

TABLE SUMMARISING THE DEVELOPMENT OF WCG DOCTRINES & TITLES

By Craig M White

[NB: this chart summarises the sources that were used by HWA and others as they researched and sifted through a number of works and books. What they found they took to a new level of clarity and understanding and restored much knowledge to the Church of God per the prophecy of Daniel 12:4]
V. 5.0

<i>Doctrine</i>	<i>Fundament -als of Belief No.</i>	<i>18 Truths</i>	<i>Date/Period</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Apostleship of HWA			1951	Herman L Hoeh – sermon during the Feast of Tabernacles	This doctrine did not become prominent until late 1970s ¹
Babylonian Mystery Religion		16. Identity of Babylon and Her Daughters	1930s?	Church of God (seventh day) and other groups; A J Ferris; A Jukes and <i>The Two Babylons</i> by A Hislop	Some think that ‘The Coming Prince’ by Sir Robert Anderson (late 1800s) was inspirational but there is little proof for that. There are also too many differences.
Baptism in water (inc repentance, faith, overcoming etc)	10 & 11		Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day)	
Beast Power and end-time prophecy			1930s	Church of God (seventh day) and other publications such as a book on Daniel by Talbot etc	The Beast concept was growing and maturing over centuries. See ‘Prophetic Faith of our Fathers’ by Leroy Froom (I have all 4 vols). Even in the early 1800s many saw Napoleon as the Beast. Sometime during the mid 1800s period, many Sabbatarian

¹ The following is cited by Church of God historian Richard C Nickels: “Armstrong’s Ministerial License Certificate, issued March 2, 1932 by the Oregon State Conference of the Church of God, certified that “H.W. Armstrong is a recognized licensed minister, and **apostle** of the true primitive faith, that he has labored for Jesus, and among this people for the required period before being recognized in this capacity. He is a man of high Christian character, able to defend the true doctrines set forth by Christ and the apostles, qualified and commissioned to preach the gospel, and administer the ordinance of baptism.” [emphasis mine]

Table Summarising the Development of WCG Doctrines and Titles

Doctrine	Fundamentals of Belief No.	18 Truths	Date/Period	Source	Comments
					<p>folk believed in a future Holy Roman Empire as a fulfilment of prophecy: "In checking with what some of our brethren predicted after the 1844 time-setting disappointment, they stressed that the Holy Roman Empire would be revived shortly before our Lord's return." (the famous CG7 evangelist, John Kiesz in 'The Way it Looks from Here' article, 1990).</p> <p>In a subsequent letter to myself, Kiesz a year or so later, he wrote: "In reference to what some of our Brethren predicted after the great time-setting disappointment of 1844, they were looking for the fulfilment of the image of the Beast, the healing of the wounded Beast, the Mark of the Beast, his number of this name, and the great persecution. – <i>The Hope of Israel</i>, Vol. 1, No. 13, 1864 issue, predecessor of <i>The Bible Advocate</i>. Napoleon Bonaparte's vast Empire over which he reigned from 1804 to 1815, was the Beast that went into the bottomless pit (Revelation 17:8). – <i>The Hope of Israel</i>, Vol. III, No. 19, February 23, 1869"</p> <p>Over time these concepts were developed and fleshed out. Armstrong read widely and took the CG7 beliefs and SDA understandings further but this was not unique to him as many Baptists agreed in principle about a coming US of Europe. But HWA showed that it would be led by Germany and invade the Anglo-Saxon powers, something the others didn't teach. Hal Lindsay who got most of his prophetic ideas from Armstrong (although got the King of the North mixed up with Russia), also didn't see the German connection or who the 'lost' tribes of Israel were.</p>
Binitarianism/Ditheism	1 & 2	5. Who and What is God	Late 1930s?	Personal research?	To my knowledge the CoG7 was mainly Arian (with a large component of Adoptionists) in the 1930s but changed to a Binitarian position in 1994. The debate over Christology commenced around 1982

