

Church of God-21st Century
P.O. Box 893909
Temecula, CA 92589

September 1, 2009

Dear Family and friends,

Since my letter of July 12th a change concerning the printing of the ABP booklet has developed.

A Church member agreeing to provide finances for the printing of this booklet has run into personal difficulties and is now unable to accommodate in paying for the printing of this new "memorial" booklet.

Through much prayer God is sending His blessings. So far, a Church member in Australia has generously donated \$1,000.00.

A family in Colorado recently sent a check for \$1,000.00 towards this project as well.

With God ALL things are possible if He is in agreement with our prayer requests. Again, words cannot describe my joy and appreciation to those offering to help make possible what my husband was not able to complete. This unique project is not only for God's people, but to inform those whom God is calling during this end-time as alarming events continue to develop in our country.

I wish to share a letter I received from a family in Ohio. "Dear Mrs. McNair, Enclosed is a 1st tithe check.... We hope you can use this money to finish your husband's booklet and make it available to those interested in it. We know you have been working hard in making your husband's dream a reality. If you need more financing, please let us know how much is needed and perhaps we will be able to help! We admire your dedication in performing the Work & caring for the brethren! Our prayers are with you! In Christian love...."

Could anyone refrain from giving praise and thanks to God for sending such faithful supporters?

Just this past Monday I received another donation. "Dear Mrs. McNair, Enclosed you will find a contribution toward the printing of Mr. McNair's booklet, 'America and Britain in Prophecy.' To understand a man, you must know his memories. The same is true of a nation. [I] look forward to hearing how this project progresses, in paying tribute to someone we look forward to seeing in the not-too-distant future. With love,"

Enclosed were two money orders amounting to \$1,000.00. We are almost half there.

I wish to share an interesting incident that occurred a few weeks ago. Occasionally I will listen to the Glenn Beck morning radio program. This day I happened to be fasting. Mr. Beck, a Mormon, admits that he and his staff have prayer each morning before his radio program. He has terrific drive to inform his listeners about the evil

corruption in this present government and our country's continual downfall.

On this day a male listener called in and began a conversation with Mr. Beck. The person identified himself by name as he told Glenn about his job as a grocery bag-boy. He bragged how he had made 12 trillion dollars in this job and had been doing this since 1918. Before the end of this brief call, an interesting thing happened! A comment came from this caller, "I've been working on 'this' for millions of years....Obama keeps going with my agenda, but he's not the one!"

I was chilled at this comment wondering who was really behind these words.

Weeks later, again listening to the Glenn Beck radio program in my car, a woman caller, born in Austria, told Mr. Beck that she was concerned about Obama's leadership. "His personality, his haughtiness, charisma, and lying reminds me of Adolf Hitler," she said. Glenn Beck told her that he had many callers who expressed this same view.

It is well known that Satan possessed and controlled Hitler. Hitler said he had "fallen from heaven." A similar description of Satan is read in Isaiah 14.

I looked for some reference and found this: Hitler's next goal was to take over half of Czechoslovakia. His excuse was that he wished to liberate the three and a quarter million Germans who lived in Sudetenland. Czechoslovakia began mobilizing for war. Hitler feared that England and France might side with Czechoslovakia and begin a general war. The Czechs defiance put Hitler into rage. "How dare they accuse Germany of being about to commit aggression?" The French and British, however, wanted peace at any price. They sent Edouard Daladier and Nevill Chamberlain to meet the German dictator and offer a deal-- they would allow Hitler to take half of Czechoslovakia. Hitler's response? "I have fallen from heaven!" Sound familiar? Hitler, of course, took all of Czechoslovakia. (end of reference)

Continuing along with this same write-up: God announces through the mouths of those whom He has chosen.... When Hitler spoke, many Germans became **transfixed under his hypnotic spell.**

End-time persecution will befall God's Church and many of His people. Those whom Satan motivates blindly believe they belong to or are a part of God's spiritual body. They persecute those whom God uses!

Christ's rebuke to them: "I never knew you: depart from me, you that work iniquity" (Matt. 4:23). God's Spirit inspires love and outgoing concern towards one another. Satan's tool is any attempt to destroy one's character. Could this be any of you toward a brother (or sister)?

The COG21.org website is coming along. A few changes still need to be made before all can come together and be placed on the website. We ask for God's guidance and know He is providing.

My heartfelt appreciation to those supporting God's Work and to those contributing to my husband's memorial booklet.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Eve McNair

Church of God-21st Century

P.O. Box 893909
Temecula, CA 92589

July 12, 2009

Dear family and friends,

Perhaps this will be the last correspondence before I begin using my time and energy for the COG-21 website. I will begin making positive changes this coming August when I obtain full control of this site.

A new front page for our COG-21 website has just been completed. It is rich with brilliant colors, easy to read and designed in good taste, as God, Mr. Armstrong and Mr. McNair would want it. Adding new changes should provide further interest to those familiar with this site, yet will aid those still searching for spiritual knowledge.

Many have not yet heard or read God's Truth from the websites that are made available. We pray that God will inspire those whom He is working with to visit these sites. The COG-21 website will continue to provide the writings of Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong and Mr. Raymond F. McNair. New contacts write to express their appreciation, for this I am pleased.

Among other links, a new link entitled, "Do You Believe in Miracles?" will be added. Discouragement and hopelessness is becoming the normal emotion in our country. Many are looking for some means of encouragement during these difficult and financially stressful times. If anyone has a "miracle" story to contribute, we would appreciate sharing some of them with our readers on this new link. You can send your story to our post office box address in Temecula, California.

God certainly takes care of His widows: Two years ago our next door neighbor asked that we not allow any overhanging branches from our trees into his yard. A high wooden fence separates the two families, so it was no problem that his request be met.

Every once in a while I look from my upstairs window to enjoy the view. Recently I noticed that a huge tree in our neighbor's yard had extended its branches into my yard. This has never been a problem, yet this time I noticed the branches from my neighbor's tree were covered with little apricots and the branches over-hanging to my side carried more fruit than those on my neighbor's side. In just a few days fruit began dropping from this tree. It was my pleasure to collect these lovely "first fruits" that had fallen on the ground. Yes, God takes care of His widows.

When crushing the hard apricot pit and eating the somewhat bitter seed inside along with the sweet fruit, provides a natural laetrile. Laetrile helps in combating cancer.

Hopefully in a few months, perhaps after this Feast of Tabernacles, your special copy of "America and Britain in Prophecy" will be mailed to you. God has provided the cost for the printing of these brochures through a COG-21 member. May God richly bless this member for his kind and thoughtful gesture. This brochure is to serve as a "memorial" to my husband since he died before its completion. A

hard copy will also be made available to those requesting it from our COG-21 website.

For those of you still wishing to support our COG-21 website, a "pay-pal" will be provided. My appreciation in advance for your support.

In closing, I wish to express my utmost, heartfelt thanks to those of you who have so kindly reached out to me with monetary gifts. I ask that God in turn will provide His blessings to you. Each day is a stepping stone towards healing during my grief and my loss. Many of you have experienced a similar loss of a loved one. Thankfully our comfort is in knowing that our long-awaited reunion lies ahead.

Lastly, I am enclosing a letter written by my husband two years ago. In typing it so that I can send it as a hard copy, I am convinced that sending this at this time is inspired by God. I hope you will find it helpful and of utmost interest. Although written years ago, this sober warning still holds serious emphasis for God's people today.

Thank you again for your continued support to the Church of God-21st Century.

Sincerely,



Eve McNair

February 23, 2007

Greetings,

Brethren, this is the time of the end when prophecies hidden for ages are being revealed. TRUTH has been restored, knowledge is rapidly increasing. But knowledge brings RESPONSIBILITY; it becomes dangerous if not rightly handled.

Notice Jesus' LAST WARNING to His church. At the VERY CLOSE of this age, when the work of spreading the gospel is almost finished, Jesus addressed yet another Church—the "Church at Laodicea": "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: ...I WILL SPEW THEE OUT OF MY MOUTH" (Rev. 3:15, 16).

This frightful condition is now upon us. Just as the remnants of the Sardis era of God's Church existed side by side with the Philadelphia era, SO WILL WE CONTINUE OUR WORK in this "end-time" side by side with other groups—groups not accounted worthy to escape the coming tribulation. Separate works have risen—made up of begotten individuals who are spiritually lukewarm! WOE BE TO ANY OF US IF WE TAKE PART IN SUCH A WORK! These works are now saying: "I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing." And Jesus will reply: "As many as I LOVE, I rebuke and chasten: be ZEALOUS therefore, and repent."

Brethren, it is time to WAKE UP! If you become complacent, lacking in zeal, looking upon a local church as a social club, practicing coattail religion instead of having your heart in the gospel, you too may find yourself in the "Church of Laodicea" left to suffer the impending, horrifying tribulation!

Notice Jesus' admonition for today in Luke 21:36. "WATCH ye therefore and PRAY ALWAYS, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape ALL these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Church Jesus founded was prophesied to be a SCATTERED church, SMALL IN NUMBER, rejected by the world, its people often without personal fellowship with other brethren!

While we are instructed in Heb. 10:23-25—"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works; NOT FORSAKING THE ASSEMBLING OF OURSELVES TOGETHER, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as you see the day approaching"—yet, notice carefully, we are not instructed to assemble with blinded, deceived people in the various splits and splinters. The instruction is "not to forsake the assembling of OURSELVES together"—that is, truly begotten brethren who have the TRUTH, who are filled with God's Holy Spirit, truly converted, and WALKING IN THE LIGHT, living by every Word of God. It is time you know why!

They reject the government of God, all the while giving lip service to His Apostle! All the various splits and splinters make up the "Church of Laodicea." It is an ORGANIZED ERA, even though divided into dozens of organizations. Shall those truly begotten JOIN, and thus BECOME A PART OF this luke-warm era?

They are spiritually lukewarm, unable to see clearly Bible TRUTH—their spiritual eyesight is blurred. They are spiritually BLIND!

The truth is, GOD DID NOT PLANT THESE ORGANIZATIONS. Jesus said, "Every plant which my heavenly father hath not planted shall be rooted up. LET THEM ALONE: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, they both shall fall into the ditch" (Matt. 15:13-14).

The Bible does not say we are to assemble with those in the grips of a Laodicean attitude, but with OURSELVES—THOSE WHO ARE TRULY CONVERTED.

We are not to assemble on Sabbath with an apostatizing group which gives "lip service" to God's Apostle, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong yet finds error in his basic teachings. God is not in these splits and splinters. They merely assemble themselves together, by their own authority and not by the command of God.

If you are converted and were made righteous by the Spirit of God, "what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness and what communion hath light with darkness?" (II Cor. 6:14).

God commands us, "Have NO FELLOWSHIP with the unfruitful works of darkness" (Eph 5:11). If God has opened your understanding to His TRUTH, it is precious beyond price. "If there come any to you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him Godspeed, for he that biddeth him Godspeed is partaker of his evil deeds." (II John 10:11).

When the disciples asked Jesus if MANY were being saved, He explained that the many turn into the broad way that leads to destruction—but FEW find the straight and narrow way that leads to everlasting life. Those in His true fellowship He called the "LITTLE FLOCK."

Remember, our fellowship is WITH THE FATHER, AND JESUS CHRIST, first of all, and with one another ONLY IN AND THROUGH CHRIST (I John 1:17). You can have communion and fellowship with Him wherever you are. Withdraw at once from all other fellowships, except that of CHRIST and those who are IN CHRIST and CHRIST IN THEM.

Jesus Christ writes to the "church at Philadelphia": "I know thy works: behold, I HAVE SET BEFORE THEE AN OPEN DOOR, and no man can shut it: FOR THOU HAST A LITTLE STRENGTH, AND HAST KEPT MY WORD AND HAST NOT DENIED MY NAME" (Rev. 3:8).

Here is a Church with little strength, few in numbers, but which has kept the Word of God; one which has not denied the truth, nor God's end-time Apostle. Here is a Church poised to preach the gospel with power because Jesus promises to set before it AN OPEN DOOR until the work of the Church is completed. Just as Herbert W. Armstrong had set before him AN OPEN DOOR.

Here is a Church which Jesus loves despite its smallness! Here is a Church to which He says; "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience [which Jesus interprets in Revelation 14:12 as KEEPING THE COMMANDMENTS and the faith], I also will keep thee FROM THE HOUR OF TEMPTATION WHICH SHALL COME UPON ALL THE WORLD, TO TRY THEM THAT DWELL UPON THE EARTH" (Rev. 3:10). This verse pictures a Church which is preaching the true gospel just prior to the last great time of trouble that will engulf all the world.

It is a FEW—not many—who understand the Truth in this age. "For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, NOT many mighty, NOT many noble, are called" (I Cor. 1:26). The world CANNOT receive the truth (John 1:5). Jesus explained why, by saying,

"Men love darkness rather than light, BECAUSE THEIR DEEDS ARE EVIL"
(John 3:19).

Today, a mere twenty years after the death of Herbert W. Armstrong, we see local congregations, many of whom are no longer composed of truly converted brethren, but of unconverted children and half-hearted believers who will either go aside into total error in the face of soon coming persecution, or they will be forced to give up their lives for the faith, as Daniel prophesied.

Some today have set themselves up as Apostles and Prophets. Not only Paul, but also Peter warned the churches that MANY would be misled. False teachers among Christians would bring in heresies, "...and MANY shall follow their pernicious ways, by reason of whom the WAY OF TRUTH shall be evil spoken of" (II Pet. 2:2). "Even now have many antichrists arisen.... THEY WENT OUT FROM US (they left the True Church), but they were not of us, for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us, but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us" (I John 2:18-19).

Satan is deceiving many into taking part in worldly politics in the hope of safeguarding themselves. Mixing with politics of this world is called "fornication" in Revelation 17:12. God's Church is to be a virgin and remain pure and SEPARATE FROM THE WORLD, waiting for the marriage to Christ (II Cor. 11:2). Jude, the apostle and brother of Jesus, had to include in his letter the stern admonition that all truly begotten brethren "should earnestly contend for the faith which was ONCE delivered unto the saints. FOR THERE ARE CERTAIN MEN CREPT IN UNAWARES, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men TURNING THE GRACE OF GOD INTO LASCIVIOUSNESS, and denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.... These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the spirit" (Jude 3 and 19).

The true Church---the "Church of God" (I Cor. 1:2)--is not many divided, quarreling splits and splinters, but ONE Church, composed of many scattered members, ONE Church united in Spirit, mind, attitude and heart, because its members have totally yielded to correction and reproof from the Word of God--the Bible.

The ONE Church which will be protected from the soon coming tribulation is the collective body of those SCATTERED individuals who have God's Holy Spirit, who admit when they are wrong, as the Apostle Peter did when he made a serious mistake (Gal. 2:11), and who accepted the Truth.

Have you made a mistake? Were you wrong in fellowshiping with others that have fallen away? Admit you were wrong, return to the TRUTH you accepted and GROW in it!

Notice Jesus' promise in John 16: 13, He would send the spirit of truth who will GUIDE YOU INTO all truth.

Here is the KEY that proves which individuals are in God's Church. It is composed ONLY of those who are GROWING IN TRUTH AND GRACE as God reveals it. The moment anyone ceases to GROW, but wants to retain only what he had five or ten years ago, FROM THAT MOMENT ON THE HOLY SPIRIT CEASES TO LIVE IN HIM OR HER.

Jesus revealed that the majority of Christians at the end of this age would be spiritually blinded, and naked--thinking they were "spiritually" O.K.! Nearly 2000 years ago, Christ foresaw that the "end-time generation of Christians" would be spiritually wretched and miserable! Clearly, Jesus prophesied that the general condition and attitude of the Christians living in the final Church era would be characterized by deplorable lukewarmness, spiritual blindness, and shameful nakedness--rendering them spiritually "wretched and miserable"

(v. 17). The condition and attitude that exists today in God's Church is cause for repentance among ALL God's people.

