

# The Symbolic Code

WINTER 2007

Universal Publishing Association — Mountain Dale, NY



## Global Warming —A Warning?

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.” Romans 12:1, 2

“Christianity—how many there are who do not know what it is! It is not something put on the outside. It is a life inwrought with the life of Jesus. It means that we are wearing the robe of Christ’s righteousness. In regard to the world, Christians will say, we will not dabble in politics. They will say decidedly, we are pilgrims and strangers; our citizenship is above. They will not be seen choosing company for amusement. We are strangers and pilgrims, looking for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.”  
—Testimonies to Ministers, p. 131

“One imprudent step, one careless action, may plunge the church into difficulties and trials from which it may not recover for years. One member of the church filled with unbelief, may give an advantage to the great foe that will affect the prosperity of the entire church, and many souls may be lost as the result.”  
—Testimonies, Vol. 3, p. 446

General Association of Davidian Seventh-day Adventists  
Mt. Carmel Center  
Mountain Dale, New York

# Table of Contents

	<b>Pages</b>
Global Warming - A Warning?	3
MidEast Crisis - Why?	7
Earth's Last Crisis	12
How Important is Time?	14
How To Gain Maximum Efficiency	18
News from Around the World	22
Second Tithe: Do I Need to Return It?	25
Principles of Family Finance	29
Financial Planning	32
<b>Health Corner</b>	<b>34</b>
Hidden Animal Ingredients	34
An unforgettable Experience	38
Youth: Leaders of Tomorrow	40
Thoughts from Amber	43
Information Sheet	44
Do People mistake you for Jesus?	45
The Mail Bag	46
Announcements	49

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# Global Warming - *A Warning?*

DID you know that the global temperature has been rising dangerously over the past few decades? This is definitely so and responsible scientists are now sounding the voice of alarm everywhere. What is the cause of this new danger? And what grave problems are likely to afflict the planet as the earth's global temperature continues to soar?

The cause of global warming is essentially due to the effect of the greenhouse gases we burn in our modern, industrialized society, releasing vast quantities of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Among the catastrophic problems we can expect to see are:

- More droughts in the southern regions of the earth.
- More floods and downpours in the northern regions of the earth.
- More diseases as harmful insects, like

mosquitoes and flies, multiply and spread with the warming climates, to places where the cold heretofore, forbade and killed them.

- Many adorable (like the polar bears, penguins, sea birds) and beneficial animal species will become extinct – quickly disappearing from the planet. Fierce heat waves afflicting various parts of the planet.
- More powerful storms/hurricanes/typhoons devastating cities, towns and villages.
- More tsunamis and rising sea levels that are dangerously high.
- The Greenland Ice Sheet, two miles thick at the center can potentially raise the world's oceans 23 feet high, is melting dangerously fast.

Before we read more of these points in

the actual words of concerned scientists, it is timely to recall the bible prediction made about two thousand years ago: "In the last days perilous times shall come. . . ." 2 Tim. 3:1, and that God will also destroy "them that destroy the earth." Rev. 11:18. Now listen to these ominous bells of alarm from respected scientists.

Scientists Bill Blakemore speaks out: "NEW YORK, FEB. 3, 2007—The findings in the new report are sobering enough – that the world's scientist agree global warming is "unequivocal" and irreversible: Manmade greenhouse gases are shooting up – driving the rise in earth's temperature and sea level, and the decline in earth's snow cover.

"But there's a massive unknown worrying the scientists: Sea levels could rise in the coming decades faster than anyone thought.

"Ominous news in the fourth unanimous assessment in 20 years by the IPCC [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change], just finalized at a plenary session in Paris, sets the stage: the human-induced warming has now reached down more than a mile to normally frigid deep ocean currents—currents that for millions of years have acted as a massive cooling system for the planet.

"Water expands as it heats up, so scien-

tists can now calculate that sea level will rise up between seven inches and nearly two feet before the end of the century.

"But there is also an enormous wild card: It's the Greenland Ice Sheet, two miles thick at its center and containing enough ice to raise the world's oceans 23 feet. It is melting so fast that scientists in Paris couldn't settle any on predictions for it."

Another scientist writes:

Global Warming's Extinction Threat  
"No natural climate cycles can explain the heat. It must be caused, in large measure at least, by manmade greenhouse-gas emissions, NASA scientists said.

"As for humans, new studies in the journal Nature have confirmed the World Health Organization estimates that, conservatively, 150,000 more people die each year—and five million more get sick—because manmade global warming is helping insect and water-borne diseases to spread, especially among poorer nations.

"Scientists in the tropics have reported that warming is drying forests, spurring a growing number of extinctions, and threatening even the many species of wild orchids that rely on near-constant mist in the cloud forests.

"If it gets any warmer, I don't see how

extinction can be avoided,” said Karen Masters’ an American scientist working on wild orchids in Costa Rica’s Monte Verde Cloud Forest. . . .

“At this winter’s worldwide global-warming conference in Montreal, the U.S. came under a great deal of criticism from almost all the other countries for refusing to participate in any formal discussions about how to try to cut greenhouse emissions, and how to try to slow the warming that has already started to disrupt so much life around the world.”