Table Summarising the Development of WCG Doctrines and Titles

Doctrine	Fundament -als of Belief No.	18 Truths	Date/Period	Source	Comments
Born again in the resurrection		11. Begotten now 12. Born again at resurrection	Late 1920s or early 1930s	Probably early literature by Church of God (seventh day), Russellites and E W Bullinger	Greatly expanded upon by HWA
British-Israel Identity	16	13. Identity of Israel 14. Identity Opens Up	1927	Reverend Lincoln McConnell, pastor of the First Baptist Church of St. Petersburg, Florida & J H Allen's book <i>Judah's Sceptre and Joseph's Birthright</i>	"See How Anglo-Israelism Entered the Churches of God", <i>Worldwide News</i> , 27 Feb 1996, by Ralph Orr for details. HWA talked about that he read Allen's book in his Bible study on Galatians 5 & 6, 19 July 1980
Christian calling – few called today		8. Firstfruits	1943	Personal study; Russellites	Apparently, this belief first appeared in the article "Predestination. Does the Bible teach it?" <i>Plain Truth</i> , Nov-Dec 1943: 8-12
Christian separateness from the world		18. Christian separateness	1930s?	Generic to sabbatarians, Jews etc	Greatly expanded upon by HWA
Church Eras			1930s?	A N Dugger and G G Rupert (SDAs also taught this)	Some information is contained within the book <i>True History of the True Religion</i>
Church of God history			1930s	AN Dugger's book on <i>True History of the True Religion</i> . Further information from Herman L Hoeh	Hoeh no doubt read <i>Truth Triumphant. The Church in the Wilderness and Facts of Faith</i> etc
Church Governance structure		4. Government	Early 1950s	Apparently encouraged by Hegvold, Hoeh and Meredith	JW's still call their administrative structure 'God's Government'
Clean & Unclean meats	14		Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day)	
Divorce & remarriage - original doctrine			1930s/40s	Church of God (seventh day)	Probably further research led him to his position
Ezekiel's Message/Captivity doctrine	18		May 1941	Impressed upon his mind in the 1940s. Warning ministry of G G Rupert. Possibly the writings of A J Ferris	Probably further information came via Herman L Hoeh. Source: January 1962 <i>Plain Truth</i> in instalment 41 of "The Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong." It seems to be an outgrowth of the 'Third Angel's Message' as taught at that time by the Church of God (seventh day) and also by the SDAs. The First Angel's Message was supposedly the Gospel preached until 1844 by the Millerites; the Second Angel's

Table Summarising the Development of WCG Doctrines and Titles

Doctrine	Fundament -als of Belief No.	18 Truths	Date/Period	Source	Comments
					Message was around about and after that time – to leave the churches and join the Advent movement. The Third was a terrible warning – heed the message by keeping the Sabbath and eschewing Sunday Mark of the Beast.
Ezekiel 38 & 39 occur after Christ’s return			1943 if not earlier	Bible Dictionaries	His study on this seems to be in response to the BIWF and possibly Church of God (seventh day). Refer to the article “What’s Prophesied about Russia,” <i>Plain Truth</i> , Nov-Dec 1943: 5-7, 12.
Gap theory			Possibly since late 1920s	Scofield Bible, possibly Church of God (seventh day) and others	
Genesis 6:9			1930s?	Bullinger and some BI literature	
Germany is Assyria			Early 1950s	Herman L Hoeh who would have seen the few British-Israelite comments on this and works by A J Ferris such as <i>When Russia Bombs Germany</i> (published in 1940); <i>The Great Tribulation; The Book of Revelation, a simple explanation and survey</i> (published in 1940); <i>Germany’s doom foretold</i> . The understanding that the White Hittites (not to be confused with the Canaanite Hittites, descendants of Heth), was probably found in the writings of L Austine Waddell and Prof Herbert Bruce Hannay	HWA originally held the view that the Germans descended from Gomer. Yet by the early 1950’s, he changed to accept the proven Assyrian origin of the Germans. (see “What is going to happen?”, <i>Plain Truth</i> , June-July 1934: 6).
Good News			Early 1930s	Title for the magazine based on the Bible – ie Gospel is Old English for Good News or Glad Tidings	
Gospel of the Kingdom		1. True Gospel	Late 1920s?	Church of God (seventh day) etc	Greatly expanded upon by HWA. Prior to him, it was not taught with any conviction or detail. The Third Angel’s Message seemed to be paramount instead
Healing			Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day) etc	Greatly expanded upon by HWA
Hebrew Calendar			1930s	Church of God (seventh day)	Greatly expanded upon by HWA
Holy Days	13	3. God’s Plan	Late 1920s	G G Rupert and others	Greatly expanded upon by HWA