What about you?

You did not "join" the body of Christ. God made you a part of it through His Holy Spirit after COMPLETE REPENTANCE, BAPTISM, AND A TOTAL CHANGE of attitude. You remain in the One True Church ONLY by CONTINUING in this right attitude and by OVERCOMING through prayer, faith and obedience.

DO YOU CONTINUE DAILY IN YOUR REPENTANCE?

The "small still voice" instructing you, "this is the way, walk ye in it" guides you in repentance daily. It is God's Holy Spirit dwelling in you, the same Holy Spirit He gave Christ. If a person, because of the hardness of his heart, ceases to listen to that "small still voice" which convicts us of sin, begins the FALL FROM GRACE. If anyone in God's True Church seeks righteousness any other way, then he has fallen from Grace and crucifies Christ anew. To repent means more than merely being sorry, or remorseful. It means a CHANGE OF HEART—a CHANGE OF ATTITUDE—a CHANGE FROM "GET" TO "GIVE." From competition, vanity, coveting power and position, to harmonious cooperation. There is only One True Church. It exists in the here and now!

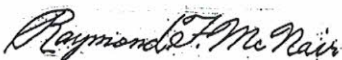
I ask the question, "Have you ever really repented?" in LOVE, not only for you, but also for GOD'S True Church. God's True Church will continue to exist and a promise of protection will be upheld, perhaps without you. It can proclaim the last warning message and go on to meet Christ in the air at His return WITHOUT YOU!

Some of you have gone backward and not forward since God first called you. You have lost your "first love." You need that "first love" to enter into God's Kingdom.

Do you have the same zeal and love for the Work and Truth of God now that you had when you were first converted? If not, you had better change now. Here is Christ's instruction for you: "Remember therefore from whence thou art FALLEN, and REPENT, AND DO THE FIRST WORKS..." (Rev. 2:5).

It behooves all of us to examine ourselves and make certain we are truly God fearing, Spirit led children of God. None of us want to hear Christ tell us, "Depart from Me, you workers of iniquity...!"

Sincerely, in Jesus Christ's name,



Raymond F. McNair

COG-21 WATCHMAN

News Effecting God's Church in the 21st Century

Africa Seeks a Single Currency: March 8, 2009. Globalization marches on as politicians seek to recreate Euro in Africa.

In a recent meeting of the African Union in Nairobi, Kenya, African economists put their heads together in an attempt to create a single African currency, similar to that of the Euro in Europe. This group will continue to work on the proposal over the next few months, and will be making recommendations to the various heads of state during a summit this July.

Establishing a common currency would have the effect of uniting the continent of Africa, both economically and politically. The Afro would facilitate trade, lower the cost of conducting business on the continent, and reduce the confusion caused when multiple currencies are used.

Washington experts: Iran has fissile material for 50 nuclear bombs. Washington sources quote experts familiar with the Iranian program maintain that it is far more advanced than the U.S. and Israeli governments are willing to admit.

On March 4th, the Washington Institute for Near East Policy published a paper with two important disclosures: 1) Iran has enough fissile material available for making up to 50 nuclear bombs. One of the paper's authors, William Schneider, undersecretary of state in the Reagan administration, who has made a study of Iran and its nuclear strategy, estimates that Tehran can go from enriched uranium to weapons-grade uranium in a relatively brief period of time, perhaps a year or so. 2) Schneider estimates that Israel will face the moment of no-return on action against a nuclear-armed Iran when Russia begins delivering sophisticated S-300 missile interceptors to Tehran.

Iran military chief: Our missiles can hit Israel nuclear sites. Iranian missiles can reach Israeli nuclear sites, a top military commander said on Wednesday, amid persistent speculation that Israel could target facilities involved in Iran's atomic work. Last month, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Iran would welcome talks with the U.S. but only if there was mutual respect. Iranian officials have said that means the U.S. needs to stop accusing Iran of seeking to build nuclear weapons and supporting terrorism, charges Tehran has denied. On Wednesday, Ahmadinejad urged the United States to change its satanic ways if it is serious about wanting change.

Europe seems increasingly incapable of a new beginning: In Europe, the situation is cause for growing concern, because the global economic crisis is relentlessly laying bare the European Union's flaws and limitations.

What Europe lost, first and foremost, with the rejection of the constitutional treaty to strengthen the structure of its unity is now obvious: its faith in itself and its common future. Amidst this worst crisis since 1929, America has opted for a truly new beginning with the election of Barack Obama as president, and is now in the process of reinventing itself.

By contrast, each passing day seems to drive European Union members farther apart. Rather than reinventing itself, Europe, under the pressure of the global financial crisis and its own contradictions, threatens to revert to the national egoism and protectionism that prevailed in the past.

Europe today has a common currency and the European Central Bank, which has proven to be the strength in defending monetary stability during the financial crisis. Any weakening of these two institutions would cause more severe damage to common European interests. The behavior of the EU member governments during the past months has doubts about whether they see things this way.

Confidence in Italy, Spain, Ireland, Portugal, and Greece is rapidly evaporating, while the stronger economies in northern Europe are doing better, although they are struggling as well. There are significant differences within the EU and the euro zone, reflected by increasingly divergent interest rates.

The European Union is a project designed for mutual economic progress. Europe today lacks the political will for states to act in unison. Here is where Germany and France must together lead the way.

Newsletter, 3-6-09. World's Spy Champion: Gelsdorf, Germany: Having launched a new reconnaissance satellite-based system, the German Bundeswehr is celebrating its enhanced capacity for carrying out independent military operations. This new reconnaissance capacity has drastically reduced its "dependence on other countries" in the field of security policy. The spy satellites will not only provide information to the Bundeswehr but also to the foreign intelligence service.

The U.S. Financial System is Effectively Insolvent: For those who argue that the rate of growth of economic activity is turning positive—the latest data does not confirm this optimism. In 2008's fourth quarter, gross domestic product fell by about 6% in the U.S., 6% in the euro zone and 8% in Germany, 12% in Japan. There is a rising risk of a global L-shaped depression that would be even worse than the current, painful U-shaped global recession.

For the Treasury to hide the "systemic risk" excuse to fork out another \$30 billion to AIG is a polite way to say that without such a bailout, major U.S. banks would already be fully insolvent today.

Jerusalem Post: His master's voice. Shortly after Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was elected Iran's fifth post-revolutionary president in July 2005, he convened a cabinet meeting for an urgent discussion of one of the issues closest to his heart—the return of the 12th imam. All streams of Islam believe in a divine savior, known as the mahdi, who will appear at the end of days. For many Shi'a Muslims, the 12th imam, Muhammad ibn Hassan, a direct descendant of the Prophet Muhammad, is the main object of their faith. Those who worship him are known as "Twelvers," a cult. The Iranian's believe the return of the 12th imam will be preceded by cosmic chaos, war and bloodshed, and then lead the world to universal peace. Ahmadinejad believes he must turn Iran into a modern and divine country to be the model for all nations, and which will serve as the basis for the return of the 12th imam. He declares that Israel was a "disgraceful blot" that should be wiped of the face of the earth, supporting and quoting Ayatollah Khomeini. The new American president is keen to establish a dialogue with Teheran, and Ahmadinejad himself made some encouraging noises towards Obama following his convincing election victory last November, offering his personal congratulations—the first time Iran has issued an official goodwill message to an American leader since the 1979 revolution. Obama may well want to improve relations with Iran. But even his considerable powers of persuasion are unlikely to break through the mind-set of a regime steadfastly committed to upholding the banner of radical Islam and implementing the legacy of Khomeini's revolution.

How Verheugen is Winning Praise in Europe: While distrust of Germany is growing, a German official, of all people, is trying to steer Europe out of the crisis. European Union Industry Commissioner, Gunter Verheugen is suddenly garnering applause. Speaking of praise of himself, he said that for weeks he had displayed "a firm hand and a cool head" while fighting for his plan to help Brussels find its own role in the economic crisis. The Commissioner agreed on a plan that it now plans to present to the heads of state and government of the 27 member states when they come together for a summit meeting at the end of next week. Much of the plan bears Verheugen's writing. "I achieved everything I wanted," he says proudly. Now, only half a year before he is scheduled to retire. Verheugen is fighting his way back into favor, just at a time when the economic crisis threatens to derail "Project Europe."

Iran caught red-handed: A United States Nations Security Council committee confirmed on Tuesday that Iran violated U.N. sanctions by trying to send a ship with weapons to Syria. The high-explosive shells, including those that can pierce armor and anti-tank explosives may have been destined for Hamas terrorists in Gaza. The U. S. has banned Iran from exporting weapons or materials for the manufacture of arms. The ship, chartered by the Islamic Republic of Iran, has been docked in Cyprus since January 29 when Cypriot authorities unloaded it and said there were no weapons aboard, although it found material that could be used to make ammunition.

Nuclear weapons & global security: All the evidence indicates that the existing U.S. stockpile of nearly 10,000 nuclear warheads is highly reliable and that it will remain so for many decades. Based on an extensive testing and monitoring program at the three nuclear laboratories, the Secretaries of Energy and Defense have certified to the president each year since 1997, that all warheads types in the U.S. nuclear stockpile are safe, secure and reliable. The plutonium components in these warheads have a lifetime of at least 85 years or longer. Developing and producing several new types of warheads, which would take two

decades, could also raise concern among other nuclear weapon states and be a barrier in nuclear arsenals worldwide.

Strike on Iran a concrete opinion, Washington: Lieutenant-General Gabi Ashkenazi, who is on an official visit to the United States, told his American colleagues Monday that the Iranian threat could still be handled via sanctions, but stressed that an Israeli military strike was a “serious” option. Any final decision pertaining to a possible Israeli course of action against Iran would be made by the government and not by him, that as head of the Israeli Defense Forces he has been asked to come up with various contingencies and that a military operation was concrete.

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Along with each WATCHMAN report, there will be updated information by Mr. Gerald Celente, Founder and Director of Trends Research Institute.

Mr. Celente provides insights and directions in anticipation of what may occur in the future, which will involve most of us.

His warnings are similar to what God’s Apostle, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong taught, only in more alarming detail. His warnings sound out, like a trumpet to prepare for the unexpected.

“During the grim times of the Great Depression, arts and entertainment flourished, and with the repeal of Prohibition the good rimes rolled. ...and they’ll roll again. Lifting spirits and drinking them, will be big businesses and major pastimes for both the down-and outs and the Uptown crowd during the Greatest Depression.” says Mr. Celente.

God’s Word reveals major calamities are prophesied. Mr. Celente is *one* “voice” warning America before it is too late!

Trendpost: “Stay abreast of ongoing Middle East developments.” (Sound familiar, echoing Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong?).

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Paul Joseph Watson, PRISON PLANET.COM: “Frighteningly accurate trends forecaster Gerald Celente says that America will see riots similar to those currently ongoing in Greece and that the cause will be a hyper-inflationary depression, leading to the inevitable use of troops and mercenaries to deal with the crisis as Americans are incarcerated in internment camps.

“As we have highlighted before, Celente’s accuracy is routinely cited even by mainstream news networks as highly credible. The 1987 crash, the sub-prime mortgage crisis and the ‘panic of 2008.’ Hyper-inflationary depression will cause Americans to revolt. The trouble would be sparked off by Obama declaring a ‘bank holiday’ whereby people won’t be able to withdraw their money.

“Mr. Celente predicts a revolution and riots in America, and said that the first signs of it could even emerge before the end of this year using troops being brought back to America for ‘domestic security’ to suppress the riots”

“THE GREATEST DEPRESSION” UNDER WAY: Kingston, NY, Mar.2, 2009—“The Greatest Depression” is upon us. The global financial markets are collapsing. All the pundit’s cautious predictions and business media’s hopeful expectations at the New Year for an economic turn around and imminent market bottom were dead wrong. There will be no turn around in the second quarter of 2009 or 2010 or 2011. America and much of the world has entered “The Greatest Depression.”

The global financial system, built on endless supplies of cheap money, rampant speculation, fraud, greed, and delusion is terminally ill and will not be coaxed into remission by stimulus packages nor restored to health by government buyouts and bailouts.

As the crisis worsens, governments will take draconian measures to prevent total economic collapse and public panic. We have cautioned the likelihood of such measures before. But the rapidly and severity of the economic unraveling now demands immediate attention.

Expect massive bank failures, runs on banks, and bank holidays. Even if deposits are FDIC insured, quick access to money is by no means assured. At minimum, have reserves on hand for emergencies.

Israeli War to Ignite: Threatens global economy and possibly spark WW III: Israel's invasion of Gaza sets up the United States and any other nation supporting Israel as terror targets, predicts Mr. Celente. Should Israel continue the invasion, or take the war beyond Gaza, the world risks both a 1973-style oil shock and global conflict.

Throughout 2008, reports had been circulating that Israel was planning a military strike against Iran's major nuclear complex at Natanz. "While President Bush has made scores of disastrous foreign policy decisions during his reign, he should be congratulated for turning down Israeli's request for specialized bunker-busting bombs needed to take out the nuclear facility" says Mr. Celente.

"An attack on Iran by either Israel or the U.S. would spark the onset of World War III. If oil producers sympathetic to the Palestinian cause cut the flow of oil, or if they cut supply in fear of being the next Israeli target, the world will go from a terrible recession immediately into the 'Greatest Depression!'"

Trendpost: When the ship is sinking there are very few options. Life boats, life rafts, life preservers...and for the late to act, possibly a few pieces of floating debris to cling to.

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A BRIEF NOTE OF INTEREST When God's Apostle, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong met with leaders of various countries, he presented them with a gift, usually Steuben crystal, as a token from our great country, America. Below, a radio commentators' description of how our current president and his wife are embarrassing our country through their lack of diplomacy.

"...This is a bunch of videos! That is usually not what the president gives. Usually it is a gift to the Head of State of something of significance, something that signifies how deep our friendship was, it also says something about our country, our resources, and our heritage.

"...You don't just give a bunch of DVD's.... He didn't even get movies they could watch over in England! Its' not the same technology!

"And what did we receive as a gift? Barack Obama was given a pen made from the wood of the HMS Resolute. The [USS] Resolute was one of the big warships that went to the Arctic Circle and got stuck in the ice. Eventually the ice breaks and America returns her as a gift asking for forgiveness for everything we've gone through in the past fifty, seventy-five years, we are brothers."

"When the Resolute is decommissioned, Queen Elizabeth takes the wood and makes two desks, one for her and one for the president. This is as significant as France giving us the Statue of Liberty. It is the desk that sits in the Oval Office. There are only two of them, one with the queen, one with us. This is such a historic desk.

"Gordon Brown meets with the president and gives him a set of pens made from the wood of the USS Resolute to match the desk. Barack Obama hands him a basket of DVD's that he can't play!

"Michelle Obama grabs a couple of boxes of Marine One helicopter models and gives them to Mrs. Brown. It shows the arrogance, of this administration! They obviously are not listening to the state department on something this important as a gift!

"And the worst part of it, the bust of Winston Churchill! There are two of these. England gave this bust to the president for the White House right after 911 as a sign of standing together. It has been sitting in the Oval Office since 911. Barack Obama says, 'We'er gonna box this up and you can take it home with you.'

"Gordon Brown says, 'No, no, no, Mr. President, that was a gift from the people of England after 911. If you want to keep that in one of your museums you may keep it, but please, no, no, that was a gift, that wasn't to borrow, we didn't just lend that out to you, that's a gift from us.' Barack says, 'Well, no, no, that's okay, we don't want it.' And he's sending the bust of Winston Churchill back to England!"

* * * * *

An "Anointed Cherub" Turned into "Ashes"?