Amy Goodman, another scientist writes:

“While the rest of the world accepts the reality of global warming, the U.S., the world’s largest producer of greenhouse gases, has been stymied by the disinformation campaigns of the oil industry. Let’s hope the new 110<sup>th</sup> Congress shifts climate-change policy at a glacial pace – the rapidly receding 21<sup>st</sup>-century glaciers, that is. Key committees will be chaired by Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., and Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich. Replacing chairman Sen. James Inhofe, R-Okla., who describes global warming as a hoax, Boxer is bullish on fighting greenhouse gases. Dingell, from the heart to the auto industry in Michigan, is less direct and hedges on his willingness, for example to push for better fuel efficiency in cars.”

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As a child I often wondered over the bible statement regarding “them which “destroy the earth.” Rev. 11:18. I puzzled over the question: “How could men destroy the earth?” Today more than ever: through chemical pollution of air, land and sea; through de-forestation — which affects the weather and promotes soil erosion and impoverishment— through global warming, wars and other evils even a child can painfully see that the planet is being poisoned and destroyed and that therefore God must intervene very soon, because only an omnipotent God can stop the mad rush to destruction at every level?

Inspiration says:

“Manifest, too, is the certainty that Heaven has permitted these instruments of destruction to come in order to rouse Christendom, ministry and laity alike, to a concerted, enlightened, all-out action as the Lord leads ahead to save man from himself and from the Devil. Christianity failing this task, and leaving the world to save itself as best it can, the Enemy will ere long wipe out not only the knowledge of God and of salvation but also civilization itself. . . .” WHR p. 7

“. . . Will not all Christians everywhere be aroused by these things to “put on

the whole armour of God" and to "take. . .the sword of the Spirit" (Eph. 6:11, 17) while following the Lord as He leads ahead? If not, then certain it is that the Church and the World as well are hopelessly doomed. To be sure, though, the few who do arouse to make the total surrender which the hour demands, God will save from, the conflagration to come." WHR pp. 9, 10.

"Perilous times are before us. Everyone who has a knowledge of the truth should awake and place himself, body, soul, and spirit, under the discipline of God. The enemy is on our track. We must be wide awake, on our guard against him. We must put on the whole armor of God. We must follow the directions given through the spirit of prophecy. We must love and obey the truth for this time." 8T 298.

Indeed let us recognize global warming as a sign telling us that the kingdom is at the door.

At this point another darker and more dreadful pollution looms up in view. In fact the global pollution, frightening as it is, is just another grim reminder of this uglier and deadlier pollution that like a shroud of death devastates planet earth – the moral and spiritual pollution of sin. Yes, is it not sin that is the real cause of the woes and evils that curse the planet? Are we therefore putting sin out

of our lives? Are we putting away our idols? Are we, as Jesus instructs us to do, cutting off the right hand and digging out the right eye that causes us to sin? Are we doing our God-given work (sighing and crying) that the kingdom may soon be established and the earth renewed, where no global warming or pollution of any type shall mar or curse our everlasting habitations, and where the inhabitants shall never say I am sick? Let us indeed say, beloved brethren by words and actions, "Thy kingdom come."

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# MidEast Crisis - Why?

## Part 2

**"The Times of the Gentiles" Fulfilled**

**1. What did Christ say concerning "the times of the Gentiles"? Luke 21:24**

**Note:** As previously mentioned in the note under question two, page 12, God has not taken nor will He take the unbelieving Jews back to Jerusalem or Palestine, because of their rejection of Christ. Furthermore, because of their wickedness in their rejection of the prophets, the ten tribe kingdom, and later the two tribe kingdom, were cast out of their land. See 2 Kings 17:5-24; 2 Chron. 36:14-21

**2. When the Lord returns the captivity of His people (Joel 3:1,2) will sinners dwell among them? Joel 3:16,17; Zech. 14:21; Ezek. 20:38.**