Table Summarising the Development of WCG Doctrines and Titles

Doctrine	Fundament -als of Belief No.	18 Truths	Date/Period	Source	Comments
		through the Holy Days			
Holy Spirit not a personage	3	10. Truth about the Holy Spirit	Late 1930s?	Church of God (seventh day) and JWs	Greatly expanded upon by HWA
Laying on of hands			Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day)	
Man's divine destiny		2. Purpose of God 6. What and why is man		Personal study (possibly triggered by others)	See <i>Global Church News</i> , Aug-Sept 1993: 11-12 for details
Military/war – non-involvement	15		Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day) etc	
Millennium		9. Knowledge of what the Millennium is	Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day)	Details came later from <i>Digest of Divine Law</i> by Howard B Rand and further studies
Mortality of man/soul	6	6. What and why is man	Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day) & EW Bullinger	
Origin of the gentile nations (Genesis 10)			Progressively	Herman L Hoeh	No doubt Hoeh read the various Bible commentaries and very likely <i>Peopling of the Earth</i> and <i>Empires of the Bible</i> by AT Jones; A H Sayce's <i>Races of the Old Testament</i> ; George Rawlinson's <i>Origin of Nations</i> as starting points
Pagan origin of Easter, Christmas etc			Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day), JWs, SDAs etc	Probably also E W Bullinger and the plethora of literature around on these subjects such as Hislop's <i>Two Babylons</i>
Passover on 14 Abib			Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day) (and JWs?)	Greatly expanded upon by HWA. Russellites also held to this view
Pentecost on Sunday			1974	Raymond F McNair plus input from a Jewish scholar and Herman Hoeh	Initially held to view that Sivan 6 was the correct date until around 1938; then Monday was regarded as the correct date until change made to Sunday in 1974
Place of Safety			1940s?	Bullinger in his <i>Companion Bible</i> notes and/or Louis Talbot (it is interesting that in the 1940s Hoeh was familiar with the famous radio evangelist and preacher Talbot according to Robert Macdonald who knew Dr	Greatly expanded upon by HWA and HL Hoeh. The earliest reference to it in WCG literature that I can find is in the <i>Plain Truth</i> , March-April 1942

Table Summarising the Development of WCG Doctrines and Titles

Doctrine	Fundament -als of Belief No.	18 Truths	Date/Period	Source	Comments
				Hoeh. Talbot wrote the booklet <i>I Saw Petra</i> a book on Daniel's prophecies and also a book on the typology of the feast days)	
Plain Truth			Early 1930s	Title for the magazine drawn from Benjamin Franklin's political pamphlet (1747), <i>Plain Truth</i>	In his <i>Autobiography</i> , HWA stated in the Introduction and chapters 1 & 2 that he pored through Franklin's works which were a tremendous inspiration to him
Prayer & Fasting			Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day) etc	
Race Relations			Late 1920s	Common knowledge at that time among Christendom and BIs	
Sabbath	12		Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day)	
Salvation & Conversion are processes in 3 stages				Personal research?	Probably further Bible research
Satan, Demons, Angels	3	17. Satan is the guilty party	Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day)	Further details came in 1950s
Saturday resurrection (just prior to sunset)			Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day); EW Bullinger	
Second Resurrection for those not called at this time			Early 1940s?	Influence of Russellites and further research	Apparently, the idea that the majority of mankind is yet to be offered salvation first appeared in the article "Predestination. Does the Bible teach it?" <i>Plain Truth</i> , Nov-Dec 1943: 8-12. Although it seems to indicate that this would occur during the Millennium rather than during the Last Great Day – the latter understanding came later
Seven Thousand Year Plan			Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day); Russellites etc	Probably also the Scofield and Darby Bibles
Spirit in Man		7. Spirit in man	Early 1960s	Unknown	Developed further in early 1970s by Robert L Kuhn and HWA himself
Third Resurrection			Early 1950s	Probably via C Paul Meredith	Refer to his article "If you die will you live again?" <i>Good News</i> , March 1952: 3-6 how this entered the Church
Tithing - First			Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day) etc	Understanding of 2 nd and 3 rd tithes came later

Table Summarising the Development of WCG Doctrines and Titles

Doctrine	Fundament -als of Belief No.	18 Truths	Date/Period	Source	Comments
Tithing – Second and Third		15. Second and Third	1940s-50s	Further study	This doctrine is similar to positions taken by some Jewish authorities
US of Europe			Early 1930s	Probably elements within the Church of God (seventh day) and other sources	Greatly expanded upon by HWA and other evangelists
Wednesday Crucifixion	9		Late 1920s	Church of God (seventh day) & EW Bullinger	Evidence greatly expanded upon by H L Hoeh
WCG official seal			1963	Is 11:6-9 and Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints seal?	The seal of this group seems to have provided the inspiration for the WCG seal
World Tomorrow			Early 1950s	Based on the term ‘the age to come’ in Heb 6:5. Cp Matt 19:28	The term was also extant in some places in the 1930s such as the <i>World of Tomorrow</i> motto for the world renowned 1939 New York’s World Fair