There are two important O.T. scriptures (Isa. 14 & Ezek. 28) which some think reveal that the *devil* will some day be changed from *spirit* into *matter*, so that he can *die*, thereby being reduced to "ashes." Remember Christ's words that "the EVERLASTING FIRE [will be] prepared for the DEVIL and his angels" (Matt. 25:41).

The enigmatic 28th chapter of Ezekiel contains an amazing prophecy concerning Satan. Verses 1 through 10 speak of the great wisdom, riches and glory of the *human* "prince of Tyre" who would ultimately suffer the loss of both his life and all his material possessions. And he would "die the death of the slain," eventually losing everything (v. 8). But the most amazing part of this prophecy is found in verses 11 through 19. In this prophecy, God tells us what will someday happen to the "KING OF TYRE," which, when rightly understood, can only refer to SATAN! The Lord GOD makes this amazing pronouncement against this "king": "You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were IN EDEN, the garden of God; Every *precious stone* was your covering: The sardus, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were *created*. You were the ANOINTED CHERUB who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God [in heaven]; You walked back and forth in the midst of the fiery stones."

[Note. This 28th chapter of Ezekiel's prophecy clearly reveals that Satan (and presumably the angels under his supervision) had the power to assume *physical bodies* before their willful rebellion. We are told that Lucifer adorned his person with *precious stones* and *gold*, which angels in spirit-composed bodies could not do. When Satan and the angels were put on this earth, they were given physical bodies, but after their rebellion against God, He deprived them of their ability to assume material bodies. Unlike the "holy angels," who have often appeared in physical bodies and have had physical contact with humans (see Gen. 19), the *demons* can't now exercise that power. After the *recreation*, mentioned in the first chapter of Genesis, the evil spirits never once appear to humans in physical bodies. If wicked spirits could *materialize* today, and appear in physical bodies, this would be contrary to God's purpose for them. However, God now sometimes permits them to *possess* the minds of physical humans on earth today. After the creation of Adam and Eve, *man* was given authority over all the creatures on earth (Gen. 1:28), but God still allows Satan and his demons to exercise a certain degree of invisible, *spiritual control* over the peoples on this physical earth (Luke 4:5-8; Rev. 12:9). Interestingly, the Scriptures seem to indicate that, after the Millennium, Satan and his angels will be *transformed* from *spirit* into *flesh* (somewhat like Christ was *after* His resurrection)—for the purpose of being *annihilated* by their Creator in the *lake of fire* (Mt. 26:41; Rev. 20:10.)

Ezekiel also says this of Satan: "You were *perfect* in your ways from the day you were *CREATED*, till iniquity was found in you.... And you *SINNED*; Therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; And I *DESTROYED* you, O COVERING CHERUB, from the midst of the fiery stones. Your heart was lifted up because of your *beauty*; You corrupted your *wisdom* for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, that they might gaze at you...; Therefore I brought FIRE from your midst; It *devoured* you, and I TURNED YOU TO *AHES* upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you. All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at

you; You have become a horror, and **SHALL BE NO MORE FOREVER.**" This proud "ANOINTED CHERUB" became *vain* and *competitive* toward his Creator, sinned greatly, and as a result was cast out of God's presence. In fact, he and his angels were *cast down* to this earth, where they are presently confined in "chains of darkness" in "Tartaroo," which is a *place* and/or a *condition of restraint* (cf. Luke 18:10; 2 Pet. 2:4). This Scripture refers to a former, highly exalted "covering cherub" who had a *high position* at the very throne of God in heaven. After his heart became lifted up with *pride*, he tried to exalt "his throne" above the throne of God and elevate himself up above the other angels. The 14th chapter of Isaiah gives us additional interesting details of Satan's rebellion.

Lucifer's Great Pride And Tragic Mutiny

Some students of biblical prophecy believe that the well-known 14th chapter of Isaiah *may also indicate* that Satan will some day be *destroyed*! They think the early part of this chapter refers to the human king of Babylon, who was a *physical type* of Lucifer. According to this view, verses 12 through 14 clearly *shift* away from the human *type* to the *spiritual* antetype, LUCIFER. Nevertheless this passage of scripture can only be properly applied to *Lucifer*, who instigated an ancient rebellion against God, and ever since has been called "Satan" (meaning "adversary"), the archenemy of God. According to this view, verses 15 through 20 shifts from the proto-type, Lucifer, back *down to* the "human type," presumably Nebuchadnezzar, the King of Babylon.

Verses 4 through 11 clearly speak of a great human "king of Babylon" as a heavy-handed "oppressor" who "ruled the nations in anger." This human oppressor meets his fate when he is brought down to "sheol"—the grave. (v. 11). However, verses 12 through 14 can't possibly refer to any *human*, but clearly speak of the *spiritual king of Babylon* named *Lucifer* (cf. 2 Cor. 4:4; Luke 4:6-7; Eph. 2:2). "How you are fallen from heaven, O LUCIFER [Heb. *Helel* = "brightness"] son of the morning! How you are *cut down* to the ground, you who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: **I WILL ASCEND INTO HEAVEN, I will exalt MY THRONE above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north, I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High**" (vv. 12-14). [Note. "Lucifer" is a translation (into Latin, thence into English) of the Hebrew word "Helel," which means *brightness* or *shining one*. This scripture also says *Helel* is the "son of the morning"—that is, the "morning star."]

Do the mysterious things mentioned in Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28 refer to the same events which are mentioned in Revelation 20:10, showing that *Satan* will be cast into the *lake of fire*? Or does this prophecy merely describe what will happen to the *human leader* of modern Babylon, that is, the "Beast"? Is it possible that this scripture *implies* that the *spiritual king of Babylon (Satan/Lucifer)*, will be CHANGED from *spirit* into *flesh*, for the express purpose of suffering death? It is interesting to note that when Jesus was in the flesh, living as a human being, He told His disciples, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven" (Luke 10:18). Further, the book of Revelation clearly reveals that, at the end of this *evil age*, Satan and his angels will attempt to make another assault against God's very throne in heaven, but once again he and his demons will be cast back to this earth (Rev. 12: 7-17).

What will be Lucifer's ultimate fate? Some think verses 15 through 20 *also* apply to God's archenemy, Satan! The Bible then says, "Yet you [*Lucifer? Or, a human king?*] shall be brought down to SHEOL [the "grave"], to the lowest depths of *the Pit* [Heb. *bor*—cf. Rev. 20:1-3]. Those who see

you will gaze at you, and consider you, saying, 'Is this the *MAN* who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms, who... destroyed its cities, who did not open the house of his prisoners?' All the kings of the nations, all of them, sleep in glory, everyone in his own house; But *you* are cast out of your *grave* like an abominable branch, like the garment of those who are slain, thrust through with a sword, who go down to the stones of the *pit* [Heb. *bor*], like a *CORPSE* trodden under foot. You will *not* be joined with them in burial, because you have destroyed your land and slain your people" (vv. 15-20). The *one* spoken of here in verse 16 is called a "man." How could this scripture apply to *Lucifer*? You may be surprised to learn that God sometimes refers to "angels" as "men" (cf. Gen. 18 and 19). The LORD, and "two angels" who accompanied Him, are called "three *men* [Heb. *ish*]" (Gen. 18:2). Later in this chapter, we are told that the LORD stayed behind to speak with Abraham (vv. 17-23), while "the [two] men" journeyed on to Sodom (v. 22). But Genesis 19:1 refers to these "men" as "two angels." Since Genesis 18:2 speaks of the LORD and the *two men* who accompanied Him as though they were "three *men*," is it also possible that, in Isaiah's enigmatic prophecy, the Word of God could refer to a *transformed* "Lucifer" as being a "man"? Does this indicate that Lucifer will be changed from a *spirit* into a *fleshy being* for the purpose of being *burned up*, totally *annihilated*, by His Creator?

"What Is Satan's Fate?"

During the last few years several people have written papers concerning "Satan's Fate," or have inquired of God's ministers concerning this matter. In an interesting paper titled "What is Satan's Fate," the author includes numerous good points. However, this paper also makes certain assertions that do *not* appear to accurately represent the truth. Let us therefore examine the following statements:

STATEMENT #1: "It is apparent that all the angels were created with **IMMORTAL LIFE**, since those things that are *unseen*—spirit—are eternal (2 Cor.4:18)" ("What is Satan's Fate?" by Charles Hart, p.1).

Comment: The writer of "What Is Satan's Fate?" asserts that the angels were created *immortal*, yet we have seen that there are numerous biblical statements, which seem to *imply* that angels can *die*! As we have observed, the angels were created as "spirits" ("Who makes His angels spirits...."—Heb. 1:7), but this does *not* say that the One who created them could *not* also *destroy* them *if* they sinned willfully, and *if* God desired to do so. God's Word clearly states, "The WAGES of sin is DEATH" (Rom. 6:23). Some would *limit* this to "humans." But there is nothing in the Bible that says the penalty of "death" would *not* equally apply to any of those angels whom God created—*if* they *sinned willfully*?

STATEMENT #2: "In like manner, spirit beings, such as GOD and the ANGELS, are in the **CONDITION** of *immortality* (deathlessness), but only as long as they **REMAIN** spirit" (p. 17).

Comment: The above statement surely is *not* true. When Christ was "in the flesh" living on

this earth, He was both *human* and *divine*. He was worshipped as “God” (Heb. 1:6; Matt. 2:11; 8:2; 9:18). Jesus was in fact called the “Son of God,” as well as the “son of man”—possessing both “divine nature” and “human nature” at the same time! A great many angels continually ministered unto His needs, and were always ready to protect and deliver Him, as the 91st Psalm clearly states: “For He shall give *His angels* charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. They shall bear you up in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone” (Psa. 91:11-12). These same verses are quoted and misapplied by the *devil* in Matthew 4:6. Furthermore, immediately after Satan had finished tempting Jesus we read, “Then the devil left Him, and behold, *angels* came and ministered unto Him” (v. 11). And when a howling mob came to take Christ into custody, Peter drew his sword to defend Jesus, but was promptly rebuked by Christ: “Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions [about 72,000] of angels?”

Even though Jesus lived as a human in a fleshly body, nonetheless, as *God incarnate*, no being on earth or in the entire universe could harm Him *unless* and *until* the hour came when He was given over to Satan and sinful men to be crucified on behalf of all mankind. It was only when His hour had come—after Jesus Christ had voluntarily allowed the sins of all mankind to be placed on His shoulders—only then could Satan and evil men harm Him. “For He [the *Father*] made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him” (2 Cor. 5:21). Once Christ took our sins upon Himself, He thereby placed Himself voluntarily *under* the death penalty. He then had to die for our sins!

But after Jesus was resurrected, no being in the universe could have harmed Him in any way—whether He chose to manifest Himself on the *spirit plane* of existence, or on the *human plane*. In fact, after His resurrection, Jesus appeared more than once in a *physical body*. On one occasion, His disciples “were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen *a spirit*. And He said to them, ‘Why are you troubled? Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I myself. Handle Me and see, for *a spirit* does not have FLESH and BONES as you see I have” (John 24:37-39).

The Word of God clearly reveals that once the *overcomers* come up in the “resurrection to life” they will never be able to die again—because they will then be IMMORTAL BEINGS, the eternal sons and daughters of God (Luke 20:34-38). Whether or not they will then exist on a *spiritual plane* (as “spirit beings”), or whether they appear in physical bodies on a *physical plane* of existence, no *power* or *being* in the universe will ever be able to take their lives from them. God solemnly promises that they will never again *die*: “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; **there shall be no more DEATH, nor sorrow, nor crying;** and there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away” (Rev. 21:3-4; 22:1-5).

Furthermore, we are told that no *evildoers* will inherit the beautiful New Earth. “Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and makes a LIE!” (Rev. 22:14-15). This will include all *lying humans*, as well as all *lying evil spirits*, chief of which is “the *devil* [who] is a LIAR and a father of it” (John 8:44).

— END —

ADDENDA

STATEMENT #3: "The reason Jesus, as the spirit-composed 'Word,' had to be born as a *human being*, was so that He could be in EVERY way like we are (Heb. 2:17); and to possess the *sinful NATURE*—which is the law of sin and death (Rom. 8:3, 4)—passed down from Adam (Rom. 5:12:17-19)" ("What Is Satan's Fate?" by Charles Hart, p. 15).

Comment: Is it really true that Christ ever had "sinful NATURE"? Many fail to realize that the "nature" which God put in us humans is *not* of itself sinful. When God created man, He said that all He had created was "very good" (Gen. 1:31). We are not "born in sin"! Rather, God puts in each human a good "nature" (some might call it a "neutral" nature), but we are *not* born with any "evil" in our nature. It is true that our God-given *human nature* often prompts us to want to *eat* when we are hungry, *drink* when thirsty, *rest* when weary, and it is also *natural* for humans to crave *sexual fulfillment*. And it is not wrong to satisfy the God-given cravings of our *human nature* in any *lawful* manner. Though it is not wrong to desire to eat or drink, it is a sin to covet or steal someone else's food or drink in order to satisfy those natural cravings. Neither is it wrong in God's sight to give expression to one's *natural* sexual desires within the *confines of marriage*: "Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge" (Heb. 13:4).

What we today call "human nature" is actually a *mixture* of both "good and evil." God puts a good "nature" in us humans, but through man's evil *environment*, and through the diabolical *temptations* of the invisible *devil*, we humans begin to take on the *evil nature* of Satan, which includes His evil spiritual traits of character. Our *acquired* "human nature" may prompt us humans to want to take *revenge* on our enemies, but to do so would be to yield to the "evil" part of what we call "human nature," and that would be wrong! Any "evil" in our *nature* never comes from *God*, but is from the Evil One, or from those in his evil, Satan-inspired *society* (1 Jo. 2:15-17).

Did Jesus at any time ever have a "sinful NATURE"? What is commonly called "human nature," in actual fact includes what we humans *acquire* from the evil *environment* of Satan's world, as well as from unrelenting *diabolical temptations* that we must constantly fight against. Jesus Christ certainly had the normal, *good nature* that every normal human baby inherits at the time of its birth. "For verily **HE** took not on **HIM** the *nature of angels*; but He took on him the seed of Abraham" (Heb. 2:16 KJV). Jesus Christ had only "good human nature," and never acquired the "bad human nature" that all humans acquire from *Satan* and from his *evil society*. **Such a "human nature" is in fact a mixture of both "GOOD and EVIL"** (Gen. 2:17; 3:5). But it is certain that Jesus Christ never accepted *any* of this *world's*, or of *Satan's*, *evil human nature* (Heb. 4:15).

We know, however, that the *devil* tried to inject his evil thoughts—his *demonic* "nature"—into Christ's mind, but Jesus never *entertained* even one of those Satanic thoughts, nor ever acted on any of them (Luke 4:1-13). In other words, Jesus Christ never let any of the devil's evil temptations take root in His pure mind. **He never entertained any of the devil's evil thoughts.** "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but *was in all points TEMPTED as we are, yet without sin*" (Heb. 4:15). We can thank God that He has made it possible for us to become partakers of His "divine nature," by which we, through the power of God's Spirit, can *uproot* every "evil" thought or attitude that we have allowed to take root in, and become part of, our "human nature" (2 Pet. 1:4).

The Bible clearly teaches that “the wages of sin is *death*,” and Scripture plainly reveals that God’s “immutable law of death” certainly applies to all *humans*. We have also noted several verses, which apparently *indicate* that this same “law of death” could apply to any of the *angels* who sins. Only those beings who repent of, and overcome, sin will be forgiven and inherit *immortality*! And we need to remember that only God can grant men or angels *eternal life*. Jesus is “King of kings and Lords of lords, who alone [of all *humans*] has IMMORTALITY, dwelling in unapproachable light... to whom be honor and everlasting power” (1 Tim. 6:15-16) But this *can’t* possibly mean that the *Father*, or his “holy angels” don’t now possess *immortality*! The Father has possessed immortality from eternity, but the *holy angels* were only given immortality *after* they had first *proven themselves* obedient to God—during a period of trial and testing—that they would loyally obey and serve Him for all eternity!