**3. After the latter rain falls (Joel 2:23) where will deliverance be found? Joel**

**2:32; Micah 5:7; Zech. 8:19-23; Obad. 17,21**

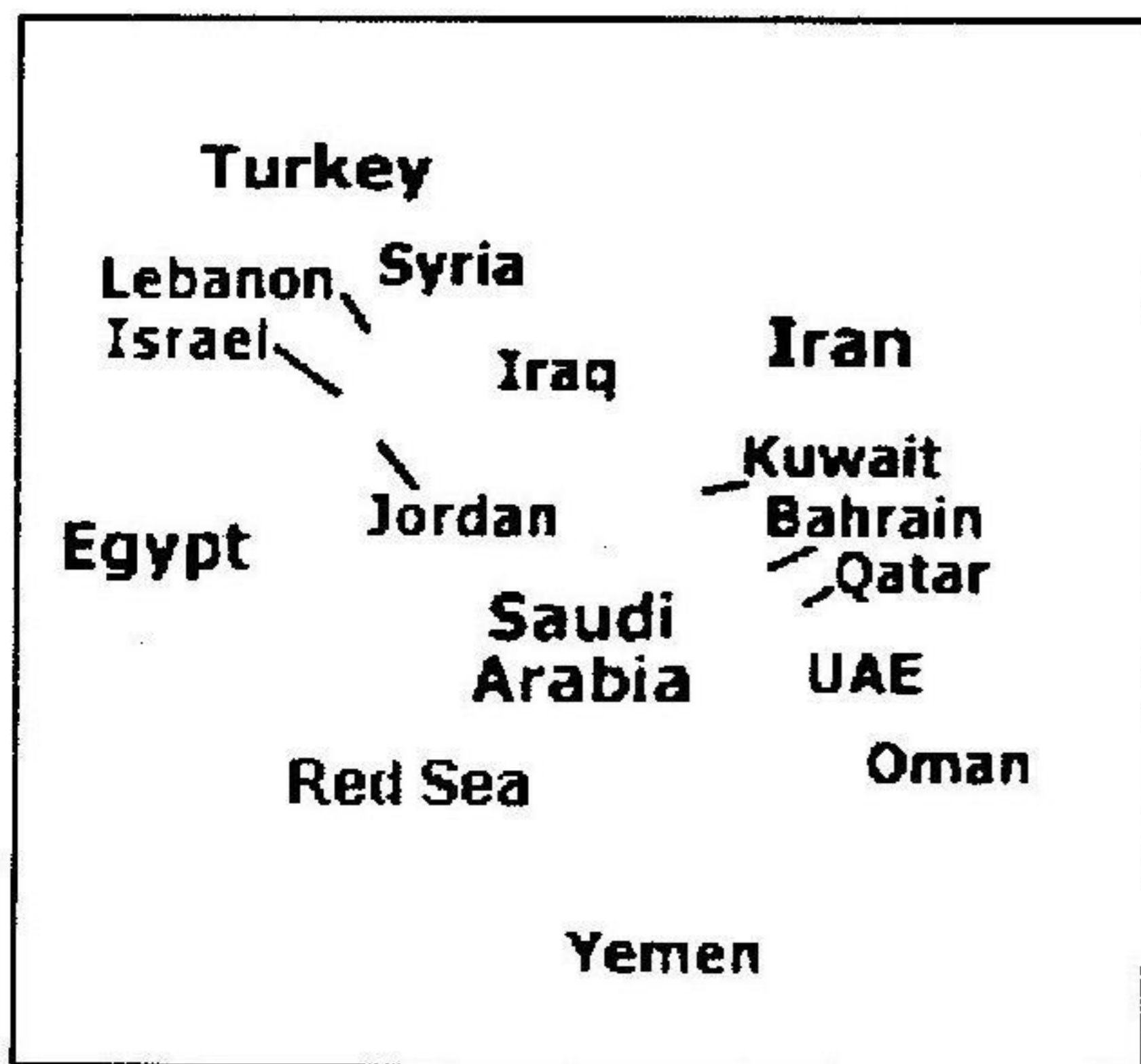
**4. At what time will the Lord gather all nations "down into the valley of Jehoshaphat"? Joel 3:1,2**

**Note:** The very first word ("for") of chapter three shows that the prophecy of chapter two continues through chapter three.

These verses explain why, how, and when God's people are delivered in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem. These things, you see, are to take place when He brings again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem. Then shall He bring all the nations into the valley of Jehoshaphat and there plead for all His captive people whom the nations have scattered throughout the world.

**5. What reveals the vile practices of the heathen? Joel 3:3**





6. What will be the reward and recompense of those who have scattered God's people? Joel 3:4-8

7. When these prophecies are being fulfilled, for what will the nations be preparing? Joel 3:9,10

8. When the heathen assemble Whose presence (though invisible) will be there? Joel 3:11. Compare Isaiah 13:3-6; 31:14, 5; Zech. 2:5, 10-13.

9. Where will God judge the people? Joel 3:12-14.

Note: Yes, here is described the day of decision. The multitudes will then have to decide either to serve God and live or to continue serving the Devil and perish with him.

10. Describe the day we are approaching. Joel 3:15,16; 2:1,2,10,11

Note: What a day the world is now approaching, and how blind to the fact is the church herself!

11. Where will our final cleansing take place? Joel 3:17-21

Note: The statement- "then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her anymore" - should clearly

indicate to the candid student that this Jerusalem is not in heaven.

Our final cleansing is to be in our own land. The scriptures, you see, are correlated; one truth explains another. Verses and chapters, therefore, cannot be isolated from their context if they are rightly to be understood. A correct idea cannot be built upon any one verse when isolated from its continuity. And only when we take God at His Word can we in truth study the Scriptures. Then we need but the key word to unlock the mysteries of God. And here we have it.

12. At what time does God make His people "a name and a praise among all people of the earth?" Zeph. 3:17-20; Zech. 3:8; Isa. 24:16; 49:23; 61:4-9; 62:2,3,12.

Note: Again we see that "the times of the Gentiles" will be fulfilled (Luke 21:24) when God "shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem." "For the Lord their God shall visit them, and turn away their captivity." (Joel 3:1; Zeph. 2:7)

And now, fellow student, as you continue to "prove all things" and to "hold fast that which is good" the truth will become even more clear on the prophecies of

### The Setting up of the Kingdom.

1. How long were God's people to be without a kingdom? Hosea 3:4. After "many days" what are they to do? verse 5
2. Give another reference that predicted the destruction of the ancient kingdom. Amos 9: 8. What promise was made to the house of Jacob, or Israel? verse 8, last part, verse 9.
3. What will happen to the sinners among God's people? Amos 9:10. In that day what will the Lord do? verse 11. Compare Hosea 2:15
4. Whom will God's people possess? Amos 9:12. Compare Zeph. 2:9, last part; Obadiah 17-21; Num.24:17-19; Isa. 14:1,2
5. How did Micah predict the downfall of Zion and Jerusalem? Micah 3:12. Did the prophecy come to pass? How did he describe the restoration of Zion and Jerusalem? Micah 4:1. Will this, then, also come to pass?
6. From where will the gospel message go forth at that time? Micah 4:2, last part What will the converted nations do? verses 2-5. Compare Isa. 60:3-11; Zech. 8:19-23
7. To whom will the kingdom come? Micah 4:8
8. When does Daniel say the kingdom will be set up? Dan. 2:44. By what is the kingdom symbolized? Dan. 2:34,44
9. Out of what is the stone cut? Dan. 2:45. After the stone (kingdom) smites the image what does it become? Dan. 2:34,44. Of what is a mountain symbolical? Zech. 8:3; Isa. 56:6,7; Dan. 9:20.
10. How will the daughter of Zion (the descendants of God's ancient people-the kingdom church) have a part in the breaking (separating) of the nations? Micah 4:11-13. Compare Isa. 41:14-16' 60:12; Jer.51:19-23; Joel 2:1-11; Micah 5:7-9.
11. How is Daniel's interpretation of

the "stone" reinforced in Zechariah 12? Zech. 12:1-3,9. Compare verses 4-8 with Zech. 10:5,6; 14:14.

Note: You will notice from these scriptures that (1) The kingdom (the stone) is set up before it smites the nations; (2) It is cut out of the mountain without hands, by a miracle, by the Lord Himself; (3) That after it smites the image it grows into a great mountain and finally fills the whole earth. It is obvious that the threshing or the separating of the nations is in the time of the harvest, the time in which there are both wheat and chaff to be separated.

"Clad in the armour of Christ's righteousness, the church is to enter her final conflict. 'Fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners,' she is to go forth into all the world, conquering and to conquer." - *Prophets and Kings*, p.725

"And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call." Joel 2:32

In words so simple that a child can understand, and so plain that "the way-faring men, though fools, shall not err therein" (Isa.35:8), the Scriptures further show

## The Reason for the Kingdom.

1. What promise did God make to Abraham? 1 Chron. 16:16-18. Will He keep this promise? Ezek. 20:37, last part; Micah 7:20; Amos 9:11-15.
2. What was Jeremiah told to write in a book? Why? Jer. 30:1-3, 17-20.
3. What time of trouble do God's people go through on their way back to their homeland? Jer. 30:4-7 What definitely shows that after being punished (Jer. 30:11-15) they will again become a kingdom, with their own king and ruler? Jer. 30:8-11,21,22.
4. What is to fall upon the wicked? Whose intention is it to restore the kingdom? Jer. 30:23,24. Do you believe the Lord will do what He says He will do? When will God's people consider it? Verse 24, last part.

Note: The fact that the forgoing prophecies of the restoration of the kingdom during probationary time have not been fulfilled, and the fact that the Lord declared that He will bring them to pass should be sufficient evidence for faith; however, some ask the question:

## Are the Promises of the Kingdom conditional?

1. How positive is the Lord concern-

ing His promises? Jer. 31:35-37;  
33:20-26.

Note: Jeremiah chapter thirty-one is continuation of chapter thirty, showing the return of God's people to their own land, and the kingdom restored. It also shows their punishment while among the Gentiles.

2. What are the nations admonished to hear and say? Jer. 31:10.

3. When God's people dwelt in their own land, what kind of people were they? Ezek. 36:16-21.

4. Why, then, does the Lord promise to take them back in our day? Ezek. 36:22-24, 31,3 2.

5. Where, and when, does the heart operation take place? Ezek. 36:24-28, 33; Jer. 31:31-34.

6. Besides a spiritual restoration, what will happen to the land? Ezek. 36:29, 33-36.

7. How dependable are these promises? Ezek. 36:36, last part, 37,38; Jer. 30:24; 33:20-26; Num. 23:19.

8. Who will still be "round about" God's people when these events take place? Ezek. 36:36.

Note: When this kingdom is finally established all nations will see as a reality that which they have, independent of God, been trying to established.

# Earth's Last Crisis

## Widespread apprehension About the Future

The present is a time of overwhelming interest to all living. Rulers and statesmen, men who occupy positions of trust and authority, thinking men and women of all classes, have their attention fixed upon the events taking place about us. They are watching the relations that exist among the nations. They observe the intensity that is taking possession of every earthly element and they recognize

that something great and decisive is about to take place – that the world is on the verge of a stupendous crisis. *PK 537 (c.1914).*

The calamities by land and sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war, are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude. The agencies of evil are combining their forces and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will



be rapid ones. *9T:11 (1909)*.

### **Troublous Times Soon To Come**

The time of trouble, which is to increase until the end, is very near at hand. We have no time to lose. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. The prophecies of the eleventh of Daniel have almost reached their final fulfillment. *RH Nov. 24, 1904*

The time of trouble – trouble such as was not since there was a nation [*Dan. 12:1*] – is right upon us, and we are like the sleeping virgins. We are to awake and ask the Lord Jesus to place underneath us His everlasting arms, and carry us through the time of trial before us. *2MR 305 (1906)*

The world is becoming more and more lawless. Soon great trouble will arise among the nations – trouble that will not cease until Jesus comes. *RH Feb. 11, 1904*.

We are on the very verge of the time of trouble, and perplexities that are scarcely dreamed of are before us. *9T 43 (1909)*

We are standing on the threshold of the crisis of the ages. In quick succession the judgments of God will follow one another – fire, and flood, and earthquake, with war and bloodshed. *PK 278 (c.1914)*.

There are stormy times before us, but let us not utter one word of unbelief or discouragement. *ChS. 136 (1905)*

### **God Has Always Warned of Coming Judgments**

God has always given men warning of coming judgments. Those who had faith in His message for their time, and who acted out their faith in obedience to His commandments, escaped the judgments that fell upon the disobedient and unbelieving.

The word came to Noah, “Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before Me.” Noah obeyed and was saved. The message came to Lot, “Up, get you out of this place; for the Lord will destroy this city” (*Gen. 7:1; 19:14*). Lot placed himself under the guardianship of the heavenly messengers and was saved. So Christ’s disciples were given warning of the destruction of Jerusalem. Those who watched for the sign of the coming ruin, and fled from the city, escaped the destruction. So now we are given warning of Christ’s second coming and of the destruction to fall upon the world. Those who heed the warning will be saved. *DA 634 (1898)*

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# How *Important* Is *Time?*

Eccles. 9:10, 11 – “Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whether thou goest. I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favor to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.

Whatever duty we are called upon to perform, we must do it diligently with 100% of our might in order to get it done right and on time. All of you have heard it said many times that “if a thing is worth doing at all it is worth doing right.” Still even though it be done perfectly it is done late it may never be of any value; and what we leave undone will be undone forever so far as we are concerned.

Eccles. 9:11 – “I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour

to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.”

Everyone has time. Everyone has chance. The winner of the race is not victorious simply because he was born to be swift, but it is because of the meeting of time and chance in his life. No, it was not just natural for him to win the race. In order for him to win he first had to spend the necessary time to fit himself for the race, and then the chance to run came. The same principle holds true in every field of endeavor. One must first study to fit himself for duty while he has the time in which to do it and then comes his opportunity to demonstrate or use what he has learned. The successful man, then, makes good use of his time and then watches and avails himself of his opportunity to serve when it presents itself. For instance, Abraham Lincoln, in his spare time, learned to be President of this country, and so when his chance came he was ready to fill the office admirably. To make a success in anything more must start out by mastering the most elementary fundamentals and then keep on progressing in advance-

ment step by step.

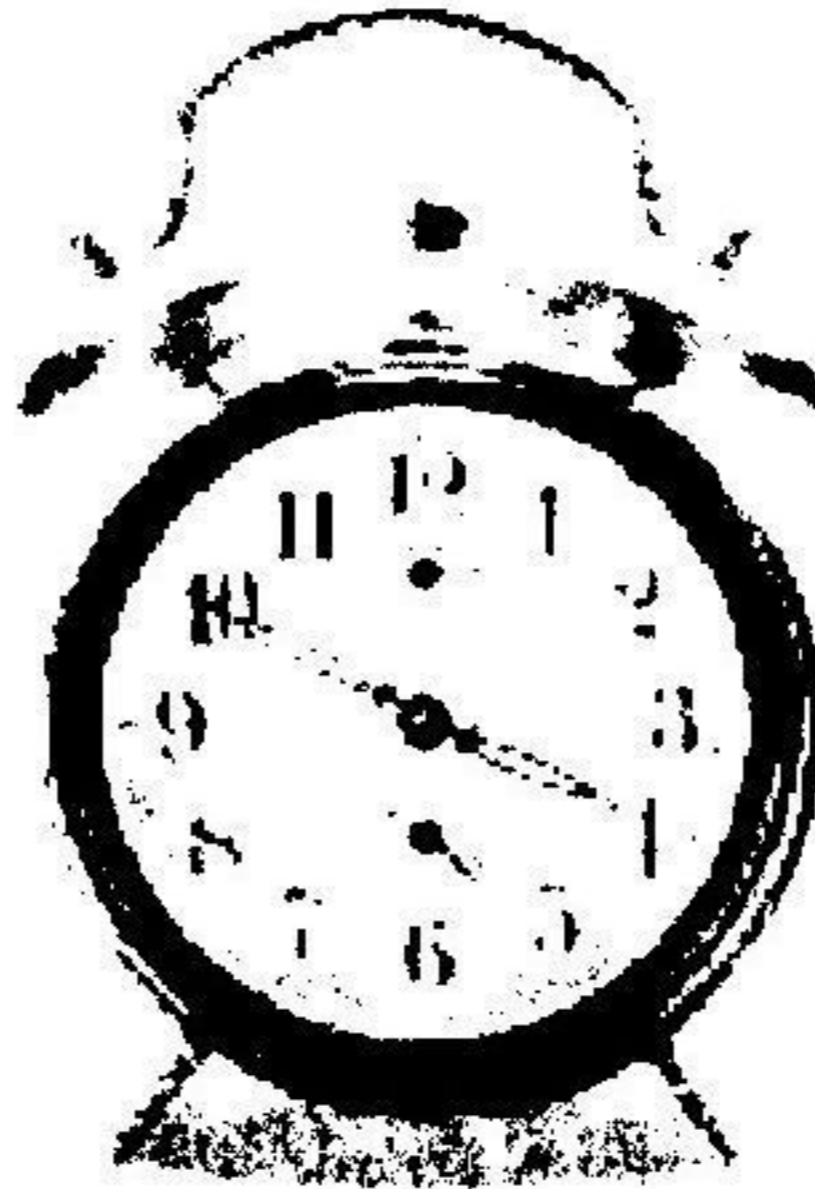
Honest men who gain wealth do not do it because they naturally knew a great deal or were naturally skillful. It is because they used well their time and their chance. They, too, had put forth the necessary effort to equip and train themselves to be successful when their chance came. Those who do not make profitable use of their time cannot possibly live successfully.

Nobody can tell just what electricity is. And what about time? What is time? – Nobody here knows.

In the beginning, "the evening and the morning were the first day." Day is a measurement of time, and God created it. The day, as you know, is composed of twenty-four hours, an hour being merely a shorter measurement of time. Since the earth can measure but twenty-four hours each time it turns on its axis, Earth, then, has as its only means of time measurement its rotation on its axis, and its circuit through its orbit. Do you realize that were it not for this we would be without time? Instead, it would be eternity. Therefore eternity has no time. Time is manufactured. Daniel refers to "time, times, and half a

time" which explains what time is. It is a span measured by the completion of a full round of the earth in its orbit. That is one time. The repetition of it makes times. Then what is eternity? It has no measurement, for it is never to repeat itself like the years do. Time is given us that we may know what part of eternity man has existed on this earth.

Which do you think is the more important: time or eternity? – Time is everything, for without it there is no eternity; still eternity is not time because it cannot be measured. Time saved is even more important than money saved, for you cannot save money if you do not save time.



If earth, through its constant movement and change of location in the universe, represents time, then everything might represent time. Plants represent time, for you can tell by its size how old a plant is. In another form human beings represent time. Trees represent time by their growth. The Bible represents time, for it took time for man to live the history It records, to write It, to print It, to manufacture the paper on which It is printed and the machinery that prints It, to grow and process the material for Its cover, - it all represents



time. The workman's wages represent time paid in money. Neither gold or diamonds are obtained without the representation of the time element being present both in the commodities themselves and again in the money that people give in change for them.

Through this discussion you can see that time is vitally connected with material though it is invisible. It is far more important to save time, for time is priceless; it is just like salvation. But the sad fact is that but few people realize how valuable time is. In view of the great value of time what sin it must be to waste it! Yet to all are given time and

plish this we must conserve our energy by eliminating useless and unnecessary effort. In that way our endurance is lengthened and we can actually accomplish more. Since it does take time and effort to talk, for instance, we should avoid useless talk, and learn to make every word count for good only. Lost time can never be recovered regardless of how we wasted it. It is gone for eternity. Therefore how valuable time is!

We should perhaps ask ourselves this question more often than any other; Am I doing something now that I may regret in eternity? And if we are we should at once set about to substitute worthy pur-

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*The Christian's great duty is to accomplish the things that God wants done.*

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suits for the useless or worthless one. The Christian's

chance.

One hundred years there are about 36,500 days. In a general sense that amount in terms of dollars is not much, for today money is measured by billions of dollars. But a person's lifetime is in reality very short, and composed of three periods: childhood, prime, and old age. It is usually in his prime period of life that man is most productive, and since it is but a part of his lifetime, he should never waste a minute of that time.

We should see that we get 100% value out of every minute we live. To accom-

plish this we must conserve our energy by eliminating useless and unnecessary effort. In that way our endurance is lengthened and we can actually accomplish more. Since it does take time and effort to talk, for instance, we should avoid useless talk, and learn to make every word count for good only. Lost time can never be recovered regardless of how we wasted it. It is gone for eternity. Therefore how valuable time is!

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suits for the useless or worthless one. The Christian's

great duty is to accomplish the things that God wants done. Doing that makes us right in one way or another. Should a man then rob us, God will reimburse us. Really, no one can cheat us if we engage ourselves in doing the things God wants done, but the man who tends only his own interests never actually gets very far, especially when his accomplishments are evaluated in the light of eternity. And "there is no limit to the good a man can do if he does not care who gets the credit."

Chance is what brings us eternity.

Therefore, if we make use of time and

chance, we do not have to worry about eternity.

Are you personally aware that time and chance are given to each of us, and that if we would be successful now and in the hereafter we must as judiciously invest our time as we would our money? Are you a time spendthrift": or a time wizard? Are you just existing, or are you preparing for your great "chance"? Each must answer this question for himself. Soon that great chance will come to every soul, and when it comes it will prove the faithfulness or the unfaithfulness of our stewardship over the time that was given us to prepare for it. As you stand now, are you ready?

"Our time belongs to God. Every moment is His, and we are under the most solemn obligation to improve it to His glory ... Of no talent He has given will he require a more strict account than of our time.

"... We shall individually be held responsible for doing one jot less than we have ability to do. The Lord measures with exactness every possibility for service. The unused capabilities are as much brought into account as are those that are improved. For all that we might become through the right use of our talents God holds us responsible. We shall be judged according to what we ought to have done, but did not accomplish

because we did not use our powers to glorify God. Even if we do not lose our souls, we shall realize in eternity the result of our unused talents. For all the knowledge and ability that we might have gained and did not, there will be an eternal loss.

Whatever the line of work in which we engage, the word of God teaches to be 'not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord.' 'Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might,' 'knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.'" – Christ's Object Lessons, (1941 edition) pp. 342, 363, 346; (1900 edition) pp. 345, 365, 349.

In the day that we must account for our stewardship **WE WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE A GOOD ACCOUNT OF EVERY OTHER TALENT ENTRUSTED TO US IF WE CAN SHOW THAT WE HAVE MADE THE MOST PROFITABLE USE OF OUR TIME.** That is how important time is. May God help each of us to be wise time investors.

The Symbolic Code Series, Vol. 11 # 4

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# How To Gain Maximum Efficiency In Work and Christian Life

## What is Religion?

### Question No. 109:

Does religion consist only of studying and praying, fasting and weeping, preaching and comforting, repenting and forgiving, begging and giving? How can one become religious, and what difference will it make in one's life?

### Answer:

Just as the Great Exemplar of Bible religion was the word (Son) of God in human form (1John 1:1), so Bible religion itself is the commandments (right-

condition to the practice of Bible religion – the only means of the race's redemption, - its returning from its jungle wanderings to its Eden home. So he who would have true religion, must pray for the Spirit of Truth. In no other way can he become truly religious - become the "fleshy tables," the commandments of God in human form. His living (practicing) them is what keeps him not only from worshiping either false gods or any likeness of God Himself but also from squandering time. Fidelity to the commandments causes him to do all his work in the six laboring days each week, leaving none of it to drag on and on

And this living connection with the Word of God is the indispensable condition to the practice of Bible religion – the only means of the race's redemption

eousness) of God in human form (2 Cor. 3:3; Ex. 31:18). But the medium through which the soul comes into vital contact with Bible religion, is the Holy Spirit. And this living connection with the Word of God is the indispensable

from week to week. And through the commandments, he is both reminded that the seventh day is a Holy Memorial of creation (Ex. 20:3-17) and impressed that he should love his neighbour as himself (Mark 12:31). Thus we see that

true religion does indeed consist of something more than merely praying, fasting, giving, and preaching; and that it most certainly does not include “begging.”

The members of the Kingdom-church,

The gospel minister is accordingly to be decently informed in the practical pursuits of life and to be expert in at least one thing

are, according to Isaiah, to be skilled in their respective trades and professions. As builders, engineers, carpenters, masons, mechanics, or whatever, they are to “build the old wastes, ... raise up the former desolations, and ... repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.” Isa. 61:4. They are also to be animal husbandmen, vinegrowers, expert agriculturists.

And as such, they are to be skilled in the science of management, employing thousands of aliens, not only to minister to their needs and to build (Isa. 60:10), but also to “stand and feed” their flocks and to be their plowmen and vine-dressers (Isa. 61:5). Thus it is that the “study in agricultural lines should be A, B, and C of the education given in our schools.” - Testimonies, Vol. 6, p. 179. “Pure, practical religion will be manifested in treating the earth as God’s treasure

house. The more intelligent a man becomes, the more should religious influence be radiating from him. And the Lord would have us treat the earth as a precious treasure, lent us in trust.” Testimonies to Ministers, p. 245.

Besides being skilled agronomists, artisans, and tradesmen, these governors of the Kingdom as living embodiments of genuine Christianity, are to be expert international bankers, economists, personnel and traffic engineers, and provisioners, together handling “the forces” and “the riches of the Gentiles.” Isa. 6:5, 11; 61:6. And thus variously equipped with these excellent proficiencies, they are, above all, to be “Priests of the Lord ... Ministers of our God.” - “men wondered at.” Isa. 61:6; Zech. 3:8.

The more intelligent a man becomes, the more should religious influence be radiating from him

The gospel minister is accordingly to be decently informed in the practical pur-

suits of life and to be expert in at least one thing. Certainly any preacher getting ten per cent (the tithe) of a farmer's income, should study to become capable of helping him to improve his farming methods in a practical way should ever the occasion arise. In short, he should be competent to assist the member so his church in organizing, correcting, or improving their work and business., Jesus taught His disciples not only to pray, to preach and practice the Truth, to give and forgive, but also to serve, to fish, to feed and clothe, and to pay bills in a business-like way. (See Matthew 5:5-13; 10:5-7, 27; 5:19, 10:15; 18:21, 22; 20:25-28; Mark 6:35-41; Like 22:7-13; John 21:3-6; Matthew 25:31-45; 17:24-27.)

But to be such a Christian, a truly religious person, one must first of all organize his entire being, rightly controlling, coordinating, and using his strength, his energy, his means, and his time. Anyone who fails to effect this integrated four-fold economy of being, can never achieve any true success. To do so, he must get "sixty seconds worth of distance run out of each unforgiving minute," sixty minutes of maximum application and accomplishment out of every working or resting hour, and peak effectiveness out of every move or stroke. He must, in short, eliminate every wasted motion, as well as every thoughtless, circuitous duplication and overlapping

of motions, which bring no results but only deplete his stock of reserve energy. The work of such an altogether-Christian will never be found done in a bunglesome or hit-and-miss fashion.

Furthermore, he is never found living in excess of his means, but so carefully budgeting his income as to enable him to live within his means and also regularly to lay aside a little in reserve for a rainy day. He shuns contracting debts; he knows that the habit of ever borrowing and never being able to pay back, is a species of robbery – lying.

Such a one, whether poor or rich, never fears the future. He unpretentiously trusts in the Lord for his daily needs; he never has a worried thought "for the morrow." Matt. 6:27-34.

All in all, we see that Bible religion, Christianity, is nothing more or less than turning from obeying the devil, to obeying the Lord, turning from a life of doing wrong to a life of doing right, - from consuming to producing; from borrowing to loaning; from begging to giving; from cheating to restoring and to dealing honestly; from exacting to forgiving; and from being served to serving.

"True religion is ever distinctly seen in our words and deportment, and in every act of life. With the followers of Christ, religion should never be divorced from

business. They should go hand in hand and God's commandments should be strictly regarded in all the details of worldly matters. The knowledge that we are children of God should give a high tone of character even to the everyday duties of life, making us not slothful in business, but fervent in spirit. Such a religion as this bears the scrutiny of a critical world with a grand consciousness of integrity." *Testimonies, Vol. 4, pp. 190, 191.*

"Christianity has a much broader meaning than many have hitherto given it. It is not a creed. It is the word of Him who liveth and abideth forever. It is a living, animating principle, that takes possession of mind, heart, motives, and the entire man. Christianity – O that we might experience its operations! It is a vital, personal experience, that elevates and ennobles the whole man."

*Testimonies to Ministers, pp. 421, 422.*

All this is what the religion of Christ is, and he who practices it, has true charity (1Cor. 13) – is truly "born again."

To say it again, every true Christian first organizes himself, then his family, and then his business. And what is more, he learns through it all that some can be organized, while others cannot; that some labor to achievement, while others labor to naught; that some produce, while others only consume; that some

are always giving like the maple tree, while others are always taking like the dry sponge; that some bless the world with good, while others live and labor for self and think, that all others should live and labor for them; that some quietly practice their religion, while others make a display of holiness by much religious talk and prayer, but few corresponding works, and that some know both when to visit and when not to visit, while others know neither the time to visit nor the time take leave, and have to be pried loose like barnacles once they are seated! What a jungle is the preacher's problem!

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5 Answerer page 21

# *News*

## From *Around* the *World*

### **Barbados**

#### **DEDICATION OF THE BARBADOS BIBLE STUDY HALL**

Beautiful Caribbean island of Barbados; beautiful group of Present Truth believers. Nice, neat building (Approximately 26 x 13 feet), erected as a place for studying God's word, and called "Bible Study Hall". The dedication of this edifice was indeed a warm, happy and spiritual experience—deeply appreciated by our Barbadian brethren and followed by a week of revival seminars.

A representative from Headquarters, Brother E. Stanford came down from New York to Barbados to enhance the occasion. The ladies, Sis. Deborah, Sis. Linda and others added some beautiful decoration – as only the ladies can do – to the neat, cozy building, constructed in a short time by Bros. Evelyn, Best, Winfield and others. God bless them all!

January 13, 2007. The attendance was very good, the singing lively and spirited. The Bible reading presentations, reminiscent of, and recapturing the dedication of the Tabernacle in the wilderness and king Solomon's temple; were spirit-filled and God's presence was clearly felt. Finally an appeal was made for brethren to personally re-dedicate their lives for God's glory and the kingdom and the response was excellent.

Incidentally, the work in Barbados is progressing nicely, despite the constant attacks of the enemy. It is always a pleasure to see old and new faces at our gatherings. Our Bajan brethren always welcome and treat our Bible workers and ministers very hospitably!

We encourage our brethren there to continue spreading the Rod message so that our brothers and sisters in Laodicea may be rescued before it is eternally too late.

May God continue to bless our brethren in Barbados, giving them love, joy, peace, unity and especially, spiritual prosperity.

### **St. Lucia**

Bro. Stanford, along with Bro. Charles Evelyn, also visited with the brethren in St. Lucian. The four days Brothers Stanford and Evelyn spent with them were mutually encouraging. The Bible studies were well attended both by our brethren and also Rod believers from the Waco group. Special thanks to Bro. Paul and his wife for their hospitality. Praise the Lord for these brethren, they are still very faithful and immovable in the message. God bless Bro. Paul! Though blind, he is still as firm as a rock and an able defender of the Rod message. May God continue to be with our St. Lucia brethren and give them fortitude, courage and renewed spiritual endurance up to the Kingdom.

### **Trip to Europe**

Bro. Joseph Seraphin and his wife, Delphina traveled to Europe, mainly Holland, England and France during the month of January and part of February. They had a wonderful time fellowshiping and encouraging the brethren in that part of the vineyard. They were busy at work for the master as you will read in the paragraphs below.

### **Holland**

The brethren in Holland were very encouraging. They are definitely on fire for the Lord. They are faithful workers, doing their best to move forward the work of the Lord. The Holland brethren are looking forward to having some mini seminars where our brethren from the church can be invited and introduced to the message in this forum. Plans are underfoot so that this can be accomplished in the very near future. Brothers Iwan Kortram and Bro. Lloyd Van Neil are willing to continue translating the message in Dutch and although the work is slow moving presently, when the literature is translated and we have the studies translated in Dutch, we will be able to transfer the studies on CD's, cassettes and DVDs. Let us continue to pray for the brethren in Holland as they labor for the Master.

### **England**

Many studies were conducted in England and the brethren were very encouraged by Bro. JJ and Sis. Delphina's visit. Bro. Glenroy and the brethren are making plans to conduct a seminar as well. The turnout was wonderful. The Work is going great and our brothers and sisters are doing their best to get the message across. Let us pray that the Lord will bless their efforts in that part of the vineyard.



## France

Bro. JJ conducted a wonderful seminar while in France. The attendance was outstanding. The brethren were, of course, overjoyed by the amazing response and as such, did not want Bro. JJ to leave.

The work in France is going forward though not moving as rapidly as the French brethren would like. This is partly due to the fact that the message has not yet been fully translated in their language. This is, however, a work in progress. We are currently reproducing

the tracts, tapes and CD's that we currently have in French.

Bro. Jean & Sis. Blandine are working very hard to keep up with the work. We wish to say special thanks to Sis. Blandine, a new DLI graduate, who took a leave of absence from her job to help with the seminar and the work in general there in France. We encourage each person to continue praying for the work and the brethren in France so that they may be encouraged in the Lord.

# Second Tithe:

