing the controversy over Dubai Ports in 2006 did not reflect an adverse U.S. attitude toward foreign investment” (Worldnetdaily)

Oil and Gas Prices to Soar even More

“The Goldman Sachs energy analyst whose predictions have fueled worldwide oil price speculation now foresees oil peaking at \$200 a barrel, with gasoline rising to \$5.75 a gallon before consumption cools enough to lower fuel prices.

“In a rare interview published today in Barron’s, Arjun N. Murti, Goldman Sachs’ 39-year-old top energy analyst, said energy is in the later stages of a worldwide ‘super spike,’ with the possibility of \$150 to \$200 a barrel oil likely over the next six to 24 months.

“Murti noted oil analysts have shifted from a 1990s attitude of, ‘It is easy to grow supply,’ to today’s pessimism, ‘It is going to be more difficult to grow supply.’ The change is in part because oil-producing areas, including Mexico and the North Sea, are declining, while growth areas such as Brazil and Angola are just coming online.

“In the interview with Barron's, Murti stressed he does not believe the world is running out of oil, and he does not subscribe to peak oil theories that worldwide oil production rates are necessarily declining.

“In Murti’s view, the problem is worldwide oil demand is growing consistently, while supply is growing more moderately.

“ ‘We do think that the places that have large quantities of recoverable oil, notably Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran, Venezuela and Russia, aren’t on track to grow their supply aggressively,’ Murti said. ‘And, to some degree, high prices are disincentivizing some of these countries to either open up their industry or spend the money themselves. These countries don’t need the incremental revenue.’

“Morgan Stanley agrees, predicting oil will hit \$150 a barrel by the end of June or the beginning of July.

“Crude oil set a one-day record Friday, surging more than \$10 a barrel, to settle at \$138.54 on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

“The price of crude oil on world future’s exchanges has more than doubled in the past year. . . .

“Sen. John McCain has attacked Sen. Barack Obama’s push for government incentives to develop alternative renewable fuels as government subsidies calculated to enrich special interests.

“According to Stephen Power writing in today’s Wall Street Journal, McCain favors scrapping federal ethanol credits, moving instead to develop more nuclear power plants” (Worldnetdaily).

Farming Woes and Worries Mount

“In a year when global harvests need to be excellent to ease the threat of pervasive food shortages, evidence is mounting that they will be average at best. Some farmers are starting to fear disaster. American corn and soybean farmers are suffering from too much rain, while Australian wheat farmers have been plagued by drought.

“‘The planting has gotten off to a poor start,’ said Bill Nelson, a Wachovia grains analyst. ‘The anxiety level is increasing.’ At a moment when the country’s corn should be flourishing, one plant in 10 has not even emerged from the ground, the Agriculture Department said Monday. Because corn planted late is more sensitive to heat damage in high summer, every day’s delay practically guarantees a lower yield at harvest. ‘This is pushing my nerves to the limit.’

“As the world clamors for more corn, wheat, soybeans and rice, farmers are trying to meet the challenge. United States soybean plantings are running 16 percent behind last year. Rice is tardy in Arkansas, which produces nearly half the country’s crop. ‘We’re certainly not going to have as good a crop as we had hoped,’ said Harvey Howington of the Arkansas Rice Growers Association. ‘I don’t think this is good news for anybody.’ Harvests ebb and flow, of course. But with supplies of most of the key commodities at their lowest levels in decades, there is little room for error this year. American

farmers are among the world’s top producers, supplying 60 percent of the corn that moves across international borders in a typical year, as well as a third of the soybeans, a quarter of the wheat and a tenth of the rice. ‘If we have bad crops, it’s going to be a wild ride,’ said the Agriculture Department’s chief economist, Joseph Glauber. “There’s just no cushion” (Prophecy News Watch, June 12, 2008).

Secret Bilderberg Meeting in Virginia

“Sources from inside the 2008 Bilderberg meeting have leaked the details of what elitists were discussing in Chantilly Virginia last week and the talking points were ominous – a plan to microchip Americans under the pretext of fighting terrorist groups which will be identified as blonde haired, blue eyed westerners.

“Veteran Bilderberg sleuth Jim Tucker relies on sources who regularly attend Bilderberg as aides and assistants but who are not Bilderberg members themselves. The information they provided this year is bone-chilling for those who have tracked the development of the plan to make the general public consider implanted microchips as a convenience as routine as creditcards.

“Ominously, Tucker’s source also told him that Bilderberg were discussing the microchipping of humans on a mass scale, which would be introduced under the pretext of fighting terrorism whereby the ‘good guys’ would be allowed to travel freely from airports so long as their microchip could be scanned and the information stored in a database. Tucker said the idea was also sold on the basis that it would help hospital staff treat a patient in an emergency situation because a scan of the chip would provide instantaneous access to health details.

“Tucker underscored that Bilderberg were talking about subdermally implanted chips and not merely RFID chips contained in clothing. The discussion took place in a main conference hall and was part of the agenda, not an off-hand remark in the hotel bar. Such a bizarre concept may seem unbelievable to some, but over the last ten years there have been dozens of examples of people accepting implanted chips for a variety of different reasons” (Prison Planet, June 2008).

The U.S. Has No Remaining Grain Reserves

“WASHINGTON—Larry Matlack, President of the American Agriculture Movement (AAM), has raised concerns over the issue of U.S. grain reserves after it was announced that the sale of 18.37 million bushels of wheat from USDA’s Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust.

“According to the May 1, 2008 CCC inventory report there are only 24.1 million bushels of wheat in inventory, so after this sale there will be only 2.7 million bushels of wheat left the entire CCC inventory,” warned Matlack. ‘Our concern is not that we are using the remainder of our strategic grain reserves for humanitarian relief. AAM fully supports the action and all humanitarian food relief. Our concern is that the U.S. has nothing else in our emergency food pantry. There is no cheese, no butter, no dry milk powder, no grains or anything else left in reserve. The only thing left in the entire CCC inventory will be 2.7 million bushels of wheat which is about enough wheat to make ½ of a loaf of bread for each of the 300 million people in America.’” (*TriState Observer*, June 6, 2008).

Evidence of a Withering Economy is Everywhere

“Look around. The evidence of a withering economy is everywhere. In ‘good times’ consumers shun the canned meat aisle altogether, but no more. Today, Spam sales are soaring; grocery stores can’t keep it on the shelves. The bottom line is that more and more people in ‘the richest country on earth’ are now surviving on processed pig-meat. That says it all.

“In Santa Barbara parking lots are being converted into hostels so that families that lost their homes in the sub-prime fiasco can sleep in their cars and not be hassled by the cops. The same is true in LA where tent cities have sprung up around the railroad yards to accommodate the growing number of people who’ve lost their jobs or can’t afford to rent a room on service-industry wages. It’s tragic.

“The economy is on life-support.

“The pundits on the business channel are telling us that the ‘worst is over’; that the Force 5 hurricane in the financial markets has weakened to a squall. Don’t believe it.

“Commercial property prices in the US in February saw their sharpest decline since records began nearly 15 years ago as sources of finance for deals has dried up, according to data from Standard & Poor’s out yesterday” (Mike Whitney, *Asia Times Online*, June 2, 2008).

Days of Trouble and Uncertainty

“In a recent issue of the Washington Times, a large advertisement campaign in Mexico by the Swedish Vodka maker Absolut was reported on. The advertisement prepared for Mexican readers showed a large map of North America with Mexico engulfing over half of the United States. The caption under the ad said, ‘Drink our product when you invade.’

“On May 6th, the London Daily Telegraph reported that (Red) China has secretly developed a massive new nuclear submarine base. The article also stated that tensions have now reached a level of cold war status. The submarine base, which is southwest of Hong Kong, houses twenty 094 Jin-class submarines with nuclear weapons.

“Red China is also planning to put on the largest show of force the world has ever seen at the Olympic games, which are now being referred to as the Paramilitary Olympics. The Red Chinese security staff will consist of 94,000 soldiers to watch over 10,500 athletes. At present Red China seems to have plenty of money, much of which came from the United States. While the bridges and overpasses in the United States are crumbling and collapsing, Red China has just opened one of the world’s largest bridges, which is twenty-two miles long. The cost was 1.7 billion dollars. The United States doesn’t have money for improvements because we are spending 5,000 dollars per second on our wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. This extrapolates out to 18 million dollars per hour on foreign wars.

“Things do need to change in the United States, and it is an election year. Can any thinking person truly believe that things will get better considering the current candidates for the high

office of President of the United States? We have Hillary Clinton, who may soon drop out. The name Hillary means laughable, but she is no joke. This occultic woman is continually giving the satanic salute with her left hand. And now leading the democratic race is Barack Hussein Obama. He also is seen giving the satanic salute with his left hand quite often. (In the occult world, the left, or sinister, hand is the sign of life force and malediction.) The name Barack is sometimes spelled Baraq, and Baraq is the name of the winged horse of Mohammed by which Islam is to fill the world and overcome it. Hussein means handsome one, and when you put those two names together they mean 'the handsome one by whom Islam will fill the earth.'

"Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama have been running a heated race for the highest office in the land, and something most unusual happened during the recent Kentucky Derby that is most curious. Both Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama visited the stables before the famous and traditional horse race. Barack Obama picked a horse named Big Brown to show, and that is the horse that won the race. Hillary Clinton put her arm around a filly named Eight Belles and picked her as the winner. As both horses approached the finish line, Eight Belles went down and broke two ankles after finishing in second place. This horse, the only female in the race, had to be euthanized right on the track.

"We must also note that before the race, when Hillary Clinton put her arm around the horse, she said she felt a 'sisterhood with Eight Belles.' I found this story amazing because I remembered studying maritime law and what is meant by eight bells. According to maritime rules, watches are set up on board a ship that are of four hours duration. A bell is rung every one-half hour starting with one and working up to eight. Before every sounding of eight bells, the captain of the ship must give permission. That law dates back to when eight bells was the signal for mutiny, which is the hostile takeover of the ship. Thus, eight bells mean one of two things: either the end of a watch or a hostile takeover. That is what the name of Hillary's horse meant. Is this some kind of sign? Is our country at the end of a watch? Will there be a hostile takeover? Will there be death at the finish line? Certainly, there are strange spiritual forces at work in this occult-charged year of 2008" (The Last Trumpet, June 2008).

A New Look at John McCain

"There is much that could be said about John McCain, the Republican candidate for President of the United States. As I write this, I am looking at a picture of John McCain standing at the Western Wall in the old city of Jerusalem. He is placing a prayer in the cracks of the wall.

"Indeed, there are strange forces of antichrist at work, and looking at this picture caused me to remember that in the Gaelic language, McCain means the son of Cain. Genesis, chapter four, tells us that Cain was the first murderer, and two things were given to him. He was given a curse of the ground not producing for him, and he had a mark put on his body. Thus, Cain became the son of the mark, and the son of the curse. It is John McCain who publicly and brazenly stated that we could be in Iraq for another one hundred years!

"Truly, this war has proved to be a curse upon our own nation and the rest of the world as well! Since the initial invasion of Iraq, there have been 1.6 million people killed. Many areas of that country have been poisoned by depleted uranium from our weapons. Three trillion dollars have been wasted, and great strain has been put on our military. In addition to all of that, we brought the American way of life to that troubled nation when shortly after we occupied it, alcohol and prostitution were legalized.

"Recent reports also revealed that there has been a twenty percent rise in suicides in the U.S. Army because of the pressures of failed relationships and mental stress. In addition to that, the Associated Press reported on March 15th, 2008, that a full one-third of women in the military reported that they have been sexually harassed, and there were 2,688 direct sexual assaults during 2007.

"On April 18th, Washington announced the forthcoming opening of the most elaborate and impressive embassy in the world. It has been constructed in Baghdad and is built on 104 acres with 27 buildings, 619 apartments, and numerous restaurants, including a food court. It also has indoor and outdoor basketball courts, volley ball courts, and an indoor Olympic-size swimming pool. The cost thus far has been \$474 million.

“We have also learned that California investor Llewellyn Werner is investing millions of dollars to construct a Disneyland on a 50-acre tract of land on the outskirts of Baghdad. The Disney Park will also contain a massive zoo, which will replace the zoo that existed before the American invasion. The former zoo was emptied by starving Iraqis, who ate the animals because invading forces had cut off their food supply. There are so many things that have happened in that land that have not been reported by the American press” (*ibid.*).

Satan’s New World Globalization

“In America, the last remaining vestiges of our erstwhile great nation are rapidly disappearing. During the time of the Pope’s recent visit to America, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown was also in our country, and he gave a speech at Harvard University’s Kennedy Center. In his speech, he called for the repeal of America’s Declaration of Independence and demanded that we issue a declaration of interdependence!

“Brown’s aides called it his signature speech. In his speech, he used the word global 69 times, globalization 7 times, and interdependence 13 times. Brown also slammed the concept of national sovereignty continually. Where is the outrage?

“The Declaration of Independence represents the very roots of our country. It is one of the greatest and most masterful documents ever written. Are we to insult and condemn the fifty-six men who signed it and laid their lives on the line to establish our nation? Are we to forget all of those who gave their lives in true defense of our country? To the best of my knowledge, not one American statesman condemned Brown’s speech! Where was President Bush in this matter? He was as quiet as a Texas oyster. Where are Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys now that we really need them? Benedict Arnold was a petty traitor compared to those who are now in charge of our nation! Truly, our nation is on the outer limits of hope! Remember George Orwell’s book *Animal Farm*? (*ibid.*).

Floundering Society’s Woes

“On April 22nd, 2008, the New York Times featured a story that revealed the deplorable

condition of our social and educational environment in the United States. One American child drops out of school every 26 seconds, which is a total of over one million every year.

“A recent survey among teenagers, which was done by the organization Common Core, revealed that 25% did not know who Adolph Hitler was; 34% did not know that the Bill of Rights guaranteed freedom of speech and freedom of religion; and 50% did not know that the American Civil War took place between 1850 and 1900. In addition to that, 12th grade students in America scored near the bottom of all industrialized nations.

“What happens when our government kicks God out of the schools and opens the doors to every kind of demon? On May 10th, a school in South Los Angeles had to be locked down when a violent fight broke out, involving 600 students.

“In Waycross, Georgia, nine students, all approximately nine years of age, plotted to injure their female teacher and brought a broken steak knife, handcuffs, and duct tape to school to do the job. The plot was discovered in time to stop it. These young children planned to handcuff their teacher, put tape over her mouth, hit her over the head with a paperweight, and cut her with the knife.

“In South Carolina, a teenage boy was caught plotting to blow up his school with high-powered explosives. The 18-year-old Ryan Schallenger, a straight ‘A’ student, wanted to die in the explosion himself because he said he wanted to go to heaven and kill Jesus. He had planned this for that infamous day of April 19th, a day when so many other murderous events took place in recent years.

“These are strange times when anything can happen. Role models are all but gone, and young people are floundering in a nation that has become Satan’s amusement park. It is a lot more serious than Hillary belting down a shot glass of whiskey in public while campaigning, or Barack

Obama rolling one gutter ball after another during a publicity bowling game. Our nation is in serious trouble because it has turned its back on God. Homosexuals are in high places, and the sodomites are running almost everything. Major

corporations are sponsoring this abominable wickedness.

“Recently, World Net Daily featured a story about the giant McDonalds restaurant chain being listed on the website of the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. The McDonalds Corporation also placed one of their executives on the board of directors of that queer organization known as NGLCC. In addition to that, McDonalds also gave an undisclosed contribution to that Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. The McDonalds executive, Richard Ellis, who joined that sodomite Chamber of Commerce said, ‘I am thrilled to join the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce team and ready to get to work. I share the NGLCC's passion for business growth and development within the LGBT community and I look forward to playing a role in moving these important initiatives forward.’

“On April 19th, another shocking story regarding a new program being offered at the Boston Children’s Hospital made the news. The program is called the Gender Management Service Clinic, and it is managed by pediatric endocrinologist, Dr. Norman Spack. In this program, parents bring in their children to receive injections that delay puberty until they are old enough to decide if they want to have a male or female body. Dr. Spack feels that this program makes sex change much easier than if the children wait until they are twenty years old. These certainly are days like unto Sodom and Gomorrah, and the words of Jesus in Luke 17:28-30 have come to pass” (*ibid.*).

Nine Meals from Anarchy – Britain Faces Very Real Food Crisis

“The scenario goes like this Imagine a sudden shutdown of oil supplies; a sudden collapse in the petrol that streams steadily through the pumps and into the engines of the lorries which deliver our food around the country, stocking up the supermarket shelves as soon as any item runs out.

“If the trucks stopped moving, we’d start to worry and we’d head out to the shops. By the end of Day One, if there was still no petrol, the shelves would be looking pretty thin. Imagine then, Day Two: your fourth, fifth and sixth meal.

We’d be in a panic. Day Three: still no petrol. What then? With hunger pangs kicking in, and no notion of how long it might take for the supermarkets to restock, how long before those who hadn’t stocked up began stealing from their neighbors? Or looting what they could get their hands on?

“There might be 11 million gardeners in Britain, but you delicious peas won’t go far when your kids are hungry and the baked beans have run out.

“It was Lord Cameron, a farmer who was the first head of the Countryside Agency, to describe just how perilous Britain’s food supply actually is. In his estimation it would take just nine meals – three full days without food on supermarket shelves – before law and order started to break down, and British streets descended into chaos

“A far-fetched warning for a First World nation like Britain? Hardly. Because that’s exactly what happened in the US in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. People looted in order to feed themselves and their families.

“If a similar tragedy was to befall Britain, we are fooling ourselves if we imagine we would not witness similar scenes of crime and disorder.

“Well, today Britain is facing a very real crisis Granted, it is not the threat of a sudden, terrifying phenomenon such as the hurricane that struck New Orleans, But in its capacity to cause widespread hardship and depravation nation-wide, it is every bit as daunting.

“To farm a single cow and deliver it to market requires the equivalent of six barrels of oil-enough to drive a car from New York to LA.

“Now factor in the diesel used by farm vehicles, the carbon footprint of chemical fertilizers used by most non-organic beef farm and the energy required to transport a cow to the abattoir and process it. The total oil requirement soon adds up.

“And so as oil prices have risen, so has the cost of food-and I’m afraid it's only set to get worse The age of cheap food is at an end-and it will impact not only our supermarket bills, but the whole economy.

“In a report published Thursday, 18 charities found that many disabled people and poorer pensioners are having to go short of food in order to pay for home care or simple things such as transport to their local day care center.

“It’s not just a matter of cost, either. but of real shortages In the US, supplies of rice are so low that retail giant Wal Mart has been rationing the amount of any one customer can buy.

“The truly shocking fact is that the Government has made no plans at all to prepare. Indeed, it has utterly failed to address the vital issues surrounding our food supplies and security.

“In 1995, 27 percent of UK food was imported. By 2006 it was 37 percent The situation is obviously more critical in cities: London imports more than 80 percent and a food shortage would hit the capital hardest.

“Today, we stand on the brink of a longer-term problem In the words of Tim Lang, Professor of Food Policy at City University, London, “We are sleep-walking into a crisis.”

“Suddenly, that warning of being “nine meals from anarchy” no longer seems such a distant or impossible threat” (World News Briefs Reports, Richard Markland, issue 231).

Offend a Homosexual – Go to Prison!

“Christians will face prison for speaking out against homosexuality if Brazil’s Senate passes a bill approved unanimously by its House of Representatives.

“The measure is considered the country's newest attempt to promote homosexuality, disguised as an act to combat discrimination, the Catholic News Agency reports.

“If anyone prevents actions of ‘homosexual affection’ in public or private locations open to the public, they could face up to five years in prison for doing so, the Association of the Defense of Life reports.

“The bill also seeks to penalize private and public school administrators with up to three years in prison if they refuse to hire openly “gay” teachers.

According to the CNA, the measure will force prison time for any ‘moral, ethical, philosophical or psychological expression that questions homosexual practices.’

“The ADL claims the bill could spell disaster for churches and teachers.

“ ‘[A] priest, a pastor, a teacher or even an average citizen who says in a sermon, a classroom or public conversation that homosexual acts are sinful, disordered or an illness could be denounced and detained,’ the association said.

“Only weeks ago, WND reported the president of Brazil said ‘opposing’ homosexuality makes you a sick person, and he believes such thoughts need to be criminalized.

“Brazilian chief Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, who won a narrow re-election following a cash-for-votes scandals, held the First National Conference of Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals, Transvestites and Transsexuals to condemn the biblical belief that homosexuality is wrong.

“Lula, on June 5, not only officially opened the event to promote homosexuality across his nation but also issued a presidential sanction for the conference.

“Calling for ‘the criminalization of homophobia,’ he said opposition to homosexuality is ‘perhaps the most perverse disease impregnated in the human head.’

“He said ‘prejudiced’ people need to ‘open their minds and clean them.’ Other speakers encouraged homosexuals to claim to be part of a civil rights campaign that already has brought reforms for treatment of blacks, the elderly and the disabled. They also announced the nation’s public hospitals soon would begin to perform sex changes on people” (*Worldnetdaily*, July 16, 2008)

COMMENT: In another case, a homosexual man has sued two Bible publishers for violating his constitutional rights and causing emotional pain because the Bible versions they publish refer to homosexuality as a SIN! He is seeking \$60 million from Zondervan and \$10 million from Thomas Nelson Publishers

The Feast of Tabernacles Omak, Washington!

October 16-23, 2008

Keep God's Feast with us on the true, correct, God-commanded dates, in the Biblical manner, this year in Omak, Washington!

Omak, a picturesque, old-fashioned cowboy and western town, on the east side of the Cascade mountains, with the beautiful Okanogan River running through it, is a spectacular site to "get away from it all" and congregate together to worship God!

We will keep the Feast as GOD COMMANDED – "You shall DWELL [spend time in, fellowship in] IN BOOTHS [SUKKOT] SEVEN DAYS" (Lev.23:42). We will expound and teach what God commands – "that your generations may KNOW that I made the children of Israel to *dwell in booths*, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt" (v.43).

We will wave the "lulavs" – "the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and willows of the brook" (verse 40), and "REJOICE before the LORD" (same verse)! There will also be messages on Christian living, overcoming, Biblical doctrine, and Bible prophecy and the coming Kingdom of God! Bring your shofars and lulavs and hearty appetites for God's Truth and good spiritual fellowship and feasting! And we will "REJOICE" with "*joy unspeakable and full of glory*"!

I'm not kidding. There is a special joyous spirit and feeling of camaraderie and positive emotions among those who celebrate the Feast with us in Omak! It is incredible! And the TRUTH revealed from the Scriptures during the messages is awesome! Come and join us for the greatest and spiritually most blessed Feast you have ever attended!

"Omak" in the Indian language means "Good Medicine." It is "good medicine" for your heart, soul, and spirit – as well as for your body!

For more information on meetings, lodging, a list of motels and prices, and restaurants, camping grounds, and other items of interest for visitors, write to us.

Reservations Recommended

Please let us know *ASAP* if you are planning to come, so we can plan adequately. Drop us a line or send us an email stating that you are planning to come, to give us an idea of how many people we will need to plan for. Send us your information as to how many are in your family, **RIGHT AWAY!** To help us finance the feast, a \$50 registration fee would be appreciated.

Yes, absolutely, put me down for the Feast in Omak!

Name _____ Number in family _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send reservation to: TPM, PO Box 842, Omak WA 98841

Dinosaur-Human Cretaceous Footprint Found!

Did Dinosaurs exist on earth during the time of mankind? Evolutionary and conventional geological theory say such an idea is preposterous nonsense. But is it? What can they do with incontrovertible scientific evidence, as shown in the photographs below?

William F. Dankenbring

In this article are photos of newly discovered dinosaur-human footprints in Paluxy, Texas. Notice the photograph below. The overlap of the dinosaur three-toed print on top of the clearly human barefoot print speaks volumes about the state of human scientific ignorance in the evolutionary community.



A set of Cretaceous footprints has been discovered by amateur archaeologist Alvis Delk of Stephenville, Texas. This fossil of dense Glen Rose limestone consists of Dinosaur footprint (*Acrocanthosaurus*) and an eleven-inch human footprint intruded by the dinosaur print.

In early July, 2000 Alvis Delk, assisted by James Bishop (both of Stephenville, Texas), was working in the Cretaceous limestone on the McFall property at the Paluxy River near Glen Rose, Texas and discovered a pristine human footprint intruded by a

dinosaur footprint. The eleven-inch human footprint matches seven other similar footprints of the same dimensions found elsewhere in the Paluxy River area.

The fossil was transported to a professional laboratory where 800 X-rays were performed in a CT Scan procedure. Laboratory technicians verified compression and distribution features clearly seen in both prints, human and dinosaur. This removes any possibility that the prints were carved or altered.

Alvis Delk has extensive field experience under direct supervision of state certified archaeologists. His personal discoveries range from early Texas Spaniard artifacts to early Texas military maps, etc. This current footprint discovery is in keeping with his tireless pursuit to explore Texas' historical treasures.

Another Stunning Blow to Evolutionary Theory



This paleontological evidence with a dinosaur footprint super-imposed over a human footprint provides clear proof that dinosaurs and man inhabited the earth at the same geological period. Since mankind has been on the earth only in the thousands of years, this means dinosaurs are much more RECENT than current geological theory admits.

Biblical Evidence

Strange as it may seem, the Bible speaks of giant sea creatures being created together with modern man!

In the book of “origins,” that is, Genesis, chapter 1, we read the following:

“God said, ‘Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and birds that fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky.’ God created THE GREAT SEA MONSTERS, and all the living creatures of every kind . . .” (Gen.1:20-21, Tanakh, JPS).

The NIV translation has “So God created the great creatures of the sea” (verse 21). In a footnote, it explains, “The Hebrew word underlying this phrase was used in Canaanite mythology to name a *dreaded sea monster*.”

The Hebrew word for “sea monsters” here is *tanniym* and means “a marine or land *monster*,” such as a “sea serpent,” “dragon, sea-monster, serpent” or the like. It is derived from *tan*, an unused root meaning ‘to elongate,’ meaning “a monster, i.e. a sea serpent (or other huge marine animal).” Gesenius Hebrew lexicon says, “A sea monster, a vast fish,” and goes on to relate, “a *serpent*, Exodus 7:9; Deut.32:33, Psalm 91:13; a *dragon*, Jeremiah 51:34; a *crocodile*, Ezek.29:3.”

The Stone edition of the Chumash has this “the great SEA GIANTS.” It notes the great Jewish rabbi Abarbanel’s comment that only three times in Genesis 1 does God use the Hebrew word *bara*, meaning to literally “create.” He uses it in the sense of creating from a total vacuum (nothing), as in verse one where He “created” the heavens and the earth. The second time is when He created these huge sea creatures. And the third time is when He created man, with intellect, in His own image and likeness.

Note that in Genesis we discover that GOD CREATED these awesome creatures! The fossil record also bears record of their existence. Genesis, chapter 1, clearly shows that these creatures DID live during the time of man!

The Book of Job

The book of Job in the Bible speaks of dinosaurs and “sea serpents” dwelling on earth during the time of mankind.

God says to Job, “Behold now behemoth, *which I made with thee*” – *this creature was evidently created at the same time man was* (Job 40:15). Notice God’s description of this creature:

“Behold now behemoth, *which I made with thee*; he eateth grass as an ox. Lo now, his strength is in his loins, and his force in the navel of his belly. He moveth his tail like a cedar: the sinews of his stones are like bars of iron. He is the CHIEF of the ways of God: he that made him can make his sword to approach unto him. Surely the *mountains bring him forth food*, where all the beasts of the field play. He lieth under the shady trees, in the covert of the reed, and fens. The shady trees cover him with their shadow; the willows of the brook compass him about. Behold, he drinketh up a river, and hasteth not: he trusteth that he can draw up Jordan in his mouth. He taketh it with his eyes: his nose

pierceth through snares” (Job 40:15-24).

The Septuagint translation of the Old Testament Hebrew into the Greek language circa 250 B.C., during the reign of Ptolemy Philadelphus of Egypt, adds a great deal of understanding to this enigmatic passage of Scripture. We read this astonishing report in the LXX:

“He sets up his tail like a cypress; and his nerves are wrapped together. His sides are sides of brass; and his backbone is as cast iron. This is the chief of the creation of the Lord; *made to be played with by his angels*” (vs.12-14).

God said this huge creature ate grass like an ox, was a grazing animal, and “moveth his *tail like a CEDAR*” -- that is, his tail was like a huge cedar tree! (v.17, KJV). Furthermore, “His bones are as strong pieces of brass; his bones are like bars of iron.” He is the “chief of the creation of the Lord” (v.18-19). God said of this creature, “his strength is in his loins, and his force is in the navel of his belly” (v.16).

What more perfect picture is there of a DINOSAUR? The speculations of most scholars that this refers to the *crocodile* is specious nonsense, as even a fourth grade elementary school student could tell you! Crocodiles don’t eat grass like an ox; nor do they have bones like iron bars; nor are they “chief” of the ways of God; nor does their strength emanate from their “loins.” Nor are they land-dwelling creatures; nor do they feed upon the mountains. Only a true dinosaur, a brontosaurus or stegosaur, a brachiosaur, or even a Tyrannosaurus Rex, perhaps, would fit this description. But not a *crocodile!!!*

And why did God create these creatures? “Made to be *played with* by his angels”! Clearly, then, they were part of an original angelic world on this earth, prior to the time of man. However, they also existed during the time of man, as God was describing a creature with which Job had some familiarity – he knew what God was talking about!

Writes Henry M. Morris in *The Remarkable Record of Job*:

“. . . it seems unlikely that the ubiquitous tales of fire-breathing dragons in ancient times, coming as they do from all parts of the world, could have come into existence without a strong factual basis. Furthermore, the Bible often mentions dragons just as it mentions unicorns -- always in such a way as to show that the writers believed they were real animals.

“For example, the first mention of the animal creation refers to such animals. ‘God created great whales’ (Gen.1:21). The word translated *whales* in the King James is often translated *sea monsters* in other versions. In most other passages, however, the word is translated *dragons* or sometimes *serpents*. It apparently was meant to identify the animals called a dragon in other nations.

“The leviathan is specifically identified as a dragon in one biblical text, where it is called ‘leviathan . . . the dragon that is in the sea’ (Isa.27:1)” (Morris, p.118-119).

A Real Threat to Evolutionary Theory

Professor James Stewart Monroe, writing in *Journal of Geological Education*, candidly asserted that “Human footprints in geologically ancient strata would indeed call into doubt many conventional geological concepts” (Monroe, James Stewart, *Journal of Geological Education*, “Creationism, Human Footprints, and Flood Geology”, V.35, p.93).

It certainly would! It would seem to blow the conventional theory of the earth’s prehistory into smithereens!

Professor David H. Milne of The Evergreen State College, Olympia, Washington and Professor Steven D. Schafersman of the Department of Geology, Rice University, Houston, Texas, have also admitted in writing that “Such an occurrence, if verified, would *seriously disrupt conventional interpretations of biological and geological history* and would *support the doctrines of creationism and catastrophism*” (Milne, David H., and Schafersman, Steven D., *Journal of Geological Education*, 1983, V.31, p.111).

Yes, it resoundingly DOES!

Confessed Professor Steven M. Stanley in *The New Evolutionary Timetable* opined that “any topsy-turvy sequence of fossils would force us to *rethink our theory* . . . As Darwin recognized, a single geographic inconsistency would have *nearly the same power of destruction*” (Stanley, Steven M., *The New Evolutionary Timetable*, 1981, p. 171).

It is high time evolutionists put their “thinking caps” on and get about RETHINKING and REVISING their theories!

Truly, as David wrote, “The FOOL hath said in his heart, There is no God” (Psalm 14:1).

As Paul declared: “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who SUPPRESS [“HOLD DOWN”] the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them [evident among them], for God has shown it to them. For since the CREATION of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, *so that they are WITHOUT EXCUSE* . . . *Professing themselves to be wise, they became FOOLS*” (Romans 1:18-22).

Yes, dinosaurs DID co-exist with mankind! The Bible itself proves it. Write for your free copy of our book, “Did Ancient Dinosaurs Exist During the Time of Man?” and the free article “Life on Earth before Adam?”

Holy Days for 2008

New Moons for 2008-2009

Nisan	Tuesday	April 8
Iiyar	Wednesday	May 7
Sivan	Thursday	June 5
Tammuz	Sabbath	July 5
Av	Sunday	August 3
Elul	Tuesday	September 2
Tishri	Thursday	October 2
Cheshvan	Friday	October 31
Kislev	Sunday	November 30
Tevet	Sunday	December 28
Shevat	Wednesday	January 28, 2009
Adar	Friday	February 27

List of Annual Holy Days 2008

Passover	April 21 (after sunset)
1 st Day of Unleavened Bread	April 22
Begin Omer Count	April 23
7 th Day of Unleavened Bread	April 28
Pentecost	June 11

The fall festivals will be (*pending sighting*)

Feast of Trumpets	Oct.2
Day of Atonement	Oct. 11
1st Day of Feast of Tabernacles	Oct.16
7 th Day of Feast of Tabernacles	Oct.22
Shemini Atzeret	Oct.23

The “New Moon” of Tishri, the seventh month, is a “borderline” case and so the dates anticipated for the holy days during the month of Tishri are not certain, till we see the New Moon for that month, or it is declared. If it is not seen when expected, then the holy day would be on the following day of necessity, as no month can have over 30 days.

What Is the Best Version of the Bible?

The Furious and Raging Battle over the Bible!

Which Bible translation is the best? Is it a good thing we have so many different translations? How did we get the Bible, and how was it preserved? Are modern translations reliable?

Scholars have long poo-pooed the veracity and accuracy of the Bible. Many have doubted the reliability of the Septuagint. Yet, Jesus and the apostles quoted from it the vast majority of the time! Why? And why did the Jews, who originally translated the LXX, abolish and banish it during the second century, and replaced it with new Greek translations?

Here is shocking, incredible new evidence on the true origin of the Scriptures, how we got the Bible, and its canonization, preservation, and authenticity!

William F. Dankenbring

Attacks on the Bible and the basis of Christianity are commonplace in the modern world of unbelief and agnosticism. Whole Bible stories have been relegated to myth and legend. The Bible today is under siege, and is attacked from everywhere, it seems. The media, the academic world, college professors, novels such as *The DaVinci Code* which purport to be based on facts, doubts about the historical accounts of the Scriptures have seized the minds of a whole generation which now doubts the historical reliability and authenticity of the Scriptures.

Even a Jewish rabbi, Dr. Michael Chandler, professor of Astrotheology, claims, “Why all the fuss over Sodom and Gomorrah? It’s a mythological, moralistic story. The cities never existed.”

An American Bible scholar, Dr. Rocco A. Errico, professor of Aramaic studies in southern California, asserted, “No knowledgeable person believes in the account of the tower of Babel as historical fact.” He adds, “No scholar, no historian, takes any of these stories as historical facts.”

Declared Dr. Gerald Larue, emeritus professor of biblical history at UCLA, “All the shouting and trumpet blowing in the world would not cause fifteen-foot walls to collapse. The whole Joshua/Jericho account is just a religious legend.”

Atheist George H. Smith challenges, “Christian theism must be rejected by any person with even a shred of respect for reason.” Atheist Richard Dawkins claims, “The virgin birth, the Resurrection, the raising of Lazarus, even the Old Testament miracles, are all freely used for religious propaganda, and they are very effective with an audience of unsophisticates and children.”

The battle over the Bible is real – and the battle lines have clearly been drawn.

What about the New Testament?

Some critics charge that the New Testament writings cannot be inspired because of what they call “contradictions” in the text. On close examination, however, many of their so-called “contradictions” are not contradictions at all. Matthew, Mark and Luke reported the life of Christ as they either witnessed it, or based on sources which they deemed accurate and trustworthy.

Some of the minor differences in the accounts of the words of Jesus may be due to the fact that the gospel writers were writing the "gist" of what Jesus said – a summary of sorts – and did not intend to give every word He spoke in every parable or discourse. Also, Jesus may have repeated some of His parables or stories several different times, and altering them a little each time, depending on the audience. Ministers often do the same thing, today, when they give the “same sermon” to different congregations, making little alterations each time.

However, the trustworthiness of the gospels and epistles of the New Testament should be deemed very high, as the agreement between the many Greek copies is extremely high. Most differences are relatively minor, such as spellings of words, punctuation, variants in names, etc.

Says Graham Stanton in *Gospel Truth? New Light on Jesus and the Gospels*, “There is no shortage of manuscripts of the Gospels: their sheer numbers is something of an embarrassment” (p.47). Unlike other ancient writings, such as the works of Josephus, or the Jewish philosopher Philo, or the Greek historian Herodotus, of which there are limited manuscripts that have come down to us, the plethora of New Testament writings is testimony to how highly they were regarded in early times by the Church.

Stanton points out that the discovery of fragments of papyri containing portions of the Gospels which pre-date the great fourth-century uncial manuscripts, “even though they are fragmentary, they confirm the general reliability of the great fourth-century uncials which contain the full text of the Gospels” (p.48).

Eusebius, the church historian who lived in the fourth century, quotes Papias

concerning the Gospel of Mark, generally considered as the first of the accounts of the life of Christ to have been written. We read in his *Church History*:

“And this is what the Elder said, 'Mark, who became Peter's interpreter, wrote accurately, but not in order, as many of the things said and done by the Lord as he had noted. For he neither heard the Lord nor followed him, but afterwards, as I said, he followed Peter who adapted his teaching to the needs (of his hearers) but not as a complete work of the Lord's sayings. So Mark made no mistake in writing some things just as he had noted them. For he was careful of one thing, to leave nothing he had heard out and to say nothing falsely” (Eusebius' *Church History*, 3:39:15).

Matthew and Luke, however, contain about 230 sayings of Jesus which are not recorded in the book of Mark. Where did these sayings come from? The traditional view of course is that Matthew himself was a disciple of Christ, and so his writings could well be from his own memory of the events. Luke, however, admits he was not an original follower of Christ, but reported on his life based on the many authorities and leaders who told him the events he recorded.

Strangely, for over a century the sayings of Jesus not found in Mark's gospel have been referred to by the term “Q.” In 1861 the German scholar H. J. Holzmann claimed that Matthew and Luke used two main sources for their gospel accounts – the gospel of Mark, and a collection of the saying of Jesus, which came to be called *Quelle* (source). In 1890 this was abbreviated to “Q” for short.

The “Q” hypothesis has been the basis for nearly all serious study of the origin of the gospel accounts since that time. Scholars today argue over which words quoted in the gospels really were uttered by Jesus, and which were added later as if they were His words, based on traditions in the Church. Such arguments seem singularly nonsensical, however, since all the arguments of all the unbelieving men in the world cannot invalidate Scripture. The early Church accepted all the gospels as being written by the apostles. Nothing that was not written during the first century, and by one of apostolic rank in the Church, was ever accepted as “Scripture.”

In a letter written in 96 A.D. to the church in Corinth, Clement, who was then bishop of Rome, wrote that both “Scripture” and “the words of the Lord Jesus” were of equal value (see I Clement 13:1; 46:2, 7). In the epistle of Barnabas, also written before the end of the first century, the author quotes the phrase “many are called but few are chosen” from Matthew 22:14, and introduces the quotation with the remark, “as it stands written,” showing he used the New Testament gospels as “Scripture.”

Most important, however, the apostle Peter, in his second epistle, refers to the writings of the apostle Paul – who was certainly the most controversial apostle of the early church – as being in the category of “Scripture.” He declared, “Paul, also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; as also in *all his epistles*, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, *as they do also the OTHER SCRIPTURES*, unto their

own destruction” (II Pet.3:15-16).

History tells us that the main lines of the New Testament canon were settled by A.D. 200. The decision of which books belonged in the New Testament was based on the criteria that the document in question had to have been written in the first century, it had to have the imprimatur of an apostle or disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ, and it had to have been in general circulation among the churches.

The first list of these accepted books, that has come down to us, was written up in 367 A.D., and exactly corresponds to our present day New Testament!

The Bibliographical Test

In a fascinating study entitled, “Is Christianity True?”, author Eric Snow, writes, “The military historian, C. Sanders, devised a three part test when investigating any historical document to determine whether it was reliable. One of these tests is the bibliographical test, which judges an ancient historical document to be more reliable if many copies of the manuscript exist. A second test maintains the smaller the time gap between the first copy of the document and the first surviving copy, the more reliable it is because there is less time for scribal errors to creep into the preserved text. By these two standards the NT is the best attested ancient historical writing in existence. Some 24,633 known copies (including fragments, etc.) exist of it, 5,309 of these being in Greek. By contrast, the document with the next highest number of copies, outside the Hebrew Old Testament [OTJ (which has over 1700 copies), is Homer’s Iliad, with 643. Other historical writings by prominent ancient historians have far fewer copies: Thucydides, History of the Peloponnesian War, 8; Herodotus, The Histories, 8; Julius Caesar, Gallic Wars, 10.

“Furthermore, the time gap between the earliest preserved copies and the autograph, or first manuscript, is much smaller for the NT than these works. For the NT, the gap is about 90 years or less, since most of it was first written before 70 A.D. Scholar, John A. T. Robertson, in ‘Redating the New Testament’, has maintained that every NT book was written before 70 A.D., including John and Revelation. Dates that place the writing of the NT in the second century have been generally discredited by scholars in recent decades. A fragment of John, dated to 125 A.D., is traditionally cited as the earliest copy known of any part of the NT. However, nine fragments of the NT were found in 1972 in a cave by the Dead Sea. Among these fragments, part of Mark was dated to around 50 A.D., Luke 57 A.D., and Acts from 66 A.D. The earliest major manuscripts, such as Vaticanus and Sinaiticus are dated to 325-350 A.D. and 350 A.D. respectively.”

Snow continues, “By contrast, the time gap is much larger for the pagan works mentioned above. For Homer, the gap is 500 years (900 B.C. for the original writing, 400 B.C. for the first copy). For Caesar, it’s 900-1000 years, Herodotus, 1300 years and Thucydides, 1300 years. Hence, the NT can be objectively judged more reliable than these pagan historical works both by having a much smaller time gap between when it

was written and the first preserved copies, and in the number of ancient handwritten copies.”

Textual Criticism

Snow points out that skeptics can throw out some frightening figures, and say “There are 200,000 variations in the NT,” and create doubts in the minds of many Christians. However, the principles of the science of textual criticism show us that we can have certainty that the scribes preserved the NT accurately. Most of variations between the manuscripts can be ruled out using this test. Most of these “200,000 variations” are very minor in nature – such as spelling mistakes, homophones (such as in English, “two,” “too,” “to”), words accidentally repeated twice by scribes, etc. For example, if the same word is misspelled 3,000 times, that counts for 3,000 variations.

Says Snow, “Scholar, Ezra Abbott, maintained 19/20ths of NT variations have so little support that they can be automatically ruled out. Scholars Geisler and Nix, building upon the work of F. J. A. Hort, said only about 1/8 have weight, with 1/60 being “substantial variations.” Furthermore, the number of variations is high precisely because so many ancient manuscripts of the NT exist, allowing for more mistakes. This also allows a greater ability to detect and eliminate those mistakes, unlike the case for Caesar’s ‘Gallic Wars’ with its mere 10 copies. Scholar Philip Schaff said only 400 of all the 150,000 variations he knew to exist caused doubt on textual meaning, with 50 being of great significance. Even then, he said no variation altered ‘an article of faith or a precept of duty which is not abundantly sustained by other and undoubted passages, or by the whole tenor of scripture teaching.’”

The Canon of the New Testament

The New Testament canon (selection of and order of the books) is another area of controversy. How can we know which ancient books should have been included? What was the criteria? What authority made the decisions and why?

Historically, the canon of the New Testament, as we have it today, is absolutely accurate and was the accepted canon of books *used in the early centuries of the church*. In the days of Jesus Christ, there was a body of literature called “The Scriptures” which was commonly regarded by the Jews as having come from God. They called it the Word of God, and Christ Himself acknowledged it (John 10:35; 5:39). As the first century writings of the apostles appeared, they were added to these Jewish Scriptures and held in the same sacred regard throughout the new scattered churches. By widespread and common acceptance, they came to be regarded as inspired Scripture as well. They were put together into a “canon,” or list of original and authorized list of books, by the apostle Paul, and finally by the apostle John, that last remaining apostle who died about 90 A.D. Any writings by any Christians after that date were automatically excluded.

While the apostles were yet living, they had begun under their own supervision collecting their writings to be made use of by the churches. Paul claimed his teaching was inspired by God (I Cor.2:7-13; 14:37; I Thess.2:13). Peter accepted Paul’s writings

as inspired “Scripture” (II Pet.3:15-16). John also claimed the book of Revelation was “revealed” to him by Christ (Rev.1:1-2). These writings were intended to be read in the churches (Col.4:16; I Thess.5:27; II Thess.2:15), including after their “departure” (II Pet.1:15; 3:1-2). Paul quoted as “Scripture”, the declaration, “The laborer is worthy of his hire” (I Tim.5:18), a statement found only in Matthew 10:10 and Luke 10:7, thus categorizing those two gospels as inspired Scripture.

In the fourth century and thereabouts, various Gnostic sects arose, claiming other “inspired” books and made up their own “list” or “canon” of inspired writings, their own “New Testaments,” as it were. As a result, at that time, to maintain order and to refute the Gnostic canons, the visible Church had to make up its own official “canon” of Scriptures. It was based on all the commonly accepted New Testament books which were then in use by the Christian churches throughout the Mediterranean region. It was because of these spurious “canons” coming on the scene, devised by heretics like Marcion (circa A.D. 140), and others, which compelled the Church at that time to designate and put its stamp of approval upon all those New Testament books which were already in common use in the Churches.

The canonization of the New Testament, itself, was no Catholic “conspiracy.” This was a simple step of prudence – to make a final stamp of approval and authenticity upon those books already in common usage at that time. A formal decree recognizing the Christian canon was not made until 405 A.D. – long after Constantine’s time.

For more discussion and insight, I refer you to *Halley’s Pocket Bible Handbook*, and various Bible Dictionaries, and F. F. Bruce’s books, *The Books and the Parchments: How We Got Our English Bible*, and *The Canon of Scripture*.

Christians should have no doubts on the canon of the NT, meaning which books should be in it and which ones shouldn’t be. The quality of the apocryphal (so-called “missing”) books, such as “The Gospel of Peter,” “The Gospel of Thomas,” and “The Shepherd of Hermas,” is so much lower and/or their teachings at such variance with the canonical books that they can be eliminated from consideration easily. As M. R. James commented in *The Apocryphal New Testament*: “There is no question of anyone’s having excluded them from the New Testament: They have done that for themselves.” In evident reaction against the heretic Marcion’s (c. 140 A.D.) attempt to edit the canon, lists of the canonical books were made in the late second century onwards. These lists, which even from the beginning, contain most of the books we find in the NT today, were made by the author of the Muratorian fragment (170 A.D.), Irenaeus (180 A.D.), and Clement (190 A.D.).

Furthermore, despite its claims to the contrary, the Roman Catholic Church did not choose the canon, and then impose it from the top down. The Sunday-observing Church before the time of emperor Constantine and the Edict of Milan (313 A.D.) was not a tightly controlled, highly organized, monolithic group, and had suffered terrible persecution itself during the rule of Diocletian and earlier emperors. The canon came from the traditional practices of average members and elders, from the bottom up. As scholar Kurt Aland noted: “It goes without saying that the Church, understood as the

entire body of believers, created the canon . . . it was not the reverse – it was not imposed from the top, be it by bishops or synods.”

The Magdalen Fragment

Scholars have long denied the veracity of the New Testament Scriptures, claiming that the earliest gospels were not eye-witness accounts of Christ and His life, but were written some one hundred years afterward, or about the middle of the second century, and were based on hearsay, myth, fable, and oral stories which had been passed down. Thus many scholars have regarded the very words of Christ, as recorded in the gospels, as "suspect."

Astonishing as it may seem, however, bits of papyrus in an Oxford University library puts the lie to the cherished theories of unbelieving, skeptical scholars! Three scraps of text of the gospel of Matthew, inscribed in Greek, have traditionally been believed to have been written in the late second century. But German papyrus expert Carsten Thiede has published a paper arguing that these fragments kept at Oxford's Magdalen College *could be an EYE WITNESS ACCOUNT of the life of Jesus!*

The London Times reported that the evidence on an early form of writing paper was a potentially "important breakthrough in biblical scholarship, on a level with the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls in 1947" (*Los Angeles Times*, Dec.25, 1994, "Gospel Fragments in Britain May Be Contemporary Account of Life of Jesus Christ, p.A42).

Some scholars have questioned the accuracy of the New Testament as historical, believing that the earliest texts were written long after the actual events described. However, if Thiede has correctly dated the fragments, they would be evidence that the Matthew Gospel was written only a generation after the crucifixion, or even earlier! Says William Tuohy of the *Los Angeles Times*, "Parts of the New Testament may have been written by men *who actually knew Christ*, rather than authors recounting a 2nd-Century version of an oral tradition."

The Magdalen fragments have been at the Oxford college since 1901. Little work has been done on them since 1953 when they were last edited by biblical scholars. But earlier this year, Thiede visited Oxford and inspected the papyrus. He concluded,

"The Magdalen fragment now appears to belong to a style of handwriting that was current in the 1st Century A.D., and that slowly petered out around the mid-1st Century. Even a hesitant approach to questions of dating would therefore seem to justify a date in the 1st Century, about 100 years earlier than previously thought."

The lines on the fragments are from Matthew 26 and include the oldest written reference to Mary Magdalene and the betrayal of Christ by Judas.

This new discovery by Professor Carsten Thiede, a papyrus expert, will provoke controversy among scholars, if not even dismay and consternation on the part of disbelievers and skeptics. His discovery, if true, is strong evidence that the gospel

accounts regarding the life of Jesus Christ are accurate, and reliable historical documents. Of course, true Christians have believed this all along. One wonders, however, how Jewish rabbis who have never given serious thought to the Messianic claims of Christ, will view the evidence, as it impacts on Judaism.

The Jews and the Septuagint

The Jews of course have never accepted the New Testament as either historically reliable or as Scripture, although the apostle Peter regarded it as such (II Pet.3:14-16). But the Jews, as we saw in last month's *Prophecy Flash*, also rejected the Septuagint, because of its clear power in endorsing the Messianic claims of Jesus.

Scholars now know that the Septuagint represents a powerful pre-Masoretic version of the Old Testament text. The early Christians quoted it repeatedly in their controversies with the Jews over the Messiahship of Christ. These facts must not be glossed over, or set aside, or ignored, as if of no importance. The very claims of Christ's being the Messiah may well be at stake!

There is much more to this story than meets the eye, at first glance! It should rock the world of biblical scholarship like a "bombshell." Consider! If Jesus and the apostles clearly used quotations from the Septuagint, or a Hebrew original text upon which it must have been based – this is an ASTOUNDING fact of far reaching implications. Such a "PRE-MASORETIC HEBREW TEXT" is thereby attested to as having been AUTHORITATIVE!

But why is it we don't have a copy of it, today? Why is it that the Jewish rabbis did not preserve this text, along with the "Masoretic text"?

Why, indeed!

Far from down-grading the importance and value of the Septuagint, therefore, this fact alone establishes its incredible usefulness and importance to the modern Christian who sincerely desires to follow Christ! Let's look into this matter, once and for all.

Ulterior Motives to Suppress Evidence

Says *The New Westminster Dictionary of the Bible*, in answer to this remarkable question:

"After the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70, the LXX lost favor among the Jews, partly because of the successful use made of it by the Christians in establishing the claims of Jesus . . ." (p.972).

Unger's Bible Dictionary asserts that the Jewish leaders of the second century of the present era deliberately rejected the Septuagint, and removed it from Jewish synagogues, and translated a NEW "Greek" version of the Old Testament. Why? Such a

arduous undertaking would hardly be worth the effort unless there were some very compelling cause or motivation to do it. Consider for a moment. The Septuagint had served the Jewish community well for 350-400 years. It was well accepted over the whole world. So why try to introduce a NEW translation, and BANISH the old one, all of a sudden? Says Unger:

"From the place of its origin in Egypt, the Septuagint spread to all parts of the Hellenistic-Jewish world. Centers like Antioch, Alexandria and Caesarea developed different textual traditions. Since the Septuagint became the Old Testament of the Christians, who employed it in their arguments with the Jews, a need arose for a NEW RENDERING of the Old Testament in Greek, which would be true to the Hebrew. This was accomplished by AQUILA'S RIVAL JEWISH VERSION MADE AROUND 130 A.D." (p.1148).

In other words, a NEW Hebrew-into-Greek translation was made by the Jewish rabbis during the time of Rabbi Akiba, circa 130 A.D. Akiba was the leading Jewish rabbi in Judaea at the time, and the one who dubbed the Jewish partisan terrorist Bar Kochba as the "Messiah", thus finalizing the Jewish rejection of Jesus Christ/Yeshuah Moshiach as the true Messiah!

The Jewish rabbis of the first and second centuries were having "fits" in fighting the clear expositions of the apostles and early Christians, who were using the plain statements in the Septuagint to prove that Jesus is the Christ. They therefore rejected the Septuagint version and created a new translation to suit their own religious purposes. Says Unger, further:

"The importance of the Septuagint from every angle can scarcely be overestimated. This can be asserted despite its deficiencies and limitations. Religiously and spiritually the Septuagint gave the great revealed truths concerning creation, redemption, sin and salvation to the world. It released these from the narrow isolation of the Hebrew language and people and gave them to the Graeco-Roman world through the divinely prepared instrument of the Greek language, the lingua franca of the Graeco-Roman world (300 B.C. to A.D. 300). The Septuagint was a definite factor in the preparation for the coming of Christianity and the New Testament revelation. . . .

"The Septuagint was the Bible of early Christianity before the New Testament was written.

After the New Testament Scriptures came on the scene, they were added to the Septuagint to form the completed Scriptures of Christianity.

"Besides this momentous ministry, the Septuagint met the religious and liturgical needs of Jews living in Alexandria, Egypt. This was the center of culture and learning of ancient Judaism. It also met the needs of Jewish proselytes in the Graeco-Roman world. . . .Historically as well as religiously and spiritually, the Septuagint is of immense importance. As the first translation of the Hebrew Old Testament into a foreign language, the Septuagint gained great fame" (p.1149).

However, Unger points out, the fact that early Christians used and quoted the Septuagint widely in controversies with the Jews led to increased resentment and hostility from the Jews, who had up to that time accepted and used the Septuagint. He continues:

"By the beginning of the second century, A.D., reaction against the Septuagint took place in Jewish circles. By this time Christians had come to venerate the Septuagint as inspired and authoritative, *and used it in controversy with Jews to prove the Messiahship of Jesus*. By this time many mistakes had crept into the Septuagint and the Jews were particularly annoyed by the use made of it by Christians. *Resulting HOSTILITY by Jewish scholars toward the Septuagint led to Aquila's rival Jewish version*. This extremely literal Greek translation of the second-century Hebrew text, made about A.D. 130, became a substitute for the Septuagint for Jews who spoke Greek. *Aquila was trained under Rabbi Akiba and perfected in Jewish tradition*. He stuck very closely to the literal Hebrew text and for that reason his version is of critical importance" (p.1149).

The Great Division and Gulf

Conservative scholar F.F. Bruce in his very helpful book *The Canon of Scripture* points out that the Septuagint scriptures were used even in some of the synagogues in Judaea itself. He writes, "But even in Palestine, and not least in Jerusalem itself, there were many Greek-speaking Jews, Hellenists, and there were synagogues where they might go to hear the scriptures read and the prayers recited in Greek. Such was the Synagogue of the Freedmen where Stephen held debate in Jerusalem (Acts 6:9)" (p.49). Says Bruce:

"However much the wording of Stephen's defense in Acts 7 may owe to the narrator, the consistency with which its biblical quotations and allusions are based on the Septuagint is true to life. Since Stephen was a Hellenist, the Septuagint was the edition of the scriptures which he would naturally use" (p.49).

Throughout the Roman Empire, the Septuagint was in use in JEWISH synagogues during the apostolic period. Bruce continues:

"When Paul at Thessalonica visited the synagogue on three successive sabbaths and 'argued with them from the scriptures, explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead' (Acts 17:2f.), IT WAS ON THE SEPTUAGINT THAT HE BASED HIS ARGUMENTS" (*ibid.*).

Notice! The New Testament itself therefore bears witness, in Acts 17:2, that it was "FROM THE SCRIPTURES" that Paul reasoned with the Jews in the synagogue -- and the Scriptures he was using at the time was the SEPTUAGINT! Therefore, the version of the Septuagint which was extant in Paul's day, and used in the synagogues, were regarded by the writers of the New Testament, who wrote under divine inspiration, as "SCRIPTURE"! Obviously, the Jews would not have been using a "fraudulent" or "corrupt" version of the Scriptures in their synagogues -- nor would the apostolic writers have resorted to "forgeries" or "fraudulent" documents to "PROVE" that Jesus was the Christ!

Here, then, is proof positive from the New Testament itself that the Septuagint, used during the days of the apostles, was regarded and accepted as DIVINELY INSPIRED SCRIPTURE! How clear!

Says Bruce:

"Greek Judaism,' it has been said, 'with the Septuagint had ploughed the furrows for the gospel seed in the Western world'; but it was the Christian preachers who sowed the seed. So thoroughly, indeed, did Christians APPROPRIATE THE SEPTUAGINT AS THEIR VERSION OF THE SCRIPTURES *THAT THE JEWS BECAME INCREASINGLY DISENCHANTED WITH IT*. The time came when one rabbi compared 'the accursed day on which the seventy elders wrote the Law in Greek for the king' *TO THE DAY ON WHICH ISRAEL MADE THE GOLDEN CALF*. New Greek versions were made for JEWISH use -- in particular, the very literal rendering of Aquila and a more idiomatic rendering by Theodotion" (*The Canon of Scripture*, p.50).

Notice the vehemence of the Jewish attitude expressed in this matter. Obviously, the hatred of some Jewish rabbis for Christianity was profound -- they compared the translation of the Septuagint, quoted often by Paul and other early leaders of the Church, to the *infamous day of national humiliation when the golden calf was made and worshipped, when Moses was still on Mount Sinai, receiving the Laws of God!*

Even though the Septuagint had been used in Jewish synagogues for over three centuries, and greatly loved, it was only the fact that Christians used it to prove Jesus was the Christ that impelled another translation into the Greek during the time of rabbi Akiba! Why had the Jews come to hate the Septuagint so much, so suddenly?

The POWER of the Septuagint

Why, indeed! Scholar F. F. Bruce shows us why the Jewish rabbis who rejected the Messianic evidence that Jesus was and is the Christ felt they also had to reject the Septuagint. Notice:

"There are several places in which the Septuagint translators used a form of words which (without their being able to foresee it, naturally) lent itself to the purposes of New Testament writers better than the Hebrew text would have done. Thus, Matthew can quote as a prophecy of the virginal conception of Christ the Septuagint version of Isaiah 7:14, 'Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son . . .' (Matt.1:23), where the Greek word *parthenos* means specifically 'virgin,' as the Hebrew *almah* need not. (Aquila, who provided a new Greek version of the Old Testament for Jewish use to replace the Septuagint, took care to employ the less specific Greek word *neanis*, 'girl' or 'young woman,' to blunt the point of a Christian 'argument from prophecy.')" (*The Canon of Scripture*, p.53).

Notice! These powerful Scriptural proofs that lent themselves to demonstrating the Messiahship of Christ were too much for the rabbis to handle. It frustrated them no end -- so they decided to get rid of the Septuagint, even as they had gotten "rid" of the Messiah Himself!

Justin Martyr, circa 160 A.D., evidently regarded the Septuagint as the only reliable text of the Old Testament. Says F. F. Bruce, "Where it differs from the Hebrew text, as read and interpreted by the Jews, the Jews (he says) have *corrupted the text so as to obscure the scriptures' plain prophetic testimony to Jesus as the Christ*. He tells how the compositions of the prophets were read in the weekly meetings of Christians along with the memoirs of the apostles; the memoirs of the apostles indicated the lines along which the prophets' words were to be understood" (Bruce, *The Canon of Scripture*, p.70).

Quite simply, although the Jews and Christians read from the same Scriptures, they could not agree upon the interpretation of those Scriptures as they pertained to the Messiah, or the Messianic claims of Christ. Paul alluded to this fact when he wrote, "What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were *blinded*. (according as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day" (Rom.11:7-8). Paul added: "I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy. Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles, how much more their fullness?" (Rom.11:11-12).

As time passed, however, the distance between the visible Church and the remnant of the Jews in dispersion became greater and greater. The gap widened; the gulf that separated their interpretations of the Old Testament Scriptures increased in width and depth. Says Bruce:

"The accepted Christian tradition became more sharply anti-Judaic, and the Jewish tradition in turn became increasingly careful to EXCLUDE renderings or interpretations, PREVIOUSLY QUITE ACCEPTABLE, *which now proved to lend themselves all too readily to a Christian purpose*. So, in spite of the shared heritage of the holy book, the two opposed traditions HARDENED. Only in more recent times, with the acceptance on both sides of the principles of grammatico-historical exegesis, have the hard outlines softened, so that today Jews and Christians of varying traditions can collaborate happily in the common task of biblical interpretation" (p.66-67).

The "Servant Songs" of Isaiah

One of the greatest issues which divide Christians and Jews in biblical interpretation, however, which remains to this day, are what scholars today call the "Servant Songs" found in the book of Isaiah (Isaiah 40-54). In particular, the fourth Servant Song -- Isaiah 52:13-Isaiah 53:12 -- has been identified by Christians, and even by Christ, as portraying Jesus Himself. This was the very Scripture which Philip explained to the Ethiopian eunuch, who was puzzled about it! We read in the book of Acts:

"And behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem to worship [he was obviously a "Falasha Jew"], was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Isaiah the prophet. And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Isaiah, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest? And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him. The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth: in his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.

"And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?

"Then Philip opened his mouth, and BEGAN AT THE SAME SCRIPTURE, and

preached unto him Jesus" (Acts 8:27-35).

The awesome power of this Scripture, Isaiah 53, undoubtedly has led MANY Jews, as well as Gentiles, to see the truth of the Messiahship of Jesus Christ. No one else in all human history even comes close to fulfilling the majesty and detail of this Scripture. The ministry, death and crucifixion of Christ as portrayed 700 years earlier by the prophet Isaiah is powerful evidence, together with many other Scriptures, that Jesus was and is indeed the One and Only Messiah! This identification of the "suffering Servant" in Isaiah with Christ has been standard in the Church, down through history.

But, says, F. F. Bruce:

"One would not expect it to be standard in the synagogue: indeed, the synagogue seems to have REACTED VIGOROUSLY AGAINST IT. At one time an acceptable Jewish interpretation identified some at least of the Servant references with the expected Messiah, and this could well have been in line with the prophet's intention. But, because the church adopted this interpretation (with the corollary that the Messiah was Jesus), the messianic interpretation of the Servant Songs FELL OUT OF FAVOR with the synagogue" (Bruce, p.295).

F.F. Bruce continues in a footnote:

"According to H. Loewe, it was sensitiveness to the Christian application of Is. 52:13---53:12 that was responsible for the NON-INCLUSION of this passage in the regular synagogue readings of the Prophets, *although the passages immediately preceding and following are included* (C.G. Montefiore and H. Loewe, *A Rabbinic Anthology*[London, 1938], pp.544). In general it may be said that the combination of the Old Testament with the New (first as oral teaching and ultimately as a literary canon) made all the difference between the church's understanding of the Old Testament and the synagogue's" (*ibid.*).

As this passage in Isaiah is still left out of the regular synagogue readings of the Scriptures, to this very day, we must conclude that "blindness" is STILL in part happened to the children of Israel, as the apostle Paul wrote some 1934 years ago, in A.D. 60!

The Incredible Testimony of Justin Martyr

Justin was a Gentile, born in Samaria near Jacob's well, and lived approximately A.D. 110 to 165, when he was martyred by decapitation at Rome, like the apostle Paul. In his "Dialogue with Trypho," a learned Jew, he makes some remarkable statements which need to be analyzed, as they pertain to the Septuagint and the alleged "missing verses" not found in the Jewish Masoretic text. Remember, the Jewish rabbis had by this time rejected the Septuagint from the synagogues, and had replaced it with their own new Greek translation of the Old Testament Scriptures. But, Justin says in his dialogue, they had left off many of the Scriptural verses which had previously been used to prove Jesus was the Christ!

Justin, speaking to Trypho, declares:

"But I am far from putting reliance in your teachers, who refuse to admit that the

interpretation made by the seventy elders who were with Ptolemy [king] of the Egyptians is a correct one; and they attempt to FRAME ANOTHER. And I wish you to observe, that they have ALTOGETHER TAKEN AWAY MANY SCRIPTURES from the translations effected by those seventy elders who were with Ptolemy, and by which this very man who was crucified is PROVED to have been set forth expressly as God, and man, and as being crucified, and as dying; but since I am aware that this is DENIED by all of your nation, I do not address myself to these points, but I proceed to carry on my discussions by means of those passages which are still admitted by you. For you assent to those which I have brought before your attention except that you contradict the statement, "**Behold, the virgin shall conceive,**" and say it ought to be read, "Behold, the young woman shall conceive." And I promised to prove that the prophecy referred, not, as you were taught, to Hezekiah, but to this Christ of mine: and now I shall go to the proof.'

"Here Trypho remarked, 'We ask you first of all to tell us some of the Scriptures which you allege have been completely canceled.'

"And I said, 'I shall do as you please. From the statements, then, which Esdras made in reference to the law of the passover, *they have taken away the following:* **"And Esdras [Ezra] said to the people, This passover is our Saviour and our refuge. And if you have understood, and your heart has taken it in, that we shall humble Him on a standard, and thereafter hope in Him, then this place shall not be forsaken for ever, says the Lord of hosts. But if you will not believe Him, and will not listen to His declaration, you shall be a laughingstock to the nations."** *And from the sayings of Jeremiah they have cut out the following:* **"I [was] like a lamb that is brought to the slaughter: they devised a device against me, saying, Come, let us lay on wood on His bread, and let us blot Him out from the land of the living; and His name shall no more be remembered."** *And since this passage from the sayings of Jeremiah is still written in some copies [of the Scriptures] IN THE SYNAGOGUES OF THE JEWS (for it is only a short time since they were cut out), and since from these words it is demonstrated that the Jews deliberated about the Christ Himself, to crucify and put Him to death, He Himself is both declared to be led as a sheep to the slaughter, as was predicted by Isaiah, and is here represented as a harmless lamb; but being in a difficulty about them, they give themselves over to blasphemy. And again, from the sayings of the same Jeremiah these have been cut out:* **"The Lord God remembered His dead people of Israel who lay in the graves; and He descended to preach to them His own salvation."**

"And from the ninety-fifth (ninety-sixth) Psalm they have taken away this short saying of the words of David: **"From the wood."** For when the passage said, "Tell ye among the nations, the Lord hath reigned *from the wood,*" they have left, "Tell ye among the nations, The Lord hath reigned." Now no one of your people has ever been said to have reigned as God and Lord among the nations, with the exception of Him only who was crucified, of whom also the Holy Spirit affirms in the same Psalm that He was raised again, and freed from [the grave], declaring that there is none like Him among the gods of the nations; for they are idols of demons. But I shall repeat the whole Psalm to you, that you may perceive what has been said. It is thus: "Sing unto the Lord a new song; sing unto the Lord, all the earth. Sing unto the Lord, and bless His name; show forth His salvation from day to day. Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all people. For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all the gods. For all the gods of the nations are demons but the Lord made the heavens. Confession and beauty are in His presence; holiness and magnificence are in His sanctuary. Bring to the Lord, O ye countries of the nations, bring to the Lord glory and honour, bring to the Lord glory in His name. Take sacrifices, and go into His courts; worship the Lord in His holy temple. Let the whole earth be moved before Him; tell ye

among the nations, the Lord hath reigned. For He hath established the world, which shall not be moved; He shall judge the nations with equity. Let the heavens rejoice, and the earth be glad; let the sea and its fulness shake. Let the fields and all therein be joyful. Let all the trees of the wood be glad before the Lord: for He comes, for He comes to judge the earth. He shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with His truth."

"Here Trypho remarked, 'Whether [or not] the rulers of the people have *erased* any portion of the Scriptures, as you affirm, God knows; *but it seems incredible.*'

"'Assuredly,' said I, 'it does seem incredible. *For it is **MORE HORRIBLE THAN THE CALF WHICH THEY MADE**, when satisfied with manna on the earth; or than the sacrifice of children to demons; or than the slaying of the prophets.* But,' said I, 'you appear not to have heard the Scriptures which I said they had **STOLEN AWAY**. For such as have been quoted are more than enough to prove the points in dispute, besides those which are still retained by us, and shall yet be brought forward' (*Ante-Nicene Fathers*, vol.1, "Dialogue with Trypho, LXXI-LXXIII).

I have quoted this long passage from Justin Martyr, from his "Dialogue with Trypho," because it not only verifies the fact that the Rabbis of that time were not only endorsing a new rival translation of the Old Testament Scriptures into Greek, but that they had deliberately CUT OUT certain passages which had been in the original Hebrew Scriptures, and which had been translated into the Septuagint in the centuries before Christ.

"More Horrible Than the Calf"

This may seem shocking to those of us who have believed for years that the Masoretic Text is the one and only true text of the Scriptures of the Old Testament, and that the Jewish rabbis have preserved it faultlessly – but let's reconsider this question. Does it not make sense that any people who would crucify the very "Word of God," the Logos, in the flesh, would also "cut up" the written Word of God, which bears testimony to Him? We have perfect testimony that this was done. We have the witness, not only of Justin Martyr, but of the incredible evidence of the New Testament Scriptures themselves, which in many places QUOTE PASSAGES from the Old Testament which are NOT FOUND IN THE MASORETIC TEXT!!! But in the vast majority of cases, they *are* found in the Septuagint, and in some cases in the Aramaic!

This proves that when it comes to the Son of God, who called Himself the "Son of Man," that the Jewish rabbis of the first two centuries were less than honest – less than candid -- and they did violence not only to the Son of God Himself, the Logos, but also to the WRITTEN Word of God, when certain prophecies CLEARLY pointed to Christ as the Messiah!

With this in mind, then, we need to understand that this "hatchet" job on the missing verses of the Old Testament will not go unpunished, overlooked, or forgotten by God. As the apostle Paul wrote, "What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? Much every way: chiefly, because that unto THEM were committed the ORACLES OF GOD. *For what if some did not believe?* Shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? GOD FORBID! Yea, let God be true, but

every man a LIAR; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged" (Rom.3:1-4).

"Every Man a Liar"

We have normally emphasized the first part of this passage, to prove that the Jews, and the rabbis of Judaism, were entrusted with the preservation of the oracles -- the Words -- of God. And on the whole, we know from history that they did a remarkable and extraordinary job -- even counting the vowels, letters, and numbering them so as to insure accuracy of the text. The care and deliberate concern the scribes exercised in copying the Scriptures faithfully is well known.

However, this fact does not necessarily mean that during the turbulent period of the first and second century, A.D., when Judaism was facing its greatest crisis ever, in the form of the threat posed to it by the Messiahship of Christ -- Yeshua the Nazarene -- that the very rulers who condemned the Messiah to death and their successors then deliberately sought to cover up their horrible deed, and deliberately purged the Old Testament Scriptures of any and all plain references which tended to support the claims of Christians that Jesus was the Christ! That they did this very thing stands exposed -- otherwise, why did they expunge the very existence of the Septuagint from Jewish synagogues throughout the whole world, where it had been revered and accepted for centuries prior to Christ's coming? Consider the enormity of this crime. Because of their trepidation and fear of the new faith, their alarm at its success, they did the unprecedented thing and BANISHED THE VERY BIBLE THEN IN VOGUE IN ALL GREEK-SPEAKING SYNAGOGUES AROUND THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA! They replaced it with another "new" and supposedly more "accurate" translation.

Their wickedness stands exposed for all the world to see, however, because there is NO DOUBT that almost all quotes from the Old Testament in the New Testament come from the SEPTUAGINT, or from a Hebrew text upon which it was based! The authenticity of that text -- which is demonstrated and proved conclusively by its approval and acceptance by the Messiah, Christ Jesus Himself, and the apostles -- cannot be in doubt. Since Jesus Himself sanctioned it, and it differs from the "Masoretic text," there can only be one explanation for its non-existence, today: The Jews, in desperation and fear for their religion, declared the Septuagint "corrupt," and replaced it in all the synagogues where it had held sway for over three centuries. They no longer copied it and preserved it, allowing it to disappear, and be replaced by a less "controversial" text.

It is for this reason, that after the time of Christ and the apostles, the Septuagint, over the succeeding years, languished, and in following generations more variations and errors crept in, resulting in the need by the time of Origen in 240 A.D. to transcribe the text and emend it in his famous Hexapla, to clean it up and resolve the difficulties which had arisen due to neglect.

Why should it seem so remarkable, then, that the rabbis rejected the Septuagint, and spurned the original Hebrew text upon which it was based? Did they not reject the

Messiah Himself – the Word of God who was "made flesh, and dwelt among us" (John 1:14)? Did not Paul say in the very passage we just quoted in Romans 3:4, where he admitted that the oracles of God were entrusted to the Jews, that "let GOD be true, *but every man a LIAR*"?

It is certainly a blasphemous deed to pervert, alter, tamper with, and "edit" the very Word of God – but no more blasphemous than to reject the Messiah and spill the blood of the Saviour of the world – God in the flesh!

These "edited" passages, which Justin Martyr plainly says were a part of the Scriptures, in his day, certainly do prove the Messiahship of Christ! Did he invent them out of his own fervent imagination and fantasy? Or was he simply telling Trypho the truth? More and more, the evidence tends to support the allegations of Justin – to the everlasting shame and discredit of those wicked priests and rabbis who would resort to every trick and artifice and sham in order to deny the Christ and mislead the wonderful Jewish people!

A growing body of evidence suggests strongly that not only a few copyists' errors have crept into the transmission of the text, here and there, during its sojourn here on earth, but that also there was a concerted plot – a high level conspiracy – by second century rabbis to efface the Scriptural evidence and to "edit" Scripture to "protect" the Jewish people from the overwhelming evidence in the Old Testament that Jesus Christ of Nazareth was – and is – the Messiah!

This plot was Satan's attempt to work through the rabbis of that time to "bury" Christianity, and to safeguard the Jewish religion based on "the tradition of the elders." They claimed to follow Abraham and his covenant, but Jesus said to them, "If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham" (John 8:39-40).

They claimed to follow Moses, and the Torah, but they had strayed far afield from the precepts of Moses. Jesus Himself said of them, "Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even MOSES, in whom ye trust. For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?" (John 5:45-47). On another occasion, Jesus said of them: "Did not Moses give you the law, and yet *none of you keepeth the law*? Why go ye about to kill me?" (John 7:19).

The Plot and Conspiracy Against the Bible

After Jesus arose from the dead, fulfilling the "sign" that He said He would fulfill – being in the grave three days, just as Jonah was in the fish's belly for three days (Matt.12:40) – the Jewish leaders were besides themselves with anger and venom. Matthew tells us in his gospel, "Now when they [the disciples] were going, behold, some of the watch [those soldiers the Pharisees and Sadducees had appointed to watch over

Jesus' grave to make certain that His disciples didn't steal His body] came into the city, and shewed unto the CHIEF PRIESTS *ALL THE THINGS THAT WERE DONE*" (Matt.28:11). Thus the Jewish leaders KNEW beyond doubt that Jesus had risen from the grave!

But did they repent, when they saw this "sign" of Jonah fulfilled in Christ, just as He had foretold? Matthew continues:

"And when they were assembled with the ELDERS [the rabbis and religious leaders], and had taken COUNSEL, they gave LARGE MONEY [a huge bribe] unto the soldiers, saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept. And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you. So they took the money, and did as they were taught: *and this saying is COMMONLY REPORTED AMONG THE JEWS UNTO THIS DAY*" (Matt.28:12-15).

Notice! The leaders among the Jews *actually KNEW* that Christ arose from the dead – but they *refused to believe that Jesus was the Messiah, anyway! Or, knowing that He was the promised Messiah, they still deliberately REJECTED Him, even after His resurrection!*

What colossal wickedness! What stupendous evil! No wonder, looking into the character of these leading religious rabbis amongst the Jews, Jesus had said of them: "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!" (Matt.23:13, 14, 15). "Woe unto you, ye blind guides" (v.16, 24). No wonder He said of them, "Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?" (Matt.23:33).

The gospel of Matthew is believed to have been written about the middle of the first century A.D., or between 45-50 A.D. When it was written, this false report on the body of Jesus being stolen by His disciples was still being circulated amongst the Jewish population!

But Justin Martyr, in his "Dialogue with Trypho," shows this story was still being maliciously spread by Jesus' detractors long afterward. In his "Dialogue with Trypho," the Jew, he reports just how antagonistic the Jewish leaders were to the Messiahship of Christ. He declares:

"And though all the men of your nation knew the incidents in the life of Jonah, and though Christ said amongst you that He would give the sign of Jonah, exhorting you before God as did the Ninevites, in order that your nation and city might not be taken and destroyed, as they have been destroyed; yet you not only have not repented, after you learned that He rose from the dead, but, as I said before, *you have sent chosen and ordained men throughout all the world to proclaim that a godless and lawless heresy had sprung from one Jesus, a Galilean deceiver, whom we crucified, but his disciples stole him by night from the tomb, where he was laid when unfastened from the cross, and now deceive men by asserting that he has risen from the dead and ascended to heaven.* Moreover, you accuse Him of having taught those godless, lawless, and unholy doctrines which you mention to the condemnation of those who confess Him to be Christ, and a Teacher from and Son of God. Besides this, even when your city is captured, and your land ravaged, you do not repent, but *dare to utter imprecations on Him and all who believe in Him.* Yet we do not hate you or those who, by your means, have

CONCEIVED SUCH PREJUDICES AGAINST US; but we pray that even now all of you may repent and obtain mercy from God, the compassionate and long suffering Father of all" (ANF, "Dialogue with Trypho," CVIII).

Thus the Jewish religious leaders of the first and second century deliberately spread false reports, and conspired to suppress and destroy the new Messianic faith in Jesus Christ.

They scoured the world to attempt to thwart the faith. They even rejected the hallowed and sacred text of the Scriptures, the Septuagint, which had been used in the synagogues for 415 years, and destroyed it from the synagogues, because of its testimony and prophecies which pointed to Jesus as the clear and obvious Messiah!

"The Stone the Builders Rejected"

Nevertheless, the time is coming -- soon -- when all these evil deeds will be exposed. The apostle Paul declared: "Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after" (I Tim.5:24). Jesus Christ foretold, "Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known" (Matt.10:26).

In a dramatic prophecy at the birth of Christ, the aged Simeon, a just and devout man who was waiting for the coming of the Messiah, took the young child up in his arms and blessed God, and said:

"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him. And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the FALL and RISING AGAIN of many in Israel; and for a SIGN which shall be spoken against; (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:25-35).

Jesus Christ was indeed the "stone which the builders refused" (Psalm 118:22). He is the One of whom Isaiah prophesied:

"Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a STONE, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste. Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the REFUGE OF LIES, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place" (Isaiah 28:16-17).

The time is coming soon when all the hidden secrets shall be revealed – the Word of the Lord has spoken it. The time is soon coming when ALL THINGS shall be restored to their original form and shape – including the Holy Scriptures of God!

On that first day of Shavuot (Pentecost), in A.D. 30, when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples at Jerusalem, the apostle Peter announced to the assembled pious Jews

worshipping in Jerusalem, at the Temple, that Jesus was the promised Messiah, fulfilling the many prophecies of the Scriptures. He said:

"For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved: Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope: Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. . . Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; He seeing this before spake of the RESURRECTION OF CHRIST, THAT HIS SOUL WAS NOT LEFT IN HELL, NEITHER DID HIS FLESH SEE CORRUPTION. This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we are all witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

"For DAVID IS NOT ASCENDED into the heavens: but he saith himself, the LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, until I make thy foes thy footstool. THEREFORE LET ALL THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL KNOW ASSUREDLY, that God hath made that same JESUS, *whom ye have crucified, BOTH LORD AND MESSIAH*" (Acts 2:25-36).

On the following day, after Peter and John had healed a man lame from birth by the power of the Spirit of God, he addressed the amazed, awe-struck, assembled Jews, and said to them:

"Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath GLORIFIED HIS SON JESUS; WHOM YE DELIVERED UP, AND DENIED in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go. But YE DENIED THE HOLY ONE AND THE JUST, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; and KILLED THE PRINCE OF PEACE, *whom GOD hath RAISED from the DEAD*; whereof we are WITNESSES. And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

"And now, brethren, I wot that through IGNORANCE ye did it, as did also your rulers. But those things which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.

"REPENT YE THEREFORE, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the TIMES OF REFRESHING SHALL COME from the presence of the Lord; and he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive UNTIL THE TIMES OF RESTITUTION OF ALL THINGS, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

"For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A PROPHET SHALL THE LORD YOUR GOD RAISE UP UNTO YOU of your brethren, LIKE UNTO ME; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. *And it shall come to pass, that every soul which will NOT hear that Prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.*

"Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days. Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in THY SEED shall all the nations of the earth be blessed. Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities" (Acts 3:12-26).

Jesus Christ is the Messiah! He is coming SOON to restore the Kingdom of God to this earth, to punish the wicked, and to RESTORE ALL THINGS -- including the *Holy Scriptures* -- to their original PERFECTION!

The Original Bible

If you see claims that such an such a translation is the "Original Bible," do not believe it!

The only way to "JUDGE" a translation is by comparing it with the known Greek and Hebrew manuscripts we have available, and to compare the works of scholars, and to keep up with the latest research and linguistic and archaeological research.

God promised His Word would endure forever! However, that does not mean that any particular translation is perfect!

But make no mistake! The truth endures forever. Even if some men from time to time pervert, distort, or "edit" the word of God in a wrong manner, God will bring them to judgment – and He will restore the TRUTH completely! At that time, we won't have to depend on Biblical scholars who attempt to restore the original text, or their conclusions based on what evidence they are able to uncover from various sources, caves around the Dead Sea, or hidden in obscure monasteries.

The Word of God will endure forever. Any mistakes or errors made by men, in its transmission over the centuries and millennia, will be corrected.

Until that time, the value of constructive and conservative Biblical textual "criticism" must be carefully judged and evaluated according to the best research, knowledge available, and understanding. Although the Masoretic text is no doubt very valuable and useful, and may in most cases be very accurate and represents the Word of God, for the Old Testament, it is not perfect, and appears to have itself been the object of mishandling in its transmission by the Jewish rabbis in the first and second centuries of the present era.

These facts, however, should in no way cause us to not regard the Scriptures as the Word of God – for they are. They are "God-breathed" (II Tim.3:16). Even so, God has allowed men certain leeway in preserving the Scriptures – and He has allowed certain errors to have crept into the texts of both Old and New Testaments. The very fact that God warned men not to "add to" nor to "subtract from" His Word proves, in a way, that He knew in advance that some men would do that very thing – and He therefore pronounced a divine CURSE on those who would do so! He declared, "Ye shall not add

unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God" (see Deut.4:2).

In the New Testament book of Revelation the apostle John gives us the same warning. He declared, "If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life . . ." (Rev.22:18-19).

Which Canon Is "Inspired"?
Which Translation is Best?

Since there were evidently several different texts in existence during the time of Christ and the apostles, did they pinpoint and select a particular text as being the ONLY truly divinely inspired one? We have no proof of that. In fact, just the opposite -- the evidence is that they quoted from several different texts, and sometimes even from textual material found in ancient Jewish commentaries, called the Targums, such as the Onkelos Targum. Says F.F. Bruce:

"But which form of the Old Testament was recognized as canonical, or at least authoritative, by our Lord and his apostles, or by the New Testament writers in general? No one form.

"One might expect that writers in Greek would use an accessible Greek version of the ancient scriptures, that is to say, the Septuagint. The New Testament writers did this TO A VERY CONSIDERABLE EXTENT. Luke and the writer to the Hebrews in their biblical citations and allusions adhere quite closely to the Septuagint wording. But other New Testament writers exercise greater freedom.

"In Matthew 12:18-21 there is a quotation from Isaiah 42:1-4 in a Greek form which is markedly different from the Septuagint. . . . A New Testament writer may quote the Old Testament in a form closer to the Hebrew construction; he may even quote it in a form paralleled neither in the Septuagint nor in the traditional Hebrew text, but in an Aramaic paraphrase or targum. . . . It looks at times as if the New Testament writers enjoyed liberty to select a form of Old Testament text which promoted their immediate purpose in quoting it: certainly they did not regard ANY ONE FORM OF TEXT as sacrosanct.

"In this they have provided a helpful precedent for us when we are told (especially on theological, not critical, grounds) that one form of New Testament text is uniquely authoritative" (*The Canon of Scripture*, p.285).

Clearly, God has preserved His Word. But He has used MANY texts and versions to accomplish this task -- and He has allowed, if not "inspired," MANY different translations of His Word into the English language! We cannot say that any one modern English translation is "perfect" -- for none are.

Based on the evidence available to us, however, the BEST overall English translation of the Bible is the King James Version. Also, the New King James Version is very good. Other newer versions may be read, however, and much may be learned from them. I enjoy the New Revised Standard Version. The Moffat Translation is also very

good, overall, although he rearranges certain chapters according to what he thought they should be.

The spade of archaeology and the research of scholars continually adds to our knowledge of both the Scriptures, the meaning of ancient Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic words, and the ancient society in which the Scriptures were written. Therefore, more modern translations often have good footnotes and marginal comments to add to our knowledge. The New International Version is very good in this respect.

Even so, however, I prefer the King James with its words added to the text in italics, to show they were added for clarification purposes. Sometimes they were added incorrectly, showing the bias or misunderstanding of the scholars, however.

The point is, for anyone to really KNOW God's Word, today, they must study and research and keep on learning, questioning, and prodding themselves to keep on growing in Biblical knowledge. No translation is perfect. Therefore, we must judge the contents of any Scripture **BY HOW IT RELATES TO OTHER CLEAR SCRIPTURES** on a particular subject – and study the originals,, in Hebrew and Greek, using Bible concordances, dictionaries, and lexicons, to increase our understanding.

Therefore, we can rest assured, that as the apostle Peter wrote:

"For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: **BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURETH FOR EVER.** And this is the Word which by the gospel is preached unto you" (I Peter 1:24-25).

Praise God, for the good news of that ineffable Gospel -- and the **GOOD NEWS** that Jesus Christ, Yeshua the Messiah, is coming **SOON!** May God speed that glorious, wonderful Day!

Baruch attah Adonai, Elohenu va vahenu, Melech ha olam!

"Blessed be the Lord, our God and our Father, Ruler of the Universe!"

Did God Give a Calendar?

Did God really give His people a Calendar to follow so they would know the accurate time of the months and annual Holy Days and Festivals? One church says the answer cannot be known from the Bible, and so the author concludes we must either “follow the Jewish” modern calendar or be lost in total confusion among a welter of conflicting human ideas and opinions. What is the truth of the matter?

William F. Dankenbring

A man wrote to me saying, “I was given an article, “Did God Give a Calendar?”, and would like to hear your comments on it. I follow the New Moon calendar, but he raises some interesting points. Here is the article. What is your opinion?”

The article was very interesting. It stated that since we cannot “know” for certain God’s original calendar, not enough information is available, we MUST trust the Jews and observe their calendar dates.

But is that really true? Can we really know God’s original calendar or must we follow the fixed JEWISH calendar?

Are we literally “STUCK” between a rock and a hard place?

Can we KNOW God’s calendar, and KNOW we know it?

Paul’s Run Ins with the Jews

Before attempting to answer this question, notice what the apostle Paul says about the Jewish religious leaders, even in his day, before the time when Hillel II changed the Hebrew calendar to one of fixed mathematical calculation which “averages” new moons and therefore the beginning of months, and which adds many “postponements” to the beginning of a year, which literally ignore their own calculations.

Paul wrote that the Jews of his time “killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets, who harassed ourselves, who offend God and oppose all men by hindering us from speaking words of salvation to the Gentiles. So they would fill up the measure of their sins to the last drop! But the Wrath is on them to the bitter end!” (1 Thess.2:15-16, Moffatt).

Those are powerful words – and Jewish religious leaders in Israel today still harass and persecute Messianic believers in Christ, with threats, beatings, arson, burning Bibles, and setting off a bomb!

We should be very careful who we follow, and WHY!

Paul wrote these things even though he also said, “Oh for their salvation, brothers! That is my heart’s desire and prayer to God! I can vouch for their zeal for God; only, it is not zeal with knowledge. They would not surrender to the righteousness of God, because they were ignorant of his righteousness and therefore *essayed to set up a righteousness of their own*” (Rom.10:1-3, Moffatt).

Paul writes elsewhere, admitting that the Jews were “entrusted with the scriptures of God.” But he adds, “Even supposing that some of them have proved UNTRUSTWORTHY, is their faithlessness to cancel the faithfulness of God? Never! Let God be true to his word, though every man be perfidious – as it is written, That thou mayest be vindicated in thy pleadings, and triumph at thy trial” (Rom.3:3-4, Moffatt).

The truth is, God has NOT left His people helpless, without the knowledge necessary to know His true months, holy days, and calendar! God is not faithless – giving us commandments to keep His law and annual Sabbaths, but then hiding the knowledge of when they occur, leaving us helpless, like putty in the hands of faithless men!

“Rules of Postponement . . . Essential”?

Of course our book on the Calendar covers the whole subject, including postponements. The article you sent to me, by Leon Walker, of the United Church of God (so-called) says right in the beginning that “The rules of postponement . . . are an essential element in the Hebrew calendar.”

That statement alone shows the falseness of his approach and devious nature of his article. “Essential”? Pray tell, WHY? This is the worst sort of equivocation and false representation. He never explains “why” they are essential, and the truth is, some of them were merely added to create new “traditions” or “rules” affecting the Sabbath days, so Yom Kippur would no longer fall the day before or after a weekly Sabbath, and the seventh day of the Feast of Tabernacles would never fall on a Sabbath. Others were added to make the “fixed” calendar come closer to visual new moons than simply following the estimated/calculated new moon conjunctions, since the sighting of a new moon crescent would generally be about one day *after* the conjunction.

I consider the article in question to be very disingenuous and therefore dangerous for people to read, because its basic premise is wrong – and if you start out with a false premise, then even the “best” of reasoning will lead you to a false conclusion!

The author says the fundamental question is, “Does the Bible provide us with the specific elements needed for a calendar?” He implies the answer is “either it does” or “it does not” – either/or, with no middle ground. But that is pure arbitrary sophistic reasoning. It is not a case of “all or nothing.”

The real question is: “Does the Bible provide us with enough evidence that together with Jewish input, from their ancient history, that we have enough evidence to discover the true Biblical calendar?”

The answer is an overwhelming ‘YES.’

Multiplied Calendars

It is true that many groups have gone off in one direction or another, constructing their own ideas of what they think the Bible Calendar ought to be like. And they have failed. They have constructed many different calendars as a result, as they cannot even agree on the definition of a “new moon,” when it begins, or when the year itself begins. Some foolishly reject the Jews’ knowledge or calendar totally, and then strive to come up with their own calendar, based on their opinions – and of course have no authority to do so.

A man I know insists the true calendar **MUST** go by the monthly conjunction of the moon, and the new moon begin at the “dark” of the moon, when no moon is visible to the human eye! He is adamant, and nothing will convince him otherwise. He insists that going by the first visible “crescent” of the moon is **MOON WORSHIP** and **IDOLATRY!**

Leon Walker, and the United Church of God, on the other hand, embraces the “fixed” Hillel II Jewish calendar *in toto* – *completely, with no reservations*. He accepts without any proof the Jewish postponements, and the very fact of a calendar based on “mean averages” for new moons, fixed by astronomical data, and rejects along with modern Jews the very idea of an “observed” new moon calendar – he just “follows tradition,” and Jewish innovations which compensated for the **LOSS** of an observed calendar.

History proves, however, that the Jews *changed their approach* to the calendar from an observed calendar to a calculated one, in 358 A.D. because of pressure from the Roman Empire which forced them to disband the Jewish authority, the Sanhedrin. And, as the Jews were scattered, they no longer had a central authority, and took the “easy” way out and took ancient mathematical principles and used them to formulate an “approximate” calendar.

In no way was it the original Biblical calendar – unless you believe God gave man permission to **CHANGE** His Torah, His Law, and His statutes!. Deuteronomy 4:1-2 says plainly He gave man no such permission. God commanded: “**DO NOT ADD TO**

WHAT I COMMAND YOU AND DO NOT SUBTRACT FROM IT, *but keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I give you*" (Deut.4:2, NIV).

Much of Walker's article is a review of basic knowledge of what is a "day," "month," and "year," and "sunset." These are things we all know. He admits that "chodesh" means both month and new moon. But, he says, the Bible does not define when a new moon begins. He is right. It doesn't.

But THE JEWS DO!

In their history, they have always declared that it begins with the first faint sliver of crescent seen by a man, who reports it to the Sanhedrin, or authority, and it is verified and pronounced. This therefore should not be an issue. Simple logic shows us the Jews are right: chodesh = new moon, and a "New" moon would be one just beginning to be visible to the eye – NOT an "invisible" moon, as some today teach, going by the conjunction, rather than what is first 'seen' by an observer.

We should ACCEPT what the Jews state, as the authority on things so long as they do not disagree with Scripture. History shows us how the Jews reckoned the new moons, in their literature, and YESHUA AND THE APOSTLES NEVER DISAGREED WITH THE NEW MOONS BEGINNING WITH THE FIRST VISIBLE CRESCENT.

In fact, Yeshua said the scribes and Pharisees "sat in Moses seat," so we should follow them so long as they do not teach contrary to the Law of Moses (Matt.23:2-3). He never upbraided them for figuring the new moons incorrectly. So the Jewish Sanhedrin was carrying on its responsibility correctly in this regard.

Therefore, we also should follow the Jewish reckoning by observation of the new moons, as Christ Himself did, setting us an EXAMPLE! (I John 2:6; I Peter 2:21).

Today, it is easy. In Israel, the Karaite Jews do this, and sight the new moon each month from Jerusalem or nearby. And now the new Jewish Sanhedrin has also begun sighting the new moons and taking testimony from witnesses!

So really, Leon Walker and the United Church of God, are following a bogus calendar which often deviates from God's true holy days, causing people to work on them, and to keep "near by" days instead – to keep "holy" days that are not and never were "holy"! They have reasoned themselves astray, into a false path.

God DID give His people Israel the gift of a calendar (Exo.12:1-2). He Himself appointed the MOON to determine "seasons" or "appointed times" – festivals! He declared, "The MOON marks off the seasons" (Psalm 104:19, NIV).

When the Jews changed the calendar, from 358 A.D. to about the eleventh century (as they continually made revisions – see the Judaica Encyclopedia article "calendar"), they got AWAY from the Biblical commandments, and no longer used the sighting of the

new moons, as they had always done, and as Scripture approved, as well as Christ and the apostles, who never faulted them for so doing.

Walker claims questions arise as to when did the calendar begin, and what point on earth should be used for the sighting of the new moons. This is in my opinion subterfuge. It is disingenuous. There really is no problem to determine this point!

Of course, when Israel was in Egypt, they used the new moon as seen from Egypt. After God gave them their inheritance in Canaan, the point of reference was the holy land – Israel. When God established His name there, at the Temple and in Jerusalem, it became the central authority and reference point for all mankind!

When Christ returns, He will rule from Jerusalem (Luke 1:32). God has sanctified *Jerusalem* and placed His name THERE, so that is where observations must be made (see Isa.2:1-4; Micah 4:1-4).

To think that God would leave His people in the dark, without true knowledge needed to obey Him, is to call God a Monster – a Jokester – a Supreme Practical Joker!

The Bible, plus a little history from the Jews, and common sense, gives us all the knowledge we need to obey God and keep His commandments, and His TRUE holy days!

As Paul wrote, “For God is not the author of CONFUSION” (I Cor.14:33, NKJV). God never has left His people helpless or without the knowledge we need.

God has not left us in IGNORANCE! We don’t just have to “go along” with the Jews – or any church – or anyone else – when they deviate from God’s Word and ADD man-made traditions and unbiblical “postponements” and IGNORE the real, visible NEW MOONS, and therefore often keep the holy days anywhere from 1 to 3 days off the mark, or on the WRONG DAYS!

Where the Bible itself is silent (such as whether the year can begin before the spring equinox, or must begin after), the JEWS give us the answer in their own history, in the records of the Talmud, Mishnah, and other ancient commentaries. We do not need to be in ignorance. There is no excuse for professing “ignorance”! Be sure to read our articles, “When Does the Year Begin?” and “Can Passover Occur Before Spring?”)

Either . . . Or?

Walker states, “Therefore we have two options: either we accept the Hebrew calendar *in its entirety* or we choose one of the calendars created by one of the several who have created their own calendars in recent years.”

Clearly, Walter attempts to make the calendar issue an “either or” question, claiming that we either “accept the Jews’ conclusions COMPLETELY” or we “cannot

accept their evidence AT ALL"! This is simply not true. Rather, we must sort out the truth carefully, sifting out truth from error, fact from fiction, holding onto the truth and rejecting error. As the apostle Paul said, we must "TEST ALL THINGS; hold fast what is GOOD" (I Thess.5:21, NKJV).

Claiming that we must follow the Jews completely, or not at all, is nonsense! It is a form of religious EXTREMISM! It is a clever but specious argument and falls flat on its face. It is like saying, "We have to follow the Jews, right or wrong."

As Paul wrote, "*PROVE ALL THINGS; HOLD FAST TO THAT WHICH IS GOOD*" (I Thess.5:21, KJV). We are *commanded* to sort these things out. We must follow the Jews WHEN THEY FOLLOW GOD. But when they go astray, or begin to deviate, and go their OWN way, then we must follow GOD. And that includes any and all churches and fellowship groups as well! It is a principle that applies to ALL churches and religious institutions!

As the apostle Peter said to the Jewish leaders, "WE OUGHT TO OBEY GOD RATHER THAN MEN" (Acts 5:29).

Here at Triumph Prophetic Ministries (Church of God), we accept the Hebrew calendar, WHERE IT IS RIGHT, but not where it goes wrong. We do not accept the new calendars created by various men based on their own ideas and assumptions.

The Bible itself defines a "month" as a "new moon" (chodesh). The history of the Jews plainly shows that this was based on the first visible crescent of each spotted new moon or defaulted to a 30 day month if the crescent was invisible due to cloud cover.

The present Jewish calendar IGNORES THE BIBLICAL DEFINITION OF "NEW MOONS" WHICH DETERMINE THE DATES OF HOLY DAYS. Therefore it is in serious error. As a result, Holy Days are often observed a DAY OR TWO DIFFERENT from the true date based on the real visible New Moon as it is sighted in Israel!

The Karaites, and now the new Sanhedrin in Israel, both observe the New Moons each month. Therefore all the different churches and men have NO EXCUSE!

They will be JUDGED by Almighty God for their flagrant disobedience and false teaching and leading their congregations ASTRAY from the laws of GOD! Write for our free articles and book:

"When Does the Year Begin"?

"What Is the New Moon?"

"Can Passover Occur Before Spring?"

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Letters from Our Readers

"I hope this has been a good week for you and Cappy and both of you are in good health. . . Bill, I'm sure that you are aware of President Bush and his trip to his friends King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia and the king's refusal to listen to Bush's request to increase the oil output. When will our leaders finally realize who our real friends are and who our enemies are? Bush seems to flip flop at every stop and he seems to say something different contradicting himself again.

"He is trying to cuddle up to the Arabs again in Egypt. None of our leaders are able it seems to connect the wild weather and earthquakes happening both in this country and around the world to maybe we as a nation and as mankind in general are getting more displeasing to Our God and going the wrong way! The idea of a few liberal black-robed California judges going against the majority of the California people and legalizing gay marriages to name a few. You as God's watchman are sure telling it like it is and I know that you are very busy daily and although you might not have read Jerry Golden's latest articles the latest one is really sobering and there is a link attached to go to a website that is almost unbelievable, plans of our government to control our masses of people should there be a collapse of our economy in the near future when riots break out. I know as you have said so many times the only hope is to get close to Our God, Father Yahveh and Our Saviour Yeshua to strive to do His will in every thing daily. Keep up the good work Bill and Cappy and Lawrence and the people who work so hard to get the gospel message out to this dying world. And we as The First Fruits are with you 100%."

-- Ron Watkins, Georgia

"Barbara and I went to see the latest Indiana Jones movie on Thursday evening as a special treat for the 29th anniversary of our engagement. We both enjoyed the film, which was a typical Indiana Jones schoolboy adventure. I don't wish to spoil the plot for anyone who hasn't seen it and may wish to do so, but what struck me was that we had the scenario that extra-terrestrials had been on earth in the past and would come again in the future. This seems to be a recurring

theme in books and films these days and of course it contains a kernel of truth. Unfortunately the vast majority of people are totally deceived into thinking that the so-called extra-terrestrials are actually physical beings from a distant planet in a far off galaxy. The world is undoubtedly being subliminally prepared for the return of Christ, but not to welcome Him, rather to resist Him.

"I have been thinking about our phone conversation last Sunday, when we discussed the "65 Years" of Isaiah chapter 7 and verses 6 to 8.

" *'Because Syria, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah (Pekah, King of Israel – see verse 1) have taken evil counsel against you (Judah) saying,*

"Let us go up against Judah and trouble it, and let us make A GAP IN ITS WALLS for ourselves, and set a king over them, the son of Tabeel' –

"Thus says the Lord God:

"It shall not stand, nor shall it come to pass. For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin (King of Syria – see verse 1). Within SIXTY FIVE YEARS Ephraim will be broken, so that it will not be a people." New King James Version.

"The chapter seems to be focusing on Ephraim, Judah and Syria. In the past you have thought that the "65 Years" could possibly begin in 1941, the year of Pearl Harbour and America's entry into World War 2. However as we discussed on the phone, a better starting point, considering that Judah figures prominently in this chapter, would be the year 1947-48. In November 1947 the United Nations voted for the partition of the mandated territory of Palestine into two states, one Jewish the other Arab. In May of 1948 the Jewish state of Israel was created when David Ben-Gurion declared independence and became its first Prime Minister.

"Interestingly these dates mean that figuring by the Jewish Civil year they both fall between Tishri 1947 and Tishri 1948. Incredibly 65 years

on from these dates bring us to between November 2012 and May 2013.

“What really surprised me was when I looked up the meaning of the word ‘GAP’ and found it to be ‘Strong’s’ number 1234 in the Hebrew Lexicon.

“It is the Hebrew word ‘BAQA’ and according to the Gesenius Hebrew Lexicon, its primary meaning is – ‘to cleave asunder’ or ‘to divide’.

“Isn’t this exactly what a modern day ‘Pekah’ (Leader of Ephraim) is trying to do right now. DIVIDE the land GOD gave back to the tribe of Judah in the twentieth century, particularly the land gained after the miraculous six day war in 1967.

“I looked up Isaiah 7:6 in the Amplified Bible which reads:-

“ ‘Let us go up against Judah and harass and terrify it; and let us CLEAVE IT ASUNDER [each of us taking a portion], and set a [vassal] king in the midst of it, namely the son of Tabeel.’

“There is much food for thought in these verses. When we consider them in relation to Isaiah chapter 17, ‘The burden or prophecy against Damascus’, this particular chapter foresees the utter destruction of the city of Damascus (verse 1), as well as ‘The fortress ceasing from Ephraim’. Will this be because of their joint plot to dismember the modern day State of Israel?

“I will close now and we look forward to joining you for the Bible Study hookup, this week by telephone rather than the internet, so that I am able to give the closing prayer as you requested me.

“Bye for now, take care and may our Great God go with you always.”

-- Nick Wood, England

“I get so much ‘joy’ when I receive the TRUTH that you send me.

“I also pass it all around to anyone who wants ‘The Real Truth’ to read.

“I showed some of your literature to the so-called Pastor here; he did not want to even look at it. He saw your name on the front cover of ‘A New Look at the Antichrist and the Beast of

Revelation,’ he said, ‘Don’t read any of his works, they are lies!’

“I just smiled and told him, ‘What’s wrong, you can’t handle the Real Truth?’ He just walked away.

“O well, some people will never open their eyes.”

-- Texas

“My father introduced me to the work of Herbert W. Armstrong, over 40 years ago. Now, you continue in the vein of his powerful ministry. Thank you for publishing the outstanding magazine and booklets which help to explain God’s Word in these End Times.”

-- Washington

“Thank you so much for all the material you have sent me. The whole prison is abuzz with these new found truths in the word of God. I feel like I’m part of your ministry. Soon as I can get my hands on some money worth sending, I will send it.”

-- Minnesota

“It’s been a long time – I haven’t written. Hope this finds you and your family well. I am doing the best I can, and have to thank you for some albums of Feast of Tabernacles you sent some time ago. Thank you that you are still sending cassette tapes, they are very helpful. I appreciate them very much. Praying for you and all the brethren, wishing you God’s blessings and courage and strength.”

-- Arizona

“Yahveh bless and keep you and yours. We are told to ‘Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.’ Matt.7:15. The same prophets that GOD HIMSELF is against. Jeremiah 23:30-32 – ‘Therefore, behold, I AM AGAINST THE PROPHETS, saith the LORD, that steal my words every one from his neighbor. Behold, I AM AGAINST THE PROPHETS, saith the LORD, that use their tongues and say, He saith. Behold, I AM AGAINST THEM THAT PROPHECY FALSE DREAMS, saith the LORD, and do tell them , and do cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not nor commanded them: therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the LORD.’ All pretty clear, wouldn’t you say, Mr. Dankenbring?

“If GOD did not send these prophets, then who did? ‘I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran; I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied’ (Jer.23:21). As they take off to prophesy lies, GOD asks, ‘How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies? Yea, they are the prophets of the deceit of their own heart. Which think to cause MY people to forget MY name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbor, as their fathers have forgotten MY name for Baal’ (Jer.23:26-27).

“How long in deed, Mr. Dankenbring, will these false prophets prophesy lies, of the deceit of their own hearts? Who have perverted the words of the living GOD, of the LORD of hosts, our GOD? Jer.23:26, 36. I speak of those men within the COG (Church of God) who are doing this today.

“Instead of denouncing the heresies orchestrated by the pastors, whom GOD is against as well, Jer.23:1-4. These supposed prophets within the COG are endorsing and advancing their nefarious agenda, which amounts to nothing short of causing people within the church to forget HIS (GOD’s) holy name (Jer.23:27).

“Mainstream COG, especially WWCOG, are guilty of NOT standing in GOD’s counsel, thus causing HIS people NOT to hear HIS words, that they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings (Jer.23:22).

“GOD’s word is very pure (Psalm 119:140), and it cannot be broken (John 10:35). Thus someone has to lead GOD’s own people into rebellion against HIM in these last days. Isaiah 30:8-11 – ‘Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book (TPM) that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever, THAT THIS IS A REBELLIOUS PEOPLE, LYING CHILDREN, CHILDREN THAT WILL NOT HEAR THE LAW OF THE LORD: Which say to the seers, See NOT: and to the prophets, Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits: Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us.’

“Those COG are guilty of turning away their ear from hearing the truth (II Tim.4:-4). The law of GOD is the truth (Palm 119:142), as are all HIS commandments truth (Psalm 119:151). HIS Word is truth (John 17:17). Yeshua is the truth (John 14:6). Thus they are found guilty of

turning away their ear from hearing GOD speak to them. ‘How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation: which at the first began to be spoken by the LORD, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard HIM’ (Hebrews 2:3).

“Because those COG no longer listen to HIM, they are found guilty of NOT worshiping GOD in spirit and in truth (John 4:24), as they have turned their ear away from hearing the truth. They are found guilty of worshiping a strange god (Psalm 81:9), that is found among them.

“To them it is written, ‘Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar and the father of it. And because I tell you the truth, you believe me not’ (John 8:44-45). And it should be very evident, for it is written, ‘If we say we have fellowship with HIM, and walk in darkness, we LIE, and do not the truth (I John 1:6). And every time someone is disfellowshipped for speaking out against them (Jer.23:1-3), they add to their sin, for ‘If a man say, I love GOD, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love GOD whom he hath not seen?’ (I John 4:20).

“Those COG are found guilty of totally corrupting themselves, and have turned away from the way which GOD commanded them (Deuteronomy 31:29). And soon, Mr. Dankenbring, evil will befall them, for they have provoked the LORD to anger, through the work of their hands.

“Those COG are found guilty of ‘changing the truth of GOD into a lie, and worshiping and serving the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen’ (Romans 1:25). And as such, Mr. Dankenbring, are appointed unto wrath, for it is written, ‘But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath’ (Rom.2:8; Col.3:6).

“Those COG are found guilty of allowing sin to reign in their mortal bodies, that they should obey it in the lusts thereof (Rom.6:12). They are found guilty of forsaking the right way, and going astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness (II Pet.2:16).

“Those COG are found guilty of preaching another Jesus, whom we have not preached, and they have received another spirit, which we have not received; and they preach another gospel, which we have not accepted (II Cor.11:4). And for this, Mr. Dankenbring, they are accursed, twice over (Galatians 1:6-9, II Pet.2:20-22)

“In short, Mr. Dankenbring, those COG are found to be guilty of willfully sinning against GOD (Heb.6:4-6; 10:26-31). Not all of them, as many are willfully sinning to save face, or friends, or station. This is my judgment of this matter. ‘For I verily as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already as though I were present concerning him that hath so done this deed’ (I Corinthians 5:3 and 2:15).

“ ‘Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, everyone according to his ways, saith the LORD GOD. REPENT, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions: so iniquity shall not be your ruin’ (Ezekiel 18:30-32; I Pet.4:11; II Pet.3:9).

“REPENT! REPENT! REPENT!”
-- John Aldaiz, Texas

“It is painful to our heart, that CAPPY had to go through this health trial.

“You know, that you are our TRUE FAMILY on this short pilgrimage through the winds of this life in the flesh.

“Jesus, Himself said to His own ‘blood’ mother... ‘who are my brothers and my sisters?’ Those who obey the will of MY FATHER !”

“Without YOU, we would still be errant in the darkness of apostate groups, not knowing the TRUTH, nor the way to the VERY... ‘NARROW GATE’!

“Your ‘CALLING’, has enlightened the very few, the humble in their heart and mind, that accept to go out of their ‘COMFORTABLE’ ZONE.... to grab the TRUTH no matter what their ‘DARLING’ ministers stuffed their head with, in the past !!!!!

“Our gratefulness comes from the Holy Spirit that stirs our heart to wrap you in our LOVE.

“I know, we are just.... a soft heap of ashes, I have seen my own mother becoming just ... that tiny soft heap of ashes...therefore, I realize better

than ever, that what ever we do ‘under the sun’ is vanity, vanity of vanities, to quote Solomon.....

“But, while the LORD grants us, this precious breath of life, dearest BILL and CAPPY, let us hand over to you, the only thing that matters ... BEYOND.... ETERNITY the LOVE of our SOUL, that cannot ‘rust’!!!!

“May OUR ALMIGHTY LORD, soothe your heart, soul, spirit, and body, and REFRESH YOU, in the Name of OUR MESSIAH ADONAI YESHUA!”

-- Jackie Cazin, France

COMMENT: One Sunday morning in June, my wife Cappy couldn’t get out of bed without help. She felt dizzy and nauseous. I called 911 and the ambulance took her to the local emergency room at Mid-Valley Hospital. It was determined that she had ‘positional vertigo.’ She was treated for the dizziness and nausea, and several tests were run, and thank the Lord our God it was not a stroke, tumor, clot, or anything else. The condition healed and by the next day she was up and running again, but the episode taught us a good lesson – none of us knows the length of our days, or what tomorrow may bring (James 4:13-15). We may be cruising along, enjoying the scenery, and wham! Bam! Slam! Something comes at you out of the blue, suddenly – a trial – a test! And you must go through it, endure it, and learn from it!

Thank God we are back in the saddle again, where a friend is a friend, to do the Work of God! Thank God for His mercy and loving-kindness and healing! It was a scary moment, where suddenly you don’t know what lies ahead, and you must commit yourself and selves and everything to God and His mercy and goodness, in faith – complete faith, and utter loving surrender to Him and His divine will and purpose for our lives. For as Paul wrote, “For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” So must, all of us, be totally surrendered to God, and our lives devoted as living sacrifices to Him (Rom.12:1-3). This is reality. This is a “wake up call.” We all need them from time to time, so we do not get to the point of taking anything for granted, not even our very lives and circumstances. If we live, we live by faith and in faith, and if we die, we die in faith, trusting the Lord always and completely. Blessed be the Name of our God and Father, and our Lord Yeshua Ha Mashiach!

* * *

“Your kind attention to us and your courageous dedication to the Work overalmost 30 years.... now.. (when most of us...take it for ‘granted’...) is a blessing, that we have to count as a precious treasure... while the Lord.... still provides.....

“Bill, while we are celebrating the ‘GIVING of THE LAW’, could the so called ‘MESSIANIC JEWS’ that are.....SUNDAY...KEEPERS, be told that there are neither ‘messianic’nor ‘JEWS’!!!! and worse.... they are a SCANDAL to the JEWS !

“I remember , a Jew calling them’ESAU’ because...like...ESAU.....they.....disguise themselves as....if they were....’JACOB’, using Hebrew language, Hebrew garments, etc....but ‘smell’ like ‘Protestants’ !!!

“In short... for the JEWS...they are....a ‘FRAUD’ !!!!

“As for the main stream ‘so-called’ Christians... they say that are ‘done’.. with the law....because, YESHOUA.. came ‘to perform the law...in their place’. Well...their BIBLE.... is just one single twisted verse... thick !!!

“Dear BILL, PEASE, allow me to recall on this celebration of the GIFT OF THE TORAH what I have been taught in the past..... from you :

1) YESHOUA...’fulfilled’ the Law concerning the ‘sacrificial Laws’ being HIMSELF the SACRIFICIAL LAMB !

2) He ‘fulfilled’ the Laws, because He was .. SINLESS...and OBEYED... for HIMSELF. the LAWS... that HE, HIMSELF established in the OLD TESTAMENT ! (Matt.5:17-18) So, HE ‘fulfilled’ all the Laws.. not in our place...of course....but on the contrary to be an EXAMPLE that we have to FOLLOW !!!

3) He ‘FULLFILLED’ the Law... means also.... HE ‘FILLED’ the LAW to the ‘FULL’ ISAIAH said... ‘MAGNIFIED’ the Law (AMPLIFIED) (ISAIAH 42:21). PROOF :Math 5:27-28

“Here, I would like to concentrate on those, who say...that the Laws ...in the Old Testament... are solely for the JEWS.... In fact... even ... the 10 COMMANDMENTS are ...in the OLD TESTAMENT !!!!

“Besides, here are the verses, that claim that every law is for the .. ENTIRETY OF MANKIND : the JEW and for the FOREIGNER -- for the entire humankind !!!!

EXODUS 12 :49
LEVITICUS 24:22
NUMBERS 9:13-14
NUMBERS 15:15-16, 29
MATTHEW 5:17-18
ISAIAH 2:3
ROMANS 3/31
CONCLUSION : PSALM 119:72

New American Standard Bible (©1995)

“*‘The law of Your mouth is better to me Than thousands of gold and silver pieces.’*”
-- Jackie Cazin, France

“Not ONLY we have to OBEY every law GIVEN in the TORAH BUT, it is THE TORAH...that will judge US... in FRONT of the LORD :

REVELATION 20:12: ‘And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened.’ (BOOKS: PLURAL = BIBLOS in GREEK = BIBLE in ENGLISH !!!!)

“ ‘Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. (BIBLOS =BIBLE=TORAH)

“Verse 13: ‘The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done.

“Verse 14: ‘Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.

“15: ‘If anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

“Just found..... a SCARY verse.....!!!!!!!!!

“To ‘follow the NARROW PATH’we have to DILIGENTLY... STUDY... THE ENTIRE LAW !!!! LEVITICUS 5 :17 – ‘If anyone sins, doing any of the things that by the Lord’s commandments ought not to be done, though he

did not know it, then *realizes his guilt*, he shall bear his iniquity.'

"It means.... that ... 'IGNORANCE'..... is NO EXCUSE !!!!! EVEN realizing LATER.... does not protect!!!

"That is WHY...the LORD ... ALSO...confirms... 'MY PEOPLE ARE DESTROYED FOR THE LACK OF KNOWLEDGE' (Hosea 4:6).

-- Jackie Cazin, France

"As I relayed to you Wednesday afternoon, there will be [was] an emergency Bilderberger meeting starting Thursday, the 5th of June in a suburb of Washington, D.C., Chantilly, VA and ending Saturday. Coincidentally, Hillary will be in the Wash, D.C., area on Saturday, making her "concession" speech that day to supporters. According to Alex Jones, the Bilderbergers normally meet every four to five years, but this is an emergency session and there is a split in the elite ranks on who should be their "anointed"...Obama or Clinton.

"Also on the agenda is whether they will give the go-ahead to attack Iran which would signal the end of the American economy...making it implode and then the elites could bring in the AMERO replacing the dollar. Earlier in the year, the elite gave the "blessing" to Barack Obama, but now there is wavering. If the Clinton faction wins, you can best believe Hillary will be the ticket. Barack would be hamstrung with the Clintons on his back in the White House....and after her foolish RFK assassination comment, Obama may want to watch his proverbial back.

"Alex states that he doesn't know and his sources don't know the exact breakout of the factions differing over Obama and Clinton and differing on whether to attack Iran or not. Some of the elites don't want America's economy to crash just yet while others want it to happen this fall. If the attack is authorized against Iran, oil and gold prices will explode.

"Alex states that these next few days are VERY, VERY IMPORTANT. The elites are fighting and even they don't know what to do...which makes for interesting times. Alex Jones said the elite are NOT in total control, like God is, so anything can happen. He ended by saying that we are at a major flashpoint in history from now through the election and up to 2012."

-- Illinois

"I appreciate the work you're doing correcting the teachings of the Armstrongs. Shortly after my baptism in March 1975 I questioned their teaching on the last supper of Christ with the apostles being called the Christian Passover. Replacing the Passover of the Old Covenant and calling the true Passover 'The Night to Be Much Observed.'

"Then some years later an elderly lady in the church pointed out John 19:14 to me, proving the timing between the last supper and the crucifixion of Christ was taught wrong. At that time this lady had quit attending church services with GTA's group due to disagreements with teachings and other matters.

"Some years after this Jewish people proved to me all these various Holyday-Sabbath churches were counting from the wrong Sabbath and day after that Sabbath for Pentecost. Actually an elderly black lady in the Worldwide Church of God mentioned the same thing to me around 1977.

"I do appreciate your printing articles on these subjects. It is amazing how many of these churches observing Holy Days and Sabbath continue to teach the same old mistakes of the Worldwide Church of God. Are they really searching for more of God's Truth? I wonder."

-- New York

"I hope God is blessing you with better weather than what the rest of the nation is getting.

"I think God has removed Israel's blessing and beginning to curse mankind with what we deserve.

"Man seems to want to starve his fellow man so God will let all who disobey Him starve together.

"I see Tony Blair is trying to head up a worldwide faith or religious movement. He also seems to be bucking for the top dog position in the European Union. I heard he asked for a fabulous salary and wants all the authority of the Treaty signed in Lisbon, Portugal.

"I see Ireland turned down the Lisbon Treaty so the power to Be will bypass Ireland on the next vote . . .

“The new super computer (Road Runner) costing \$100 million was tested May 25, 2008. I guess it will make the old computers like Model T in comparison for speed.

“Iran has at least 14 super-tankers with approximately 20 million barrels of crude oil on board ready for shipment. It is what is called heavy-sour crude and our oil refineries like what is called light-sweet crude.

“I heard there is a bio-diesel plant in Washington state and its product is shipped to Europe.

“The first 650 Tesla Roadsters (all electric cars) have been sold and they are taking deposits on the next production run.

“Many alphabet government offices are moving to more secure areas out of Washington, D.C. Are they planning on something to happen?

“Many US executives are selling their US properties and moving to South America where they think they will be more secure and safer.

“The Powers To Be want Universal ID by 2017 – the Mark of the Beast.

“I see a Valley of Peace Red to Dead Sea Canal Project is planned for the 60th anniversary of Israel at a cost of \$3 billion dollars. It will take water from the Red Sea to the Dead Sea.

“An old quote of Henry Kissinger – ‘Control oil and you control nations – control food and you control people.’ Seems to be what is happening now. It looks like the whole world will soon be under the control of a few multi-national companies.

“I see the Bill Gates Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation the Norwegian government, Syngenta Foundation and Monsanto are backing the Domsday Seed Vault at Spitsbergen, Norway. They will be able to control world food supply through GMO plants. . . .

“Keep up the good work for our Creator. God bless you and Cappy and His Church.”

-- Charles Rearick, Ohio

“I want to immerse myself in your teaching aids, booklets, magazine, whatever you would be willing to send me.

“I’m Messianic, observe Shabbat, and keep all Moadim. Although not a new believer, I’m fascinated by your teaching and research skills. Truly you are a blessing of Yahweh Elohim.

“There is always room to ‘grow’ in knowledge of the Truth – for this purpose I’m writing you now.

“I read your book about Ephraim and Manasseh. It was thought provoking to say the least. But my mind was blown at how you presented all the information.

“Please mail me your most interesting booklets. I’m on a journey to learn all I possibly can of the word of Yahweh . . .”

-- Texas

“First of all, I would like to say that I am a first time responder, and I want to say that. I was passing a table here, I am currently confined at the Huntsville Unit in Huntsville, Texas. And I sat at a table, to my surprise a magazine was on the table. But not just any magazine now, but one that said ‘Prophecy Flash!’ So I picked it up and I must say that I wasn’t expecting to read the things that I did. Its not often that you run across a book such as this one, I have so many questions, just as so many of us here do. And your book answered a lot of them. As I read on I came across some places that said there is more information for you, all you have to do is write us for it and we will send it. So here I am sending you this letter in hope that you will send these books to me. . . .”

-- Texas

“Today is Sabbath and I’ve spent it in study, prayer and thinking how nice it would be to have at least one brethren to talk and fellowship with.

“I live in a beautiful building that well kept, and rent is reasonable. But in the 8 or 9 years in here, not a single true Christian. Please keep me on your prayer list I need a friend to fellowship with.

“I’m very thankful for taking special care of widows and prisoners. You and Cappy do such a great job and it means so much. You are my constant companions. Your literature means so much. e are treated like Kings. Thanks and keep up God’s Great Work of feeding His sheep. We love and pray for you daily.”

--- Virginia

“There is a special prophetic alert (399 400 401 402 program numbers) on Perry Stone.org re: a coming war with Iran AND attacks on oil refinery in Louisiana AND subsequent oil shortages, etc.

“If you care to comment in the letter section, I’ll be watching to read your comments.

“Also we have just had over 1,000 ! ! ! fires since last week Monday here in California since gay/homosexual marriages began on that day, mandated by the California Supreme Court.

“Many of the fires were started by lightning. Could this be a sign of YHVH’s (God’s displeasure or Fiery Anger, over this abomination against His Way of Life?

“There is a state ballot measure to reverse this in November. Every Christian’s prayer to reverse this state mandated sin will be appreciated “
-- California

“I would first like to thank you for the ministry that Yahveh has blessed you with. You are a faithful shepherd who cares for the flock.

“Your call as a Watchman calls not only to the poor and the prisoners but also should be heard by the ecclesiastical leaders and the statesmen of Israel.

”After California Supreme Court ruled in favor of same sex marriages, the Father called fire down in the form of lightning storms (freak lightning), setting ablaze the entire state and surrounding states.

“There is a storm on the way, but it’s not one that we will be looking forward to. There is a Blight on our prosperity. That is only the beginning. The Mighty One of Israel has pronounced Judgment upon the house of Israel.

“Soon the enemy of El Shaddai will surround this once great nation. We need to return to the Father of Spirits, Our Mighty One.

“We have received our second set of tapes. Thank you so much! These tapes will help us to understand the Scriptures and you have gained my trust, and that’s not easy. I will still test the Spirits to see if they are of Yahveh.

“I will continue to give thanks to you and the faithful believers that support your ministry I pray that we can all have ‘peace.’ In this age we will soon face tribulation, but in Yeshua we will overcome.”

-- Oklahoma

“Greetings in the name of our soon coming King and Saviour Yahshua ha Messiah. How are you, your family and the church at large? I hope you are all right.

“This is to inform you that we are very much thankful for the Prophecy Flash magazines we have been receiving since 2006. The magazine of March-April 2008 we got last month. It has really encouraged us a lot on how God’s Laws are still in effect today. Many false prophets still teach that the laws were abolished by the Messiah. Much encouragement we received from page 67 that gives the main purpose of our life on earth, to serve the LORD till death.

“We are now 17 members in the Church of God in this small town of Ndhiwa. When we started reading your magazines we were only six people but now through the passing of magazines to others our number has increased. Your Bible tapes has really encouraged us a lot. We make the volume of our little small cassette to a moderate volume, so that those passing get interested and share with us and through that we’ve received four members. Halleluyah! This is wonderful, the Lord working through your materials.

“Here in Kenya the impact and effect of last year’s elections has affected us everywhere. Many people were in IDP camps. Internally displaced persons are facing a lot of problems. Some dispatched persons go back to the camps due to fear of fresh attacks. Poor living standards in camps, e.g. Lack of clean water, food and shelter has exposed many to suffer several diseases and infections. It’s indeed very sad to see even innocent young children suffering.

“We have taken 13 children of which of which their parents were slashed to death due to ethnic violence. Six of the children are orphans whose parents died of AIDS. Life proves to be very tough, as we now plan to have public address system which can help us to preach the Word of our Master.

“May you please kindly assist us by seeking sponsors for the children with the donation for the public address system.

“Remember to send us Bible tapes and magazine. However, may our merciful Lord bless you as we wait to hear from you soon.

“ ‘Pray for us as we do and let the brotherly love continue” (I Corinthians 15:58).

-- Timmothy Obabo, Kenya

“May YHVH bless you and your powerful end time true witness ministry.

“I’m writing this letter to thank you for all the material that you have sent me. The truth has really set me free. I read your material and use it in my studies of Scripture, which has proven what you write true. So far you have not disappointed me. I’m not a learned/educated person, but YHVH’s Word has given me a great understanding that I cannot explain. You truly have the gift of discernment and I have no doubt that you are truly conceived of the Spirit. You and I both know, there are so many out there today falsely proclaiming the Word, and distorting its true intent/meaning. I am very grateful to have found your ‘Prophecy Flash’ magazine. What a complement to my studies of Scripture. I am on the path of learning the Truth of YHVH’s Kingdom Message and I need all the help I can get. I’m 39 years old and have got 5 years in on a 30 year sentence. Nonetheless, there is something He has in store for me to accomplish here and I use all your materials to help me witness truth to those around me. . . .

“I greatly appreciate your help and time and all that you do to feed the sheep. Thank you ! !

“Keep up the great work. I love you all deeply, YHVH’s blessings be on you all. Please pray for me and my new life in he Spirit.

“P.S. HalleluYah! HalleluYah! HalleluYah!””

-- Pennsylvania

“YHVH bless and keep you and yours. Much, actually too much, has been written about ‘The Antichrist’ which had led to much confusion in the world of ‘Christianity.’

“For the record, sir, too many people think believe, and are taught that the term ‘The Antichrist’ refers to just one person or the end

time nemesis of God and Jesus. Whereas the truth of the matter is somewhat different for several reasons.

“For 1, the ‘antichrist’ refers to anyone, past, present or future who denies, or does not confess, that Jesus is come in the flesh. I John 2:22 says, ‘Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denies the Father and the Son.’ And again in II John 7 which says, ‘For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come IN the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.’

“Another point is that scripture says there are many antichrists. ‘Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there MANY antichrists, whereby we know that it is the last time’ (I John 2:18). This knowledge lets us know that it is the last time.

“For yet more understanding of what antichrist is, scripture says in I John 4:2-3, ‘Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God. And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is NOT of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now is it in the world.’

“Antichrist is a spirit, namely the spirit of error as says I John 4:6 – ‘We are of GOD; he that knoweth GOD heareth us; he that is not of GOD heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.’

“Two verses mainstream ‘Christianity’ likes to use to oppose themselves, thus keeping themselves in the snare of the devil are Romans 10:9-10 which say, ‘That if thou shalt confess with thy MOUTH the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine hart that GOD hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.’

“But is this all there is to this? A confession with the mouth only. No, it is not.

“First off, scripture says as plainly as plain can be in Romans 8:9, ‘Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.’ And without the Spirit of Christ dwelling within them, their

‘spirit’ which we are to ‘try’ (test), whether they be of God., I John 4:1, cannot confess that Jesus is come in the flesh, for if the Spirit is not of GOD, then that spirit is the spirit of error, thus the spirit of antichrist (I John 4:3, 6).

“The world believes it is doing the right thing in accordance to Scripture, as how hard can it be for someone to say out of their mouth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh? A pair of lips can, will, and do say anything. As far as believing what they say is true, who wants to admit they are wrong when trying to get others to believe they are right? I’m hard pressed to think of anyone.

“We were given an understanding that we may know Him that is true (I John 5:20). And it is this understanding that allows us ‘spiritually’ to make the confession that Yeshua is in fact the very Son of God come in the flesh. GOD, YHVH is His Father, and Yeshua is HIS Son.

“It is this understanding, Mr. Dankenbring, that the world does not have, and sorely needs to hear and hopefully understand real quick and real soon.

“Antichrist is already here; it is the spirit of error, the spirit of liars and deceivers that seek to subvert and destroy God’s people (Matt.24:4-5). The embodiment of antichrist, as the world believes, may well be the beast of Revelation, but by no means is he the only antichrist.

“Satan deceive the whole world (Rev.12:9) and as such the world has his understanding of antichrist. And you know as well as I do that he will not expose any of his lies. But I will tell you, Mr. Dankenbring, what Satan will do in the not too distant future, he being the liar that he is, and the father of lies (John 8:44). He will say that we who do spiritually confess Jesus is come in the flesh are antichrist because we will not confess Jesus as God the Son, as part of the Trinity lie. The way the world already does, and those who don’t now, will, to save their hides. Unless called by God and given understanding and not loving their lives unto death (Rev.12:11).

“We will be hated by all the world for the sake of Yeshuah’s name (Matt.10:22). And when the ‘Christians’ kill us, they will ‘think that they do God service’ (John 16:2). It won’t be the first time God’s church has been persecuted.

“Once the Protestants, Catholics, and others join forces the way they are, we who do follow the living GOD will be the odd man out, as we will not join ourselves to them. Nor confess the Trinity lie as our Spirit is of GOD and not of the world (I John 4:13-15).

“In short, Mr. Dankenbring, the ‘antichrist’ has been keeping antichrist hidden from the world to keep them from looking into it too closely. He can’t have people wondering about this and asking questions, now can he?

“ ‘Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed: and hid that shall not be known. What I tell you in darkness that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops’ (Matt.10:26-28).

“YHVH bless you”

-- Texas

COMMENT: write for our free article, “What Is the Spirit of Antichrist?” for further insight and exposition on this fascinating, vitally important subject!

* * *

“All Praise and Glory to our Father and King!!! And a big Hello and thank you for your May/June issue. What a blessing for me who seems to be continually surrounded by darkness and perversity; to know that we are soon to be expecting the arrival of our Mighty Shepherd – our LORD. The signs are truly all around us.

“It is also a blessing to read from others who receive your subscription to hear of men – brothers – fasting and seeking the Almighty and His will with all their hearts. It’s an exciting time and soon we will be called to stand for the ‘Faithful,’ and for Israel and against all that surrounds us. All we have to do is ‘stand’ and our Father will do the rest. Thank you for all your love, time and efforts that go into the LORD’s ministry, for keeping us up to date on the affairs of the world and warning all of the wrath to come.

“Soon we will have a True King and Righteous Government. Patience, and let’s not forget our love for one another and those around us. Prayer and Fasting, and living by and through and in His Holy Spirit, we will conquer, and by His Word.

“Love to you all. Come Lord Emmanuel. Come!”

-- Texas

“Thank you for the May-June 2008 issue of Prophecy Flash! I fell asleep reading it and woke up the next day (today) and finished reading it and went back and studied it in detail.

“This October will be 15 years that I’ve been in prison . God saved me and convicted me of my crimes back in October of 1993, so I turned myself in and confessed to my crimes. I’ve been free yet incarcerated ever since. I did not know God or His Word until He began His work in me so many years ago. So I’ve received my Biblical education from inside these prison walls where there’s every form of doctrine and belief under the sun. This has challenged me to use His Word in discerning Truth. I am in 24-7 lockdown so I spend the majority of every day in study and God is truly blessing my obedience.

“One night several weeks ago, I was laying in my bunk when I heard someone telling another person about your magazine. The other person asked for your address and God told me to get up and write it down too, and I did. Yesterday I received my first issue of Prophecy Flash! and that’s when I fell asleep reading it because we didn’t get our mail until late. As I said, I’ve been going over it all day today and over the years God has taught me how to discern the ‘good’ materials from the ‘bad,’ and I am rejoicing that God has blessed you with the knowledge and understanding of His Word. Please send me more of your publications. . . .

“Further, you explain that August 1, 2008 (Av 1), is the first of three consecutive partial solar eclipses, the last being July 11,, 2010 (Av 1). Then you also share that four lunar eclipses will occur on God’s Holy Days in the years 2014 and 2015 with two solar eclipses occurring in 2015

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as well. If my math is correct, from 2008 to 2015 is SEVEN years. Should the year 2008 actually be the beginning of the tribulation, then there would be a significant event occur at that time. It has been reported that on March 13, 2008, a ‘closed door’ session was held by the United States House of Representatives, this being only the fourth time in the history of the United States of such a meeting.

“It has further been reported that what was discussed in the ‘closed door’ meeting was the imminent collapse of the U.S. economy to occur by September 2008 (August 2008:?). (The Last Trumpet, May 2008). While it is true that we cannot know the day nor the hour, Jesus clearly stated that we may know the season”

-- Texas

“God bless your ministry. After years of study I’ve found a true Pastor. Only 23 years of age, I grew up a Christian. I found myself lost and ended up here in the Michigan prison. Today I teach hundreds of inmates the Word of God. But, there’s a big problem, because I taught them only half of the truth. I knew for a long time there was more I needed to learn. I started at the root. I studied the OT hard. Then I came across your ministry.

“I need you to help me, to Pastor me, so that I can be an effective follower and teacher of the truth. I don’t make much money, but I want to make a commitment to help your ministry, making you my home, whenever I can. I make \$34 dollars a month. I need to receive all your articles and booklets dealing with basic doctrine and Holy Days of God so I can learn where I’ve went wrong and rebuild my faith around the truth.

“I love your Prophecy Flash. God is truly working through you. I promise to pray and stay in touch.”

-- Michigan