We humans, who are “now... the children of God” (1 Jo. 3:2), must likewise prove our love and our obedience to God before He will grant us *immortality*! “For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.... Because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God”—then made *immortal* at the sounding of the *seventh trumpet* (Rom. 8:19, 21; 1 Thes. 4:16-18).

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Church of God-21st Century

P.O. Box 893909
Temecula, CA 92589

March 30, 2009

Dear family,

Since my husband's sudden death, emotions become overwhelming at times. Some of you have been through a similar loss, so you can understand where I am coming from. The healing process takes time, and I am making good progress as God gently moves me forward.

In my distress God has provided "a way of escape" to fill the emptiness that suddenly came into my life. Keeping up with current events and sharing them with you has been like salve toward my healing. So I hope you will understand in me keeping in touch with each of you. Keeping myself occupied in God's Work has helped me tremendously to cope and heal.

The WATCHMAN has been a helpful project and many of you have responded with positive comments, which has been very encouraging to me. From time to time in future mail, I will include writings, which my husband did not make public. I hope they will prove interesting and informative to God's people.

I would appreciate your prayers concerning a project that has recently come to me. Jesus Christ is opening a door to provide growth for the Church of God-21st Century. As He leads we will follow together. Thank you for your support.

I hope this spring Holy Day season will be meaningful as well as enjoyable for each one of you.

Sincerely,
Church of God-21st Century

Eve McNaite

COG-21 WATCHMAN

News Effecting God's Church in the 21st Century

Notice: Please keep in mind that some news included may not be as current, but is still being used to inform the reader

Thomas Paine (1737-1809) English printer and revolutionary writer wrote the book, "Common Sense" in 1776 in favor of independence. This pamphlet voiced most of the persuasive arguments for independence from England. He worked a powerful change in the minds of men.

Glenn Beck, radio commentator, has been reading Thomas Paine's book in which he comments, "I read it and it is some of the most powerful writing you have ever seen. There is no shame in it. This was common sense. Common sense tells us that we are in trouble." Here is a "personal" view of what Thomas Paine would have said to the American people during these recent troubling times and tells just how our government should be handling the myriad problems we face in our country today. This is sobering cry for humanity to wake up.

"What would have happened in 1789 or 1942, or 911 if a top government official stepped in front of the people and publicly proclaimed America was a nation of cowards? He would have been run out of the country on a rail, packaged in tar and feathered at least. But that's what happened in 2009 and you did nothing!

"Have you become a nation of cowards, America? In the greatest show of arrogance and disdain any Congress ever showed any citizenry, you are dysfunctionally elite and self interested.

"Non representing non-representatives passed the largest spending bill in history without reading it and you did nothing!

You want them to obey your Constitutional mandate and secure your borders and they ignore you. You asked them to enforce your immigration laws and they ignore you. You say stop the madness of handing \$300 billion dollars of a bankrupted treasury to illegal alien welfare, rewarding them for making a mockery of your laws, and they ignore you. And now an open defiance of the overwhelming will of the people of preparing more amnesty programs. You say stop exporting my nations' vital industry to foreign shores and they ignore you. You say no, to using your money to bail out failed, corrupt and greedy businesses, and they ignore you.

"You say, implement the E-verify system so American jobs go to American workers and they ignore you. If your self-serving Congress were a business, they'd all be in jail now. The biggest traders among you hold elective office. Only when they feel the Almighty wrath of 'we the people' marching in the streets from California to New York, shouting, 'We're mad asand we want our country back' will they get the message, they work for you.

"Wake up America, while you were playing with the toys of your consumer wealth you lost much more than your bloated economy of living beyond your means. You lost your representative democracy. Your servants have become your masters! Taxation without representation is tyranny, but still you look to government to solve problems they created in the first place. You're sucking at the hind tit of a dead cow!

"Why isn't there a three million person 'We the People' march on Washington? A nation-wide tax payer's revolt, thousands of cars and trucks surrounding your nations' capitol, bringing your failed government to a stand-still? Democracy doesn't repress power, it unleashes it to we the people! Take it now! They dictated an economic salvation plan to you, now it's time to stick it to them with the 'we the people' stimulus package. "Require all laws that apply to the rest of the country to equally apply to

Congress. Start by first removing the elite privileges that place your non-representing representatives above you, not with you. Require all laws that apply to the rest of the country to equally apply to Congress. Review Congress' right to vote for their own races. Balance the federal budget. Force your legislator's to do what you now have to do, live within your means.

"If you don't, you're committing national suicide. Make Congress pay into the Social Security System. They make laws for it, now they might be interested in thinking twice before they allow twenty million illegal alien's to reap the benefits of a retirement program the legal citizens paid into all their lives. Long-turn power corrupts! Limit Congress from serving more than two terms. That's all you give your president. Let them search for their own 401K plan instead of the gross unfairness of awarding them their full salary for the rest of their lives after only serving one term. Stop paying for law makers insurance premiums. After all, they're only part-time employees. They might pass some laws on the insurance companies if they had to find one themselves.

"Throw out of office every congressman and woman who didn't bother to read the biggest spending bill in history before voting for it. With the money you save from all of the above, put it into increased salary and benefits for the men and woman of the armed forces. They never fail you!

"Start no war unless you intend to win it! Make English the official language of America. You talk of 'united we stand' but do nothing to make it happen. Give every legal immigrant a chance to succeed. Not one cent of taxpayer money for illegal aliens. We are a nation of laws and do not reward law breakers. Abolish the electoral college and put the election of the president back in the hands of 'we the people.' Bring back universal service. Two years in the military are two years in committee involvement. Insure your future! Rekindle the spirit of America! Service, honor and duty to country! Give your young people a chance to understand they're entitled to nothing they don't earn. .

"Wake up America! You've allowed yourselves to become little more than cowering spectators watching the nation your grandparents built. The richest, most powerful, most self-sufficient republic in history, with the highest standard of living any nation ever achieved, now in the middle of the greatest unprecedented decline in modern history! The world's only super-power can't defend its borders, balance its budget, win its wars, manufacture its own products or protect its own currency. Your total government debt obligation in the next several years is approaching the gross domestic product of the entire world!

"You've diminished the future of your children and children at ten more generations of Americans. As of February 11, 2001, three hundred million Americans put aside what divided them and rallied around what united them. You probably flew your flags, wore T-shirts that said 'these colors don't run' then your leadership told you to do nothing. Let your professional army do the fighting. Perhaps you learned to do nothing too well!"

* * * * *

How supportive of America is this president? "This is a very critical and dangerous moment in the history of our country," says Shawn Hannity, radio program commentator.

On his radio program today (4-6-09), Shawn Hannity expresses his opinion of how our president is handling his trip overseas by apologizing for our country's mistakes. "This week will go down in history that will show exactly what president Obama is really like."

He continues, "In President Obama's speech, he says, 'In America, there is a failure to appreciate Europe's real role in the world. Instead of celebrating your dynamic union and seeking to partner with you to meet common challenges, there have been times where America has shown arrogance...so let me say this as clearly as I can, AMERICA IS CHANGING!'"

"America is changing? Where is the discussion of the goodness, the greatness of America that is talked about, or American acceptionalism that is discussed by an American president? ...when is it that an American president has ever gone to Europe like this?

"There are people that blame America in Europe unfairly. America is unfairly trashed by these European elites in office. When you consider the sacrifice of America and what we have done in the last century to save Europe from them selves, it is outrageous that these European elites speak this way, and it is outrageous that our president thinks this way as they do. He is pandering to the worst instincts of those who do not understand America's acceptionalism and greatness, who hate us by constantly apologizing for America's policies.

“America has not shown arrogance, it has shown greatness. It has been the leaders, when it comes to defeating the evils of the world, fascism, Nazism, Imperial Japan, communism, totalitarianism, and now terrorism. In that America has shown wisdom...America has shown leadership where they have refused to act...and I don't think it's too much to ask that a president of the United States of America go out there and speak the truth about this American/European relationship, and more importantly, what would the world be like but for America's strength, but for America's defense of the natural state of mankind, which is one of liberty and freedom.

“I don't think it's too much to ask of him to stand up for the generations of Americans who went on European soil, who liberated and protected the Europeans at enormous cost to this country and to their families, and to our financial burden on top of it all. I don't think it's too much for him to glowingly speak with admiration of the sacrifice of America, rather than have his “Dixie Chick” moment and then ignored by the rest of the Board because he wants to be loved by the rest of the world.

“We are now going down the road to appeasement! This is a pre, pre, pre, 911 mentality!!”

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Serious consideration: In President Obama's speech he openly said, “The United States has been enriched by Muslim Americans. Many of Americans have Muslims in their cities. We need to convey our deep appreciation ...They have done so much in this century to shape the world.”

Keeping up with the news:

Netanyahu; Iran threatens the entire world: Binyamin Netanyahu has a mission—to warn the world of the danger posed by Iran's nuclear program. He warned that if the world does not take action, Israel may be forced to attack Iran's nuclear facilities. A nuclear Iran would not only endanger Israel, but the entire world. “You see a country that glorifies blood and death, including its own self-immolation,” he said.

Netanyahu argued that U.S. President Obama should make stopping Iran's nuclear program his top overseas priority. If Iran were to gain nuclear capability, its ability to support terrorists worldwide and threaten global oil supplies would grow tremendously. Netanyahu is scheduled to visit Washington in early May

EU ratchets up pressure on Netanyahu to accept “two state” solution: The EU has resorted to making vague threats against Israel's Prime Minister, to pressure him to support the “two state solution” which calls for the creation of an Arab state of Palestinian inside the current borders of the Jewish state.

Blair steps up fight to be crowned first “President of EU:” Tony Blair has emerged as the leading candidate to become the first permanent president of the European Union. The former prime minister has stepped up his campaign for the job.

Other European leaders are also supportive because they want a high-profile figure to represent the 27 nation bloc in the new alliance with the U.S. administration. Mr. Blair recently held private talks with the European Commission President Barroso in Brussels. It is almost certain they also discussed Blair's candidacy.

Angela Merkel is thought to have a strong desire for the position in the event that she loses the German general election in September.

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The Coming Great Collapse

Gerald Celente, Trend forecaster's interviews:

"We are looking at the stimulus package...it's not going to work. There are only two ways to get out of this and one is by printing more fake money, and we know what that causes, it's hyper-inflation! You just can't print money backed by nothing.

"This is much bigger than just an economic collapse we wrote about in 2002. This is a whole empire decline! We are declining not only economically, but morally, spiritually, financially, emotionally, physically. These are facts! We are one of the most unhealthy nation of the industrialized world. More people are obese adults. We have lost our moral compass in so many different ways. Spiritually we're drained!

"We are all old enough to know there has never been a president in American history that we've booted off the stage as he is leaving office. So what's going on in America? This is much more than a financial 'melt-down' it's a collapse of an empire!

"We are looking at the stimulus package exactly the same way the Congressional Budget Office is, it's not going to work. They say we are going to bring Congress together so that we can put together an economic plan to salvage the crisis to keep this ship or state afloat. Who is Congress? These people have done nothing, not one thing they can look to that shows success.

"People want to have confidence. They have to have hope. Confidence or con comes from a confidence man, they build your confidence. This is nothing but a con job that's robbing the people blind! Just as the \$700 billion 'talk program' they had to push really fast because it was going to cause a huge economic collapse if they didn't. Just as that didn't work, this isn't going to work!

"This is a corporate Titanic situation, the ship is going under! There are life boats, but they are only for the wealthy. They are robbing the little people to save the big guys. The \$800 billion stimulus package is going to result in nothing!

"I will give you the scenario. First you are going to start seeing the commercial real estate collapse. This is only the beginning. Who is going to rent all this vacant retail space? The answer is NOBODY! You see brokerages, banks going under, etc, who is going to rent all this vacant space? NOBODY!

"This trend has been long in the making and now it has come home to roost. I'll tell you why this depression is going to be worst than the last one. For the last depression, most people did not own homes, our parents did not have credit cards, consumers knew no such thing as home equity loans. The consumer wasn't \$14 trillion in debt, and the government wasn't \$9 trillion in debt. They had surpluses, both budget and trade.

"The big news is interest rates and Federal Reserve has to raise interest rates to keep the value of the dollar high. Because the U.S. is relying on outside investors and they don't want to get paid back with cheap dollars.

"It's going to get that bad. When people get hungry and desperate, things get ugly. Crime is going to go to levels you have never seen before. We're not perfect, we don't walk on water, but I'll put my track record up against any trend forecasters in the world!!"

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LETTER FROM LONDON: *John Jewell.*

ARE THESE THE "TEN"?

The Independent -- 1st April 2009 -- 'Next stop in the crisis could be the collapse of the euro. It makes no sense in a single-currency zone if one country does its own thing.' 'We live in a world of extreme scenarios, one where Toyota makes a loss and the Royal Bank of Scotland ends up half nationalised. The euro too could be a casualty. It may well be that A euro rather than THE euro would emerge; a curious currency made up of a mix of nations with relatively solid public finances and those so tiny they don't matter. Thus the new euro might comprise, under German leadership-, Finland, Malta, Cyprus, Luxembourg and Slovenia, with France in border-line contention for membership, Ireland, Greece, Spain and the rest would go back to their old currencies, but flexibly pegged to the new euro. Not pretty, but not impossible.'

International Herald Tribune – 1st April 2009 – Hungary caught in a maelstrom. 'Hungary is accustomed to crisis, but that is cold comfort to Sandor Csanyi, the chairman of OTP, the country's largest bank. Mr. Csanyi's red, puffy eyes betray the toil of the past seven months: the near-default of Hungary on its foreign debt, the 90% plunge in his bank's stock price as short-sellers took aim at OTP, and, most recently, the surprise resignation of Hungary's prime minister, which has raised questions about the government's ability to carry out a crucial programme of economic change. Hungary, like its biggest bank, is under siege. The country and its people, encouraged by banks like OTP, borrowed heavily abroad in foreign currencies at low rates, a bet that turned spectacularly bad with the collapse of the Hungarian currency, the forint. This roller coaster ride encapsulates what has gone wrong not just in Hungary but in several other Eastern European countries that once thought they could easily borrow their way to prosperity in a post-Cold-War global economy that seemed so boundless.'

International Herald Tribune – 1st April 2009 – A prickly alliance steers Europe during crisis. '.... the French president and the German chancellor find themselves in a forced marriage in these days of economic crisis. Responsible for the two largest economies in Europe, they are trying to shape European unity prior to the Group of 20 summit meeting this week they have now banded together to try to keep fiscal discipline in the euro zone and resist U.S. calls for even greater state spending. both countries, Germany in particular, want to be sure that they have enough money to come to the aid, if necessary, of weaker, less responsible euro economies like Spain, Greece, Ireland and Portugal, while promoting a bigger International Monetary Fund to deal with troubled countries outside the euro zone, like Romania, Hungary and in the Baltics.'

International Herald Tribune -- 1st April 2009 – World trade 'collapsed' as outlook grows worse. World trade is in free fall and should decline by 13.2 percent in 2009 as the economic crisis cuts demand across the globe, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said on Tuesday, Reuters reported from Paris. In its latest set of forecasts for global economic growth, the OECD issued a warning that was even more severe than the World Trade Organisation's already dramatic estimate of a 9% fall. "International trade is in free fall, This contraction of world trade Is the worst since comparable data exist."

What Next? Biblical prophecy indicates a union of 10 nations or powers in the area of Europe that will dominate and drive what was the area of the old Holy Roman Empire. The report from The Independent we have quoted is the first we have seen to actually list 10 nations of Europe that could form a new inner group able to drive the whole. The report didn't list Italy but it might well make up one of the 10 instead of one of the others. This possible new configuration would be a direct result of the present world situation. It is interesting to see how close the German chancellor and the French president have become in spite of the fact that in personal terms they are not that close!

International Herald Tribune – 2nd April -- In OECD's grim report, even worse news. The OECD forecast that the global gross domestic product will decline 2.7% is gloomy enough. But its growth forecast for the U.S.A. Britain and Japan are much worse than those countries' own budget assumptions. That means their high fiscal deficits will be worse, too. But India and China are expected to do relatively well. Russia also.

What Next? It is Britain and the United States that are being held largely responsible for the global economic catastrophe. France and Germany together are the main critics. Out of the economic mayhem we are now seeing alliances coalescing that we have been pointing to for several years.

CHINESE THREAT

The Daily Mail – 30th March 2009 – China could use BT (British Telecom) network to cripple Britain. China could shut down Britain with a cyber attack using BT's new £10 billion network, ministers have been warned. Parts of the system installed by a telecoms firm linked to China's army could be used to halt supplies of power, water and food, the intelligence services say. The components can also be manipulated to disrupt transport and financial systems, and to spy on anyone who uses the network, including M15, M16, government departments and the military. A confidential document sent to Whitehall (Government ministries) by the intelligence services warns that while BT has taken steps to reduce the risk of attacks by hackers or organised crime, 'the mitigating measures are not effective against deliberate attack by China.' News of the danger came as it emerged that a cyber spy network based in China had hacked into computers in 103 countries, including the private office of the Dalai Lama, to steal classified documents from government and private organizations. BT signed a multi-million pound deal in April 2005 to get key parts of its new communications network from telecoms firm Huawei, which was allegedly founded with significant Chinese state funding. The firm's head is Ren Zhengfei, a former director of the telecoms research arm of China's three million strong army. Huawei provides parts in BT's telephone exchange that receive signals The committee (Joint Intelligence Committee) heard that BT's Huawei components might already contain malicious elements gathering intelligence, which could be activated in a cyber attack that would have a 'significant impact on critical services' that depend on computers. A report by Cambridge University said a spying operation based in the Communist state had broken into computers in 103 countries.

The Sunday Times – 29th March 2009 -- Hackers could shut down Britain -- Cyberspace targets – Chinese hackers have repeatedly targeted western networks. 1. Computers at the Foreign Office and other Whitehall departments were attacked from China in 2007. In the same year, Jonathan Evans, the M15 director-general, warned 300 British businesses that they were under Chinese cyber-attack. 2. The People's Liberation Army is reputed to hold an annual competition to recruit the country's best hackers. 3. Two years ago, Chinese Trojan horse spyware was found in the offices of Angela Merkel, the German chancellor. John Tindle, professor in telecommunications engineering at Sunderland University, said software or hardware could sit hidden, waiting to be activated. Huawei was selected to provide key components for the BT network in April 2005 **despite allegations** that it was bank-rolled by the Chinese government.

.... An attempt by Huawei to merge with the US company 3Com, which provides computer security systems for the Pentagon, was blocked last year after US intelligence warned that it would not be in US national security interest. In a new year e-mail, Sun Yafang, Huawei's chairwoman, told the company's 85,000 employees that the global economic situation offered "both challenges and opportunities". Four weeks later she was inside Downing Street as Gordon Brown welcomed Wen Jiabao, the Chinese premier. Both Wen and Sun were keen to promote Huawei.

What Next? British government complacency knows no boundaries. A phrase being used more and more in the British media is "You couldn't make it up!" -- and one really couldn't. In spite of warnings by our own intelligence services we still go ahead and set up a beautiful system for China to wreck the British economy with no notice. The Sunday Times outlined the "Chinese threat" and said that Huawei components in the British telephone systems could be controlled by China. Huawei has links to the Chinese military. Power, water and food supply systems could be shut down by Chinese attack. Government departments, including intelligence services and military could all have their secrets hacked into. Homes could suffer disruption of landline telephone, TV, computer and mobiles.

In our view, and that of many others, government is there to protect the citizen from external attack or threat of attack. It is not there to facilitate it! The bible actually refers to Britain as being "like a silly dove" and "it has grey hairs upon it and it knows it not!" How true! That sums up Britain today.

IN BRIEF

The Guardian – 26th March – China's giant step into nanotechnology. It's big business conducted on an atomic scale. China is a major player, using it for speakers just 1mm thick, or superstrong armour.

Church of God-21st Century.

P.O. Box 893909
Temecula, CA 92589

February 28, 2009

Dear family and friends,

Since the death of my husband many of you *continue* to support the Church of God-21st Century with your tithes and offerings. My *heartfelt* thanks to you!

Mr. Olive and I are working together to *improve* the COG-21 website. Letters received from "contacts" indicate there is a *need* for spiritual fulfillment and direction. We know God is providing the help needed for these new contacts. Their *positive* comments feed our enthusiasm to press forward. Therefore, I will be supplying Mr. Olive with as many of my husband's writings as he shows he is able to receive. I will also be mailing other writings and publications in these monthly letters.

Mr. Olive and I hope to be adding a new link which will contain *powerful* information by a *well-known* publicized director, journalist, public speaker, author etc. I am now in *personal* contact with him. His sober *warnings* are similar to what we have heard from God's Apostle, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong.

We also hope to add "Pay Pal" for those of you who wish to *continue supporting* God's Work with your tithes and offerings. Please know that your support is *needed* so that we can continue to *press forward*.

It is my prayer that we, as a family, may gain *spiritual strength* together for what lies ahead. We *need* one another.

Sincerely,

Evelyn McNew

COG-21 WATCHMAN

News Effecting God's Church in the 21st Century

AMERICA THE BROKE: How the reckless spending of the White House and Congress are bankrupting our country and destroying the future of our children. Author of "America the Broke," Gerald J. Swanson expresses details of how America is plunging toward future destruction.

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In Mr. Swanson's book he states, "One day soon, our government will suddenly run out of cash, unable to meet its payments, leaving the United States bankrupt. We are far more vulnerable than most Americans realize.... With a debt of more than \$7.3 trillion (and rising by the minute), a huge trade deficit, and personal debt at an all time high, we are standing at the edge of a financial abyss that could undermine the financial security of our families and our children's children. If interest rates were to hit the levels we saw 20 years ago, it would take every nickel in income taxes just to PAY THE INTEREST on our existing debt. There would be no money left for defense, or homeland security, or education, or Social Security."

The author continues, "This scenario that the United States of America can literally go broke is no longer a fantasy but likelihood—unless we stop the train now speeding us to ARMAGEDDON. If we do not get our financial house in order, and soon, our great nation will collapse under the weight of its financial obligations.

"I believe we can prevent the catastrophe. But time is short, in the final reckoning it's up to us to do what's needed to save America's future."

* * * * *

"The dirty little secret that neither George W. Bush nor Congress were willing to confront—that America's reckless spending, disastrous deficits, and exploding debt were speeding our great nation to financial ruin.

"Imagine a world in which you lose your job because your company goes under, your retirement money disappears, the value of your home tumbles overnight, your bank stops allowing cash withdrawals, and your ATM card is cancelled. The price of groceries has risen so fast that you don't have the money to pay for them at the check-out-counter...and the country is BANKRUPT!

"That is exactly the future that economist Gerald J. Swanson sees America hurtling toward—unless we rein in our country's reckless spending. The United States is on the brink of financial collapse! Thanks to George W, Bush's two wars, and an economic recession. The White House's official projected deficit for 2004 was \$521 billion, the largest deficit in U.S. history.

“What does this mean for you and me? If the dollar goes into free fall, BANKS COULD CLOSE, BUSINESSES GO BANKRUPT, REAL ESTATE VALUES CRUMBLE; and MIDDLE CLASS FAMILIES LOSE EVERYTHING they own!

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WHAT COULD DESTROY AMERICA? One four-letter-word: **DEBT!**

Mr. Swanson comments, “Throughout Clinton’s years in office, the deficit was reduced each year, until, in his last two years, the government achieved surpluses. He even began paying down a portion of the debt. Problem solved.

“But to my astonishment, in three short years, our new President, George W. Bush, and his determined tax cutters, working with Republican-controlled Congress, have unraveled eight years of fiscal responsibility. Through increased spending on domestic programs, defense and entitlements, and two historic tax cuts, we have the largest single deficit in history.

“Wars are expensive. But never before has an American president attempted to enact a major tax cut (much less two of them) while fighting a costly war. President Bush has led us through two wars, and an ongoing occupation in Iraq. The cost of the Iraq war in 2003 was a powerful shock to our economy. The Administration made no attempt to pay for that cost with offsetting cuts elsewhere. One day soon, our government will suddenly run out of cash, unable to meet its payments, leaving the U.S. bankrupt.

“In the 1930’s the cost of running our federal government was \$33.00 per person. Now it has multiplied to \$5,700.00 a year for every person in the U.S. Worse yet, we are putting more and more of that bill on our national tab. The resulting tower of debt is wobbling dangerously over our heads. If this crisis isn’t addressed soon, it will ruin our country. We now depend on domestic and foreign countries to keep us afloat. Sooner or later our debtors will demand payment, when we cannot now comply. WE WILL BE IN BONDAGE!

“Is it already too late? Is a crash inevitable? It’s up to us, the American citizen to do what is needed to save our country’s future!”

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In an interview with Mr. Gerald Calente, founder and director of Trends Research Institute, when asked, “How would you define the economic trend forecasted for the year 2009?” Gerald Calente replied, “We’re going to see the economic collapse the likes of which the world has never seen before. It’s not only the United States, it’s going global.

“We saw in one day some 61,000 jobs evaporate off the map. You are going to see Great Depression numbers. Because with this commercial real estate collapse, many retail stores are closing. People who work for these places no longer have jobs, how about all the supportive industries, the advertising, the manufacturers, the products? They are going to be laying off people as well. We are going to see Great Depression numbers. In that effect, this is going to be worse than the great depression.

“Back in the 30’s people didn’t have credit cards. The consumer wasn’t 14 trillion dollars in debt. We had a manufacturing base that built the world out of the Great Depression following WWII. We no longer have that.

“People are at the edge, they are stressed out. Americans are the most depressed nation on the world today. They take more antidepressant drugs than anybody, plus other kinds of drugs. Crime levels in America are going to rival the third world. Welcome Mexico City! You are going to start seeing people being kidnapped in this country like they do in other underdeveloped nations. So it’s going to be very violent in America.

When asked, “You’re not exaggerating?” Mr. Calente replied, “I’m not exaggerating, the facts are there. I have a saying: ‘when people lose everything and they have nothing to lose, they lose it.’ You’re going to see people saying, off with their heads. There’s going to be another revolution in this country.”

“It’s going to be a tax revolt. We are going to see a tax revolt in the United States. People are one job away from losing everything. We’re seeing more and more closures, people are being laid off. People are stretched to the limit. And what do they do in New York? Some 130 new taxes are being proposed, they’re raising sales taxes. There’s going to be a revolt in this country from property taxes first and school taxes second. That’s what we’re going to see start to happen.”

When asked if people are hopeful that president Obama will make a difference, Mr. Calente replied, “People are hopeful, they are desperate, they are fearful. And they’ll hang on to anything. Let’s look at the facts. A man of change, who did he bring into Washington? You know they say by their deeds you shall know them. Let’s look at his Treasury Secretary, Timothy Geithner, former Robert Rubin from the Clinton administration, the former president of the New York Federal Reserve Bank. Change? How about Harry Summers, the former newly elected president bringing in basically the national security team from the last administration who happens to be from another party.

“Is Obama different in any way?” “By their deeds you shall know them,” was Mr. Calente’s answer. “If I bring in a baseball hitter that strikes out every time and I want him to play in the World Series, is he going to hit the ball over the fence? They brought in Larry Summers, Timothy Geithner. Look at the crew. Look who they are. They’re strike out artists, every one of them. The only thing that they know how to do is not to get their finger nails dirty.”

Mr. Calente stated that on 9/11, those who listened to the authorities and returned to their offices went down with the towers. “So are you saying that Americans should not be listening to the officials who are saying that the Stimulus Plans are going to make everything better? Is that the analogy?”

“READ MY LIPS. NO MORE TAXES. I DIDN’T HAVE SEX WITH THAT WOMAN, MONICA LEWINSKI, I SMOKED BUT I DIDN’T INHALE. SADDAM HUSSEIN HAS WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION AND TIES TO AL-QAEDA. Why would anyone believe these people?”

What trends are we going to see in terms of relationships between the U. S. and the rest of the world? “The rest of the world is very hopeful, using the word ‘hope’ with the Obama administration. And again, we’re going to have to see what transpires, but so far, and again, by their deeds you shall know them.”

“When Obama first started to run [for office], he was going to be out of Iraq. As soon as he became president he was going to start bringing soldiers home. ...and now

their reports say they're going to bring upwards of 40,000 more troops to Afghanistan. He was also talking about prevention strikes in Pakistan. So it really doesn't look like it's going to be much of a smoothing of geopolitical relations.

"The one factor we're looking at, at a time that could only be the worst time for it to happen, is what's going on in the Middle East, in the Israeli-Gaza war. ...If they [Israel] attack Iran at any level, it will begin World War III. If this war spreads beyond Gaza it's going to inflame the Middle East. It can cause an oil crisis as we saw in 1973, that's what ended the Arab-Israeli war when they embargoed oil going into the U.S. That's our major concern.

The final question was asked, "How can America get out of the situation?"

"All you have to do is to look back to the 1990's when America entered into a recession. We had 7.2 unemployment rate in 1993. What got the U. S. out of the 1990's recession was something called 'internet revolution' that had productive capacity. Products were invented, designed, manufactured, marketed and serviced. So you're asking about new jobs, ask about alternative energies. Anything that's going to advance the U.S. into the 21st Century is an intelligent way. That's where the jobs are going to be." (End of interview)

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On a recent TV program, host Glenn Beck asked Joel Rosenberg, senior aide to Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, "Do you believe that we may be living in the end of days? "

"Well, as an evangelical Christian, yes, there is a lot of evidence of that."

"Tell me about the two thresholds. What are the two thresholds that they've just crossed over in Iran?"

"There are two red lines that the United States and Israel have been deeply worried about. First, that they would be able to build an intercontinental ballistic missile, therefore they would be able to reach Europe and the United States. And that they could complete the nuclear fuel cycle and actually build a workable nuclear bomb."

"...in going and listening to the speeches of Ahmadinejad at the U.N. ... he says, 'O Allah, give me the strength to hasten the return of the promised one.' Who's the promised one and what does he have to do to hasten it?"

"...The promised one is the Twelfth Imam. This is why Iran is dangerous! Tell me who the twelfth Imam is."

"The Twelfth Imam is the messiah. It's the Islamic messiah, whom the Shite Muslims believe will come back in the end of days. But in order to bring about this Islamic messiah, the Mahdi, the Twelfth Imam, Islamic leaders need to hasten his coming by destroying this little Satan, Israel, and the great Satan, the United States. And this is what's dangerous, is because these leaders of Iran currently, not all people of Iran, but the leaders, actually believe they need to create bloody carnage, the death of millions of people in order to create the conditions for the Mahdi to bring peace." (end of interview)

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COG-21 WATCHMAN

News Effecting God's Church in the 21st Century

"We Will Recover," Says Obama. "No We Won't," Says Celente; Government Policies Doomed to Fail

KINGSTON, NY, 27, February 2009 -- The wealth of plain, hard facts upon which The Trends Research Institute's forecasts are based belie the lofty promises made by President Obama's first address to Congress.

"We will rebuild, we will recover, and the United States of America will emerge stronger than before," said President Obama.

Said Celente, "The government has yet to fix the levees in New Orleans. There is still a hole in the ground where the World Trade Center once stood. Washington has started two wars it can't win and doesn't know how to finish. The massive bank, brokerage, auto and insurance company bailouts have done nothing to resuscitate the sinking economy. The Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP) that candidate Obama championed has not "relieved." President Obama's \$787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will not lead to recovery and the nation will not 'emerge stronger than before,'" Celente continued.

Distinguished Men and Women

With only a succession of past Executive and Congressional failures to point to, and with the same people responsible for those failures still holding high office, the belief that this time around it will be miraculously different is nothing less than willful delusion.

"Tuesday's episode of *The Presidential Reality Show* was a prime time exercise in human debasement and self-humiliation," said Celente. Some low lights: Congressman Eliot Engel (D-NY) arrived at 8:30 a.m. to secure a prized spot on the House floor for a chance to shake the President's hand on his way to the stage. "It's a special treat for me to do it this year," Engel said, adding, "It's the office, it's the aura ... but it's also the man."

Hillary Clinton, America's new superstar Secretary of State, regally acknowledged the dutiful cheers of lesser political lights as she strolled down the House's aisle.

Shiny Cabinet members and august Supreme Court justices were announced in stentorian tones by a pair of Sergeants-at-Arms with all the exaggerated pomp of a Groucho Marx send-up of British royalty.

And, to punctuate the performance, there was the geriatric pom-pom girl, Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House, repeatedly jumping from her seat, leading her pack of Democratic trained seals in whoops of applause at every repetition of the magic juju words: "Jobs!" "Prosperity!" "Confidence!"

Across the aisle, Republicans smirked, mugged and scowled darkly, in their new roles as minority villains. Few GOP hands clapped.

That the public as well as the press should take this three-ring spectacle seriously is as depressing an indication of the state of the nation as the empty rhetoric of the speech itself.

Meanwhile, back on the planet, in the midst of a global economic crisis, the public continues to pin its hopes on a President, Senators and Congressmen willingly participating in such obviously orchestrated buffoonery. How is this even possible? How is such behavior tolerated? Why would anyone look up to these people?

In one sense it is understandable: President Obama's big show was just another typical political performance. From the excesses of Democratic and Republican nominating conventions, to photo ops of candidates sitting on bales of hay pretending they're just plain folks, to staging whistle stops from vintage trains dragged out of storage especially for the occasion, to contrived Town Hall meetings, to the slick and vicious marketing campaigns ... the public has come to accept such antics as "normal."

These political rituals, carefully staged, time-tested and proven, create an illusion of superiority. President Obama made the distinction clear in Tuesday's speech: "I have come here tonight not only to address the distinguished men and women of this great chamber, but to speak frankly and directly to the men and women who sent us here."

"Distinguished?" Distinguished *for what?* Having the skills to do whatever they have to do - no matter how ruthless or degrading - to win elections? Yet, the honorific is accepted without question while the implicit patronization of the citizenry slips by unperceived. They are "distinguished" and the rest are merely the "men and women who sent them there."

Con Game

This is a confidence game. The elaborate staging is designed to inspire the nation's people with "confidence" that their distinguished leaders have the skills to save them from an economic disaster that both political parties were instrumental in creating.

Just days earlier, former President Bill Clinton urged the new President to play the confidence game. "I just want the American people to know that he's confident that we are gonna get out of this and he feels good about the long run," and that President Obama "... is hopeful and completely convinced we're gonna come through this," Clinton said on national TV.

"Completely convinced" or not, in his speech, the newly elected President pitched "confidence," repeating the word seven times. It worked. Post speech polls, the pundits and the press gave the President high marks for his performance. And President Obama, the most distinguished among all those "distinguished men and women of this great chamber," established his credentials as America's Confidence-Man-in-Chief.

Trendpost: What is a Confidence Man and what makes us say President Obama is conning the public? A con man succeeds by gaining the confidence of the victim. In this case the victim is the taxpayer who is being shaken down for trillions to bail out "too big to fail" businesses. The con lies in Obama's assurance "... while the cost of action will be great, I can assure you that the cost of inaction will be far greater."

The trillions already spent on bailouts and buyouts make it clear "the cost of action will be great." It is already great, and it has failed miserably. Why should anyone believe that pouring still more trillions into the same bottomless pit will now, somehow, prove effective?

And why should anyone believe Obama's assurance that the "cost of inaction will be far greater"? He doesn't know that. Why believe the assurance of the man who failed to recognize the country was in recession until eight months after the recession began?

We forecast the recession well before it happened. We are forecasting "The Greatest Depression." And having analyzed Mr. Obama's speech, promises and plans, we can forecast, with assurance of our own, that the cost of action will prove far greater than the cost of inaction.

While the public, both at home and abroad, express high hopes and great optimism, the global financial markets remain unassured by the assurances and continue to reach new lows.

Trendpost: President Obama's \$3.6 trillion budget and the additional trillions earmarked for stimulus packages and further bailouts may provide temporary relief, but will ultimately destroy the value of the US dollar. The global financial system is in collapse. And neither stimulus nor spending packages will reverse it. We remain bullish on gold and stand by our prediction of gold at \$2000 per ounce. (See *Trends in the News*® "Gold \$2000," 7 November 2007.)

"The Greatest Depression" Under Way

KINGSTON, NY, 2, March 2009 — "The Greatest Depression" that the Trends Research Institute forecast, well before Wall Street or Washington would acknowledge recession, is upon us.

The global financial markets are collapsing. All the pundit's cautious predictions and business media's hopeful expectations at the New Year for an economic turn around and imminent market bottom were dead wrong. There will be no turn around in the second quarter of 2009 or 2010 or 2011 ... America and much of the world has entered "The Greatest Depression."

The global financial system, built on endless supplies of cheap money, rampant speculation, fraud, greed, and delusion is terminally ill and will not be coaxed into remission by stimulus packages nor restored to health by government buyouts and bailouts.

Today, the MSCI World Index of stocks in 23 developed nations fell 4.9 percent to 713.75, the lowest closing level since March 2003, and its Emerging Markets Index slid 5 percent. The Dow followed, plunging 300 points, closing below 7,000 for the first time since 1997.

There is no stock market bottom in sight. The only figure that can be forecast with confidence is that the Dow won't reach zero!

As the crisis worsens, governments will take draconian measures to prevent total economic collapse and public panic. We have cautioned the likelihood of such measures before. But the rapidity and severity of the economic unraveling now demands immediate attention.

Expect massive bank failures, runs on banks, and bank holidays. Even if deposits are FDIC insured, quick access to money is by no means assured. At minimum, have reserves on hand for emergencies.

Trendpost: When the ship is sinking there are very few options: Life boats, life rafts, life preservers ... and for the late to act, possibly a few pieces of floating debris to cling to.

We are trend forecasters, not certified financial advisors legally empowered to provide such advice. Although gold prices declined today some \$15 to \$925 per ounce, we forecast that gold will be one of the few life saving investments that will continue to increase in value, reaching \$2,000 per ounce and beyond.

IS SATAN IMMORTAL?

By Raymond F. McNair

How Is Immortality Acquired?

Some people believe that when God created the *angels*, He gave all of them IMMORTALITY. But there is absolutely *nothing* in the Word of God that says the angels were automatically promised *eternal life* or *immortality* at the time of their creation. Since some people erroneously *assume* that the angels were given *immortality* at their creation, they also *assume* that God cannot, or will not, destroy any of the angels! But "With God all things are possible" (Mt. 19:26). God asked Abraham, "Is anything too hard for the LORD?" (Gen. 18:14). "Ah Lord GOD! You have made the heavens and the earth by your great power.... There is nothing too hard for You" (Jer. 32:17). Anything which God creates can be destroyed by Him—if He so chooses!

Let us search the Scriptures to see what God's Word really says about *spirit beings*: "God is SPIRIT" (John 4:24). That is, He is not "comprised" or "composed" of *physical* matter. Rather, God exists on a *spiritual plane*—that is, GOD IS SPIRIT. However, *man* is PHYSICAL, composed of matter: "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground" (Gen. 2:7). As we have seen, although God is SPIRIT, what about the ANGELS? Were they made of "physical matter" or were they composed of "spirit"? "And of the angels He says, 'Who makes His angels SPIRITS....'" (Heb. 1:7). Further, God's Word says, "Are they not all *ministering spirits* sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?" (v. 14).

How is it that even though Christians believe God created the angels, many of them think He will not destroy those angels who *willfully* disobeyed Him? It needs to be clearly understood that not one scripture ever states that God gave the *angels immortality* when He created them. The Word of God clearly indicates, however, that the *holy angels*, who continue to obey and faithfully serve Him, have been granted *immortality* (cf. Luke 20:36). But *mortal* man can only attain immortality as God's free gift—if he will first meet certain *conditions*, which includes belief in Christ's sacrifice for mankind's sins, repentance, baptism and obedience to the Word of God.

Jesus himself said, "But those who are counted worthy to attain that age, and the *resurrection* from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage; **nor can they DIE anymore**, for they are equal to the angels and are the sons of God, being sons of the resurrection" (Luke 10:35-36). "Mortal man" must seek "immortality" (cf. Job 4:17). "God... will render to each one according to his deeds": *eternal life* to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for *glory, honor, and IMMORTALITY*" (Rom. 2:5-7). Further, we are informed that mortal man will become clothed with immortality at the resurrection: "For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on IMMORTALITY. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this MORTAL has put on IMMORTALITY, then 'Death [will be] swallowed up in victory'" (1 Cor. 15:52-54). The Bible makes it very clear that God's free gift of *immortality* will only be granted to those who meet certain conditions of repentance, baptism, and continued obedience to Him until *death*, or until their *change* comes if they are alive at Christ's *second coming* (1 Thes. 4:13-17). God ordained that man's ultimate salvation, and his being granted immortality, was *conditional* (John 3:16; Rom. 2:6-10; 6:23).

Are All Angels Immortal?

Let us again ask, "But what about the *angels*?" Did God ordain that *mortal man* would only receive salvation and immortality, based upon certain conditions, while He set a different standard for the *angels*? Were they granted *unconditional immortality* at the instant God created them? Or did God also make their immortality *conditional*—based on their doing what He commanded in humble obedience to their Creator? All biblical indications are that God made both *angels* and *humans* with the *potential of immortality*, but did not give either men or angels an unconditional promise of immortality. God is no respecter of persons—whether men or angels. He does *not* have a "double standard"—one standard of righteousness for *angels*, and another standard for *men*. Both men and angels were created as *free moral agents*—having the power of *choice*. Both were given fantastic, God-like minds, possessing free, independent wills, with the power to choose God's way of *righteousness*, or the opposite way of *unrighteousness*, which Satan and his demons chose, even before man was created.

Many believe the archaeological evidence indicates that the *universe* is apparently around 10 to 20 billion years old. The earth is usually estimated to be only about 4 billion years old. And the Bible clearly reveals that the angels were created *before* the earth's creation. God asked Job, "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? ...When the morning *STARS* [i.e. *angels*—Rev. 1:20] sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy" (Job 38:4).

Furthermore, Genesis 1:1 reveals that God had created the earth originally, perhaps about 4 billion years ago, but verse 2 reveals that "the earth *was* [became]" waste and chaotic. What brought about the *chaos* which Genesis 1:2 reveals befell the earth? Ezekiel 28, Isaiah 14, Revelation 12, and other scriptures reveal that a super archangel named "Lucifer" and his angels rebelled against the Creator God and brought about great devastation on this earth. Revelation 12:1-4 shows that Satan persuaded one third of the angels to follow him in his rebellion against God. Millions of angels must have followed Satan in his insurrection! Jude says, "And the angels who did not keep their proper domain ["their *first estate*—*KJV*], but left their own *habitation*, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day" (Jude 6). And the Apostle Peter states, "For if God did not spare the *angels who sinned*, but cast them down to HELL [Greek *tartaroo*] and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment..." (2 Pet. 2:4).

Peter also says, "Christ also [was] put to *death in the flesh* but made alive by the Spirit, by whom He went and preached to the *spirits in prison*, who formerly were disobedient, *when* once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah..." (1 Pet. 3:18-20). This verse clearly shows "when" Christ preached to the "spirits in prison" (in *Tartaroo*)—during the days of Noah. Some mistakenly believe that Christ preached to the "spirits in prison" during the three days and three nights He lay in His tomb (Mt. 12:40); but the Bible reveals that the dead are *unconscious*, and know absolutely nothing (Psa. 146:4; Eccl. 9:10). Why did the pre-incarnate Word preach to the demons at that time? The Bible does not tell us! However, the 3rd chapter of Genesis makes it clear that Satan was in existence *before* God created Adam and Eve and put them in the beautiful Garden of Eden. Satan came on the scene immediately, to tempt them to disobey their Creator. Unfortunately Adam and Eve listened to him, and as a result, they and their offspring have been suffering the *consequences* of sin ever since (Rom. 5:12-21). Christ's statement to the Jews clearly reveals the *evil nature* of the *DEVIL*: "You are of your father the *devil*, and the desires of your father you will do. He was a *MURDERER* from the beginning, and does not stand in the *truth*, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a *LIE*, he speaks from his own resources, for HE IS A LIAR and the father of it" (Jo. 8:44).

Can Spirit Beings Be Destroyed?

Some people *assume* that *spirit beings*, such as angels, cannot be destroyed. But this is simply an *assumption*. As we have seen, “God is SPIRIT” (Jo. 4:24). Yet, we know that Jesus, under the name *Immanuel* (“GOD with us”), was transformed from *spirit* (or *spirit essence*) into physical, *material essence*. “In the beginning was the WORD [Gk. *Logos*], and the *Word* was with God, and the *Word* was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him...” (John 1:1-2). “**And the *Word* BECAME FLESH and dwelt among us...**” (v. 14). Verse 14 does *not* say that the “*Word*” *took possession of* another person’s human body, like the *demons* often do. Rather, it clearly states that the “*Word* was MADE FLESH” (KJV). The second Person in the Godhead (who *became* Jesus by being born *human*) was actually *changed* from SPIRIT into FLESH. When that momentous event occurred, the divine Person, known as the “*Word*,” was no longer a *spirit Being*, living on a spiritual plane, but for the next 33 years lived as a *physical Being* on a material plane of existence.

The Apostle Paul explains this same divine mystery whereby the “*Word*” humbled himself to become “*human*”: “Jesus Christ, who, though HE was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, **but EMPTIED HIMSELF**, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in *human form* HE humbled himself and became obedient unto DEATH, even death on a cross” (Philip. 2:6-8 RSV). *The New American* and the *Moffatt* versions also say that Jesus “*emptied Himself*” (Philip. 2:6). If the “*Word*” (*Logos*) had not “*emptied Himself*,” He would never have been *vulnerable to death*, but He *voluntarily* did so in order that He could give His life as a ransom—a substitute sacrifice—for all humanity! He voluntarily died in our stead!

This same thought is expressed in the 2nd chapter of Hebrews: “Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of *flesh and blood*, He Himself likewise shared in the same, **that through DEATH He might DESTROY [Gk. *katargeo*] him who had the power of death, that is the DEVIL**, and release those who through *fear of death* were all their lifetime subject to bondage” (2:14). This Greek word *KATARGEO* properly means to “destroy” or “annihilate.” The “man of sin” will be *destroyed* (*katargeo*) by the brightness of Christ’s second coming (2 Thes. 2:8). The “body of sin” will be *destroyed* (*katargeo*) by God (Rom. 6:6). And the “last enemy” to be *destroyed* (*katargeo*) is “death” (1 Cor. 15:26). When the Bible says that through His *death* Christ would “destroy him” (that is, Satan), it means just that. What a contrast between Christ and Satan. The pre-incarnate “*Word*” (Jesus Christ) was “made” flesh, that is, was changed from *spirit* into *flesh*, and *voluntarily* took on “*human nature*” (not *angelic nature*), so that He could *voluntarily* DIE in the place of *all sinners*, to remove the death penalty from over their heads. But Satan will ultimately have to pay for willful sins by forfeiting his own life, thereby *involuntarily* experiencing a hideous death. But how could this be possible?

If, by the power of God, the pre-incarnate “*Word*” could be *changed* from *spirit* into *flesh*, then surely a fallen angel like *Satan*, and his demons, could also be *transformed* from *spirit* into *flesh*! But do any scriptures reveal that the “god of this world” (2 Cor. 4:4)—called “Lucifer” in the O.T.—will be *involuntarily changed* from a *spirit being* to a *fleshly being*? If so, why would God change *Satan* into a fleshly being? Let us again ask: Can a *spirit being*, such as Satan, be changed from *spirit* into *matter*? Can the angels be *transformed* from living on a *spiritual plane* to living on a *physical plane*?

Church of God-21st Century
P.O. Box 893909
Temecula, CA 92589

January 2, 2009

Dear family and friends,

Are any of you preparing for the New Year? Are you making special plans during January for a better year ahead?

Mrs. McNair and I are not! As with many of you, we are preparing for God's New Year, the Passover season, just a few months ahead. We recognize that new birth, new growth does not take place during the dead of winter as the world believes. We are grateful for God's inspiration and this eye-opening knowledge, which He has freely given to us.

Along with this letter we hope to provide you with the most recent current events. As mentioned previously, perhaps some news will be old by the time you receive it, but rest assured we will try to do our best to keep you posted on updated material.

Mrs. McNair and I wish to again express how encouraged we are that many of you are remaining faithful to God's Truth in the Church of God-21st Century.

In an email sent to Mrs. McNair, the writer writes, "Thank you for the very timely article by Mr. McNair and others. My desire is to [continue to] send you a physical donation to keep the website going, but I'm only working a couple of days a week, sorry. I remember you and your husband's love for doing "The Work." The website is priceless! I love you and the little flock that is fellowshiping with you!"

It is positive attitudes such as his which encourages us in continuing God's Work and keeping in contact with all of you.

As webmaster for the COG-21 website, I recently reported to Mrs. McNair, "Mr. McNair's website surpasses many other Church websites now on the internet."

We are certainly not in competition with others. We just want to inform you that it is our fervent desire to continue providing spiritual food as well as helpful information and our fruits are being witnessed.

Recently, Mrs. McNair received an email from a Church member living in a foreign country. This member expressed his sadness and shock in learning of the death of Mr. McNair. He closes with a question, "Who is now heading the Church of God-21st Century"? To which Mrs. McNair responded, "As always, Jesus Christ is *still* heading the Church of God-21st Century. He has never left us nor ever will. He is still with us guiding and inspiring a new phase of His Work in this Church."

Days later, she received a reply from his same person. "Thank you for your reply to me and I know Jesus is the Head of the Church. What I wanted to know is that who is the director and the pastor general, who has taken Mr. McNair's position in the Church?"

This seems to be a reasonable question, but on the other hand could this person be missing the BIG picture? Perhaps an explanation to him is needed, and perhaps to you as well.

For many years we were blessed to learn God's Truth through the inspiration and hard work which Mr. McNair gave to God's Church. He was inspired and empowered by God's Holy Spirit, never waivering, but continued to uphold God's Truth until his death. He is no longer with us. What do we do now? What would Jesus Christ want us to do?

This question needs to be answered to each of you. Just as this person asks in his second letter, "...I know Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church...who is the director and the pastor general who has taken Mr. McNair's position in the Church"?

Do any of you believe just because Mr. McNair is no longer with us, we are left naked, alone and in need of a pastor general or director to lead the Church? Are we now faced with the responsibility of searching for another human leader to take Mr. McNair's place?

Has Jesus Christ abandoned us in this Church? Is He trying to separate us because we no longer have a human leader and need to find one? Will God's Church not survive without a human leader? Has Christ left us? Where did He go? Didn't He promise, "I will never leave you nor forsake you"?

If anything, it would seem that Christ would want us to remain together, to uphold each another, to support one another.

As time continues, what should happen as God's faithful leaders are also sent to their resting place as has happened? Should we search again for another human

leader to take the place of the former? Is this what Christ would have us believing until He returns?

If you are looking for a human leader (minister, pastor general, etc.) to lead the Church of God-21st Century, then you will be disappointed. We have our Leader, Jesus Christ, and He will not disappoint us as some ministers have in the past.

We receive and share current events from one of God's faithful ministers in England. Others will be contributing in the future. We must keep in mind that this is the Work of Jesus Christ, not Mrs. McNair, nor mine! Christ remains faithful to us and always will.

In Sir Winston Churchill's book, "Never Give In!" On page 30, he comments, "Never give in! Never give in! Never, Never, Never—in something great or small, large or petty—never give in except to convictions of honor and good sense."

It is our honor and good sense to keep going and never give up! God's direction in the Church of God-21st Century will not change as long as Jesus Christ remains our Leader and God is inspiring it. God's sheep know their Shepherd and will remain on track.

After the death of Mr. Armstrong, many members shifted several times to various split-off groups only to find discouragement and disappointment.

We intend to remain a closely-knit family as long as Jesus Christ is here and guiding us. He continues to be our Leader and we will serve Him and receive direction from Him.

It was Christ's decision to allow the death of Mr. McNair. Where do we go from here? WE GO FORWARD, NEVER GIVING UP!! Together, trusting God, but together! We want you to remain here with Jesus Christ, supporting Him in the Church of God-21st Century. The decision is yours!

Most Sincerely,

Frank Olive

Eve McNair

"If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me; him will my Father honor" (John 12:26).

LETTER FROM LONDON

No. 227

THE ENEMY WITHIN

You may, or may not, have heard the term "fifth column." And no, it isn't speaking of the construction of a newspaper page. First of all it refers to a clandestine subversive organisation working within a given country, to further an invading enemy's military and political aims; and secondly to any subversive element working within an organisation or institution. It was first applied in 1936 to the supporters of the fascist general Franco in Madrid, which was seeking the downfall of the legitimate republican government, by working against the government from within the city. It was used by General Emilio Mola who was leading 4 columns of troops against that same government. General Mola regarded Franco as leading a fifth column! The rightful republican government was defeated and Franco ruled Spain from 1939 till his death in 1975 at which time the Bourbon monarchy was restored. During the second world war Britain had what were called "fifth columnists" -- these were individuals, mainly British but there were those who had kept secret the fact they had German connections, who supported Hitler and were living in Britain. Apparently supportive of Britain's resistance to Nazi Germany, they would engage in acts of sabotage to try and reduce the effectiveness of the war effort and to nibble away at the nature and character of the British by sowing seeds of doubt in conversation.

For centuries Britain has been a bastion, a strong defence, against the rise of a fascist Europe. The word 'fascist' is an interesting word. It has tended to attract a little opprobrium having been connected with militaristic governments over the years. The word comes from the Latin 'fascio' meaning bundle or union and in the Roman Empire the civil magistrates used, as a symbol carried by the lictors, a bundle of rods tied around an axe. This was known as the fascis indicating a union with strength and authority. In French, the word is fasceau and is used to describe a sheaf of arrows held in a quiver, once again indicating a strong union with military strength. The leading nations of Europe basically have come into being through the unification of a number of states or smaller political entities. Germany is a case in point. It is today the German Federal Republic, but in the early 19th century was a confederation of 39 German states. A gathering together of states into one bundle. It is no mistake that Otto the Great who lived from 912 to 973 AD was king of Germany and also the first of a number of Holy Roman Emperors to be crowned at Aachen. Charlemagne made it the northern capital of his kingdom and is buried there. No wonder European statesmen will go to Aachen to gain strength and inspiration from the visit.

Other significant nations of Europe also consist of unions of smaller states. France and Italy are both cases in point. It is no accident that these two along with Germany are the driving force of the European Union, the new Roman Empire. It is no accident that not one of them maintains the office of a king or monarch. It is no accident that they are not concerned with any of their former overseas territories. France retains five overseas territories which are classified as though part of metropolitan France. Martinique being one of them, Reunion another.

Today's national flag of Germany is a tri-colour with horizontal stripes with black at the top followed by red and then gold. A flag which goes back many hundreds of years. But the flag which may only be used by federal government institutions has in the middle of it, the original symbol of the Holy Roman Empire, a black eagle with spread wings. This flag of the Holy Roman Empire was amended years later by the addition of a head, the two heads of the eagle then facing away from each other. The flag of the European Union today is a circle of 12 gold stars on a blue background. Why 12 stars, when the original grouping as the European Economic Community was with 6 nations! This was then expanded to 10 nations who, together, signed the Treaty of Rome in 1957. So where did the 12 come from? It generates from a misreading of the bible. One of the books, Revelation, in chapter 12, speaks in the first verse of a woman clothed with the sun and having a crown of twelve stars on her head. It is assumed by Catholic theologians that this is the Virgin Mary. It isn't! It is actually referring to the church of God. In biblical terminology a church is often referred to as a woman. The designer of the flag of the European Union was Arsene Heitz it was he who said the book of Revelation inspired him. The final drawing was the work of Paul Levy. Heitz's view was that a crown of stars could be

interpreted as a "Crown of Immortality."

This year the European flag was flown for the first time above the German Reichstag. This took place on 9th May, Europa Day. From where does the name Europe, or Europa come? As with so many things it comes from mythology. In this case, Greek mythology. Europa, so it goes, was a Phoenician princess whom Zeus, chief of all the gods, abducted after assuming the form of a dazzling white bull. She climbed on his back and he plunged with her into the waves of the sea before raping her. He took her to the island of Crete where she gave birth to Minos and two other children. After her death she received divine honour as "Queen of Heaven", the bull as a god returning to heaven dissolved and became the constellation known as Taurus. For Homer, Europe or Europa was a mythological queen of Crete, not a geographical location. Later on, Europa stood for mainland Greece, and by 500 BC its meaning had been extended to lands to the north and west. Greece, in fact, had a considerable effect on Europe. Both politically and religiously. Tacitus gives evidence of a Phoenician goddess being worshipped in Germany. This is contained in his work "Germania" The Phoenicians moved into Europe from the coastal area of the eastern Mediterranean, Syria and Lebanon and are descended from the Canaanites. Not a hop, skip and a jump from Babylon.

Babylon was in that area which is Iraq today. It is also the location of the tower of Babel. It is there that the inhabitants decided to build a city and a tower the top of which, they theorised, would reach to heaven. God looked down on it all and said that they were all one people with one language and this is what's in their minds already. From hereon they would achieve anything they imagined and thought through. As a result God decided to confuse their language so they couldn't understand each other. So the languages of today's world came into being. The bible speaks of a woman riding a beast with a name written upon her forehead "Mystery, Babylon the Great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth." It says that this beast would ascend from the abyss. And goes on to speak of what is to happen in this world just before the return of Jesus Christ. Today, in Europe, we are seeing the resurrection of old Babylon. The Brussels and Strasbourg European Union parliament buildings both contain statues and paintings of the woman on a beast! Outside the Council of Europe building in Brussels is a sculpture of this same woman riding a beast. Europa, otherwise known as the Queen of Heaven. Depictions of this woman riding a beast have been found in the airport lounge in Brussels; on stamps, some currency notes and even on a German phone card at one point.

The European parliament building, opened in 2,000 AD in Strasbourg, is modelled on Pieter Bruegel's painting of the Tower of Babel. Internally there is a design connection with the Colosseum in Rome built to celebrate the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem in AD 70 and the slaughter of the Jews. The Ishtar Gate from ancient Babylon stands today in a museum in Berlin. We have been there and both seen and touched it.

There are some interesting factors regarding today's Europe. The world at the moment is going through a very severe financial recession. Especially hit are the U.S. and the United Kingdom. The EU, although experiencing somewhat of the same problems, is not hit to the same degree. It is in a lot better condition than America and Britain. Of 27 nations in the EU, 24 can be said to be Catholic and of the same 27 only 6 are monarchies. The United Kingdom is a monarchy and has been certainly for well over 1,000 years with only one hiccup when it became a republic, temporarily, under Cromwell. It is also not Catholic. It has been the United Kingdom which has, for centuries, withstood aggressive European dictators bent on world domination. And then, together with America and the Commonwealth nations, as we know, fought two world wars. The EU today is actually a fascist power, it's a grouping of states or powers held together in a tightly tied bundle, or fascis, which has great combined strength to exercise as it pleases in today's world. It is driven by its Catholicism. Can you imagine for a moment any one, and I mean any one of our politicians going to the cathedral at Aachen to take inspiration from Charlemagne, or from Otto the Great.

God tells us in Revelation chapter 18 to "come out of her my people, that you be not partakers of her sins, and that you receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities." But we have an enemy within! A fifth column! Politicians who understand nothing of Britain's history and apparently care even less. Politicians who have allowed, in fact encouraged, the demolition of any belief in God and His word and have encouraged a tragic breakdown of everything which has given this nation stability through the centuries. A stability and somewhat of a sense of what is right even though God says this in His word: "this people draws near to me with their mouth and honours me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. in vain they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." We should, as a nation, turn to God. But it might now already be too late.

John Jewell

LETTER FROM LONDON

No. 228

JUST WHAT ARE WE DOING!

This week, listening to BBC World Service and then reading first the Sunday newspapers and then the daily morning newspapers, I was amazed at the reports of another new huge problem to hit the world. You will certainly have become aware of the latest financial disaster. This concerns a prominent Wall Street figure named Bernard Madoff. He has just been arrested by the FBI and accused of running the biggest "Ponzi" scheme in financial history. Perhaps "scheme" is the wrong word - the word should be "Scam" Now you may wonder, as I did, what a "Ponzi" scheme is. It is named after an Italian financier who emigrated to the United States at the beginning of the last century. It was the great new opportunity to make a lot of money, but in fact it's a con where people are encouraged to invest in certain funds offered by an investment bank at an extremely good rate of interest. But instead of their money being properly invested it is used to pay the interest on earlier investments by others. Then, each year their own due interest is paid from money invested by others joining the scheme, or scam, later. These new investors in addition to the previous ones are paid interest from further investments. It takes no great financial brain to see that there comes a moment when no more money can be raised and both scheme and company collapses. In the meantime either the records will have been falsified and adverse market conditions can be blamed for the collapse; or the instigator of the scheme will have headed for some safe bolthole in South America.

It looks as though in this case Mr Madoff, was a little too late. One of the BBC's programme presenters did what I was tempted to do and that was to say he "made off" with the money, to misuse his name. The red alert was sounded when Mr Madoff was unexpectedly confronted with \$7million of withdrawals at a point when he was supposedly managing \$17 billion. At first sight the American federal investigators believe the international losses will be around \$50 billion and probably considerably more! Mr Madoff has confessed to the fraud being about that sum. A number of banks around the world have been hit badly. This, coming on top of the "credit crunch" is not good news! Banks such as the Spanish bank, Santander which had \$8 billion invested, Santander owns British bank, Abbey, several Swiss banks, others in Ireland, London, Nomura in Japan and so the roll call goes on. This is going to mean further trouble for investors in those institutions and undoubtedly further job losses. One wonders what other disasters will come to light from the murky world of international finance.

Mr Madoff and his company had actually been investigated by the two top American agencies, one of which was the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, and was given a "clean bill of health"! Even so, the extremely good rate of interest being offered should have of itself raised questions. An old saying is, "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!" - but Mr Madoff moved in high circles and exuded a charming and trustworthy presence. And then, of course, most could not resist the high interest rate. Once again greed exacts its own costly penalty. Just about every human weakness is covered by the bible and there are warnings. Concerning this situation it says "every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed" It continues "when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death." Lust, or an inordinate desire, is a sin against God. If there is no repentance for sinning against our Creator the result is final death. Yes, there are many other disasters just waiting in the wings for their moment of publicity.

The same news broadcasts have brought long reports concerning the worsening, dreadful conditions in the Central African Republic, which we have previously reported. This has not been much in the news as the focus has tended to be on Zimbabwe, Somalia, Sudan, the Darfur region, the Congo and other areas of the continent. But once again the word was of rape, death and destruction, murder of whole populations of villages, and corrupt so-called governments. One broadcaster recently on radio was trying to put a gloss on the situation in Africa. He listed several nations which, according to him, were happy, peaceful and productive. The truth is rather different. The world today is filled with violence. When the disciples asked Jesus Christ what would world conditions be like just before his return. He replied that the world would be

just as it was in the time of Noah. When you check to see what it was like at that time we read that "... the earth was filled with violence." Today, the world is filled with violence. Some places are just a bit safer than others, others just the reverse. Even in Britain people will admit to feeling threatened. An admission that would not have been made very long ago. Yet here we are, just before the world's celebration of Christmas, and the great festival of shopping which accompanies it, is well underway; and violence fills the earth just as Christ said it would. More than that, the same passage says of man in this present age, that "... every imagination and intention of all human thinking was only evil continually." He further warned us to "so not judge according to the appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."

The bible has a lot to say about government, about being in charge of others. It outlines how to handle this responsibility properly for the benefit of those one is supposed to be serving. Jesus Christ spelled it out in very few words. He said "... he that is greatest among you (has a responsibility over others) shall be your servant. And whoever exalts himself (or regards himself as superior to others) will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." Humility and a sense of service are not exactly words one can use when considering politicians. But they could be if only people would take the bible seriously. Realise it isn't something just for children, the feeble-minded or the very old. The bible contains all we need for success in life. You would, therefore, think that its principles, its teachings, would be prominent in our schools. We make the excuse that we mustn't offend those of other faiths. We say we are a Christian nation. In which case why don't we behave like one. In some Moslem countries it is an offence to possess a bible. You will be thrown in jail if you even begin to look as though you are trying to convert someone to Christianity. No one seems to be concerned about offending the professing Christian. In the United States they have even removed the big public plaques in schools and courthouses listing the ten commandments. Were they ever even erected in Britain - I don't recall seeing one.

From the schools in Britain you would not know that this is a professing Christian nation. I say "professing" because that's all it is. However, the bible's instruction to parents and to the teachers in our British schools is this: "train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." Is that happening in our schools today? Certainly not in the State schools. The Sunday Times of 14th December had an excellent article about just the primary schools where very young minds are in attendance. Minds which can be trained in the "way they should go"! Minds which can be taught self-discipline. Can be taught an enjoyment of learning. Can be taught to think clearly and logically. Can be taught what it is to love neighbour. Can be taught the basic principles of communication. Can be taught what it is to be a man and what it is to be a woman - our young children would have those role models in schools which have male teachers as well as female teachers. So many of British schools today have almost 100% women teachers. But boys generally speaking comprise roughly half the attendance. More and more are being brought up by single mothers with no father. Where are those role models? We are failing a full half of the future population of our two nations as I doubt America is any better.

In the Sunday Times, the article concerns a review by Sir Jim Rose of primary schools which was requested by the British government. If accepted it will effectively destroy the teaching of that foundation of education which is so important. What are called the "three R's" along with basic history, geography and science. Instead, the proposed subjects for primary school children are very woolly! The article gives the example of history and geography, this is to become "human, social and environmental understanding" Music becomes "understanding the arts and design." There is "understanding physical health and wellbeing" in which five year olds will "acquire a range of personal, social and emotional qualities essential to their health, wellbeing and life as a responsible citizen in the 21st century." The article, which is by Christopher Woodhead, a former chief inspector of schools, says that 20% of our children leave primary school unable to read and write well enough to deal with the demands of the secondary curriculum." It is probably true to say that primary schools in Britain today are already in a crisis. More and more parents are doing all they can to send their young children to private primary schools, where they stand a chance of getting that basic foundation, which is so important, and which provides the springboard to further knowledge.

However, in the State schools of today's Britain it is virtually impossible to properly control a class. A child virtually pleases itself what it will do, or not do. A child might wander around the class without correction. Teachers no longer have proper control, no meaningful sanctions that can be applied. Discipline is a thing of the past. Classes are so large that one teacher can neither teach or control the children. Is it a question of a lack of money? No it isn't! Governments, British or American, have no problem finding funds for whatever they want to do! Whether this is bailing out a company that should have closed down, or fighting yet another war to no good purpose. It's a complete lack of understanding what government is about, what it is for. Those in government today are the first harvest of the corruption that has overtaken British and American society. There is no longer any vision! The bible tells us that "where there is no vision, the people perish;" But as a nation we no longer believe in God or in Jesus Christ. Unless we get our act together very quickly now we face an uncertain future.

John Jewell

WEEKLY REVIEW OF NEWS AND COMMENT

19th December 2008

POZNAN, POLAND, CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The Guardian -- 9th December -- Too late? Why scientists say we should expect the worst. At a high-level academic conference on global warming at Exeter University this summer, climate scientist Kevin Anderson stood before his expert audience and contemplated a strange feeling. He wanted to be wrong. Many of those in the room who knew what he was about to say felt the same. His conclusions had already caused a stir in scientific and political circles. Even committed green campaigners said the implications left them terrified.carbon emissions were soaring way out of control The battle against dangerous climate change had been lost, and the world needed to prepare for things to get very, very bad..... The graphs on the large screens behind Anderson's head at Exeter told a different story. Line after line, representing the fumes that belch from chimneys, exhausts and jet engines, that should have bent in a rapid curve towards the ground, were heading for the ceiling instead.The escalating scale of human emissions could not have come at a worst time, as scientists have discovered that the Earth's forests and oceans could be losing their ability to soak up carbon pollution..... evidence emerged in 2005 that a vast expanse of western Siberia was undergoing an unprecedented thaw. The region, the largest frozen peat bog in the world, had begun to melt for the first time since it formed 11,000 years ago. Scientists believe the bog could begin to release billions of tonnes of methane locked up in the soils, a greenhouse gas 20 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

The Guardian -- 8th December -- Planet under pressure. This week, ministers and officials gather in Poznan at the start of a one-year countdown to the Copenhagen summit, at which experts say a deal must be reached if we are to have a chance of averting catastrophic warming. crucial question: will China and the U.S. sign up?

The Independent -- 15th December -- A sliver of cheer on climate change. (Al Gore) expounded lucidly the real danger now presented to the habitability of the earth from the warming caused by greenhouse gas emissions, and instanced a litany of dire effects already being observed, from the rapid melting of the glaciers of the Himalayas, upon which 1.4 billion people depend directly for their water, to the rising acidity of the oceans, produced by the increasing volume of CO₂ they are being forced to absorb..... Al Gore said "I believe that the causes for hope and optimism are greater than the causes for doubt and discouragement." But the outlook is not good;

International Herald Tribune -- 13-14 December -- The oceans' shifting balance..... the oceans are absorbing as much as a third of the carbon dioxide being emitted into the atmosphere. The effects are already being felt. That added carbon dioxide is slowly making the oceans less alkaline and more acidic, altering the chemical balance on which much of oceanic life depends. ... As the oceans acidify, shells (of many marine animals) will simply dissolve. The growth of coral reefs will slow, and their structural integrity would be weakened.... Ocean acidification is proceeding much faster than anyone had thought.

The Guardian -- 10th December -- Press the panic button. Its much worse than we thought. An emergency review of climate change is needed immediately. the Arctic has seen a 4 degree C rise in average temperatures over the past few decades. Arctic sea ice reached an all-time low in 2007, the Greenland ice cap is undergoing accelerated melting, and there are growing worries about the melting of the Siberian permafrost, which has the potential to release huge volumes of extra greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

Comment: The climate is changing and changing much more rapidly than had at first been thought. The change is so rapid that it is obvious now that very serious consequences are much closer than we could have imagined.

FAMINE

The Guardian -- 10th December -- World's starving nears the 1bn mark, warns UN food agency. 40 million more than last year go hungry, says report. Urgency over food crisis lost amid credit crunch. Almost a billion people go hungry each day after food price rises pushed 40 million more vulnerable people around the world into the ranks of the under-nourished, the UN food agency reported yesterday. There are now estimated to be 963 million people, 14% of the world's population, going hungry in 2008, up 40 million from last year..... the FAO director general, Jacques Diouf, said in a speech to launch the report: "This sad reality should not be acceptable at the dawn of the 21st century, not enough has been done to reduce hunger and not enough is being done to prevent more people becoming hungry."

Comment: To get this into perspective we are looking here at one sixth of the world's population. That is a huge number. With increasing climate change and warming of the planet it is not possible to turn this around now. The number suffering starvation is going to increase dramatically.

FLOODING

The Independent -- 15th December -- Two dead as flooding brings havoc across much of Britain.

Torrential rain caused flash floods across much of the UK over the weekend, inundating hundreds of homes and claiming the life of an elderly motorist whose car was swamped by nearly three feet of water.

International Herald Tribune -- 13-14 December -- Italy under strain on two fronts. Strong winds continued to push the Adriatic into the city's (St. Mark's Square in Venice) lagoon, forcing people on to makeshift walkways.

Comment: Photographs showed St. Mark's Square under two or three feet of water. The square does not normally experience flooding of that degree. But it is likely this is going to become a regular event. A projected flood barrier will not be completed for at least two years. And a lot can happen in 2 years.

GREECE -- CREDIT- CRUNCH RIOTS?

The Independent -- 13th December -- A taste of things to come? Greece's riots are a sign of the economic times. Other countries should beware, says (journalist) Peter Popham in Athens. After firing 4,600 tear-gas canisters in the past week, the Greek police have nearly exhausted their stock. As they seek emergency supplies from Israel and Germany, still the petrol bombs and stones of the protesters rain down, with clashes again outside parliament yesterday. Bringing together youths in their early twenties struggling to survive amid mass youth unemployment and schoolchildren swotting for highly competitive university exams that may not ultimately help them in a treacherous jobs market, the event of the past week could be called the first credit-crunch riots. There have been smaller-scale sympathy attacks from Moscow to Copenhagen, and economists say countries with similarly high youth unemployment problems such as Spain and Italy should prepare for unrest. **Trade Union Economist Petros Rylmon said "Everyone is afraid of the future because of the economic crisis. They feel it'll get worse."**

Comment: We shall see an increase in civil unrest in the world in general. However Britain is likely to be a different case altogether given present and likely future government actions. We could well see a breakdown of society with everything that entails.

BRITAIN

Daily Mail -- 13th December -- Who'll defend the family. This week UNICEF warned of the dangers to British children in driving mothers back to work. Here, a leading philosopher argues the liberal establishment's onslaught on the family is the most profoundly tragic mistake of our age. From almost the first moment of recorded history, one set of relationships has been at the heart of the human experience and the basis of civilisation itself: a mother and father who depend on each other; the children who rely on them both; a supportive network of grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. Without the loyalties and obligations of the committed family, our ancestors would certainly have struggled to survive in a dangerous and frightening world.

Comment: From the moment the British Labour Party became in all but name a Marxist Socialist Party there has been an onslaught by that party against the family. Marxist Socialism hates anything it cannot specifically control. The family is the last defence against the totalitarian, intrusive, controlling State. No wonder that right now there is an unprecedented attack on it. It is God who created the family unit and those who would destroy it will pay a price, a heavy price, for their actions. They believe God does not exist. They are soon to learn differently.

SOME CLOSING NEWS HEADLINES

-- International Herald Tribune -- 16th December. **Australia: Bad times for 'lucky' country.** Household debt relative to the size of the Australian economy is among the highest in the world.

-- The Independent -- 16th December. **Chinese growth to be halved.** Falling from 9.7% to 5 or 6% in 2009

-- The Independent -- 16th December. **Arctic melt passes the point of no return.**

-- The Independent -- 12th December . **More tsunami quakes forecast. Scientists predict a succession of tremors similar to the one that laid waste to South-east Asia in 2004.**

Please note: The Newsletter will not be published next week, 26 Dec.

**As 2008 draws to a close.... The International Herald Tribune asked:
WHERE ARE WE HEADED IN 2009 AS SEEN BY SOME
PROMINENT PEOPLE.**

Tzipi Livni, Israel foreign minister: I expect fateful choices. ...I hope for peace. I hope we can all take the decisions and actions necessary to make peace --From fundamentalist terrorism to food shortages, from global warming to the current financial crisis, we all have a responsibility to transform this period of global uncertainty into one of global creativity and renewal. I fear that we will wake up too late. There is a troubling asymmetry in the ideological battle being waged today. Those opposed to democracy and freedom regularly exhibit both passion and sacrifice, while too many democracies are complacent and pursue narrow self-interest.

Ban Ki Moon, UN secretary general: Like Roosevelt, I believe the only thing to fear is fear itself. If we give in to fear – if we lose our political will and long-term perspective – we will see a cascading series of crises, spilling from nation to nation. If we turn inward, we will lose chances to make a difference in places like Ivory @Coast or Bangladesh, both trying to organize democratic elections, or the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where war and peace are so delicately balanced. This coming year, we have a chance to pick up where Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan left off so many years ago, a hair's breadth away from abolishing nuclear weapons. We must not let fear cloud our vision of the future.

Bertrand Delanoë, Mayor of Paris: The world is at a crossroads: Without political will, without real awareness, we risk the plague of nationalism and an ebbing of democracy, and with this the prospect of more conflicts of greater violence. So we must act now.What I most hope for, as a citizen of the world, is that we make progress on the road toward peace in places where conflicts are bring grief to our planet:: that the Middle East may find a path toward reciprocal recognition of legitimate sovereignties; that Africa may free itself from endless wars; that India and |Pakistan may move toward a reasonable reconciliation. And I hope that we may move forward in the essential combat against terrorism, which is a fanatical passion for death. What I fear is that nothing, or almost nothing, of what I have just sketched out comes to pass. I fear that violence may increase despite the confidence in progress held by all those who wish to work for greater justice. I fear we will be unable to close the era that opened on Sept 11, 2001. Doing so is, however, essential.

Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, President of Liberia: I fear that if raised expectations from the new U.S. administration are slow in being realized, the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq could lead to deeper international cleavages and a return to the geopolitical rivalries and fissures of the Cold War, thus undermining multilateral approaches to global cooperation. Closer to home, I fear that uncertainties in certain countries in West Africa could lead to political turmoil and threaten progress in the consolidation of peace and development.

Mira Nair, Indian filmmaker: I hope for India and Pakistan to talk to each other. The region must realize that we share a common danger. Its time the region looks to itself, rather than to the United States, for solutions to its problems. What I fear is another war. The war psychosis since 9/11 has so strengthened the warmongers that I fear the possibility of another. And that would be devastating to my hopes and dreams of a new world led by Obama.

Comment: There were several other comments. What was coming through was a fear of the future with a recognition of the existing problems, but with no answer to the way forward. However, this was tempered with the feeling that we shall enter into a new age of hope with the installation of Barak Obama as the president of the United States. Our view is that this is a misplaced hope!

Church of God

Issue 46/08

19th December 08

THIS WEEK

As usual the week before Christmas Day and the days afterwards make life a little difficult. So we are trying to square a circle by producing radio programmes to go up on air for this coming week, but also because radio station staff are keeping Christmas, everything else gets shaken from its usual routine, and so we have to alter our schedules somewhat.

We have had a message from Jackson Lenkume in Kenya. He says "Christian greeting in the name of Jesus Christ. My family and I are OK. We are faring well in the work of God while watching the way the world going on since the prophecy is being fulfilled. The whole world has chosen one person though many did not vote but in their souls and mind they have elected – Obama – to an extent that the whole world has celebrated. Here in Kenya we celebrated for a day with other countries celebrating for more than seven days. We are not sure whether he will be the one to bring the beast or any other person. Therefore let us pray and stand firm in the word of God."

I had no idea the Kenyan people had that viewpoint. One which seems to be shared by others in Africa.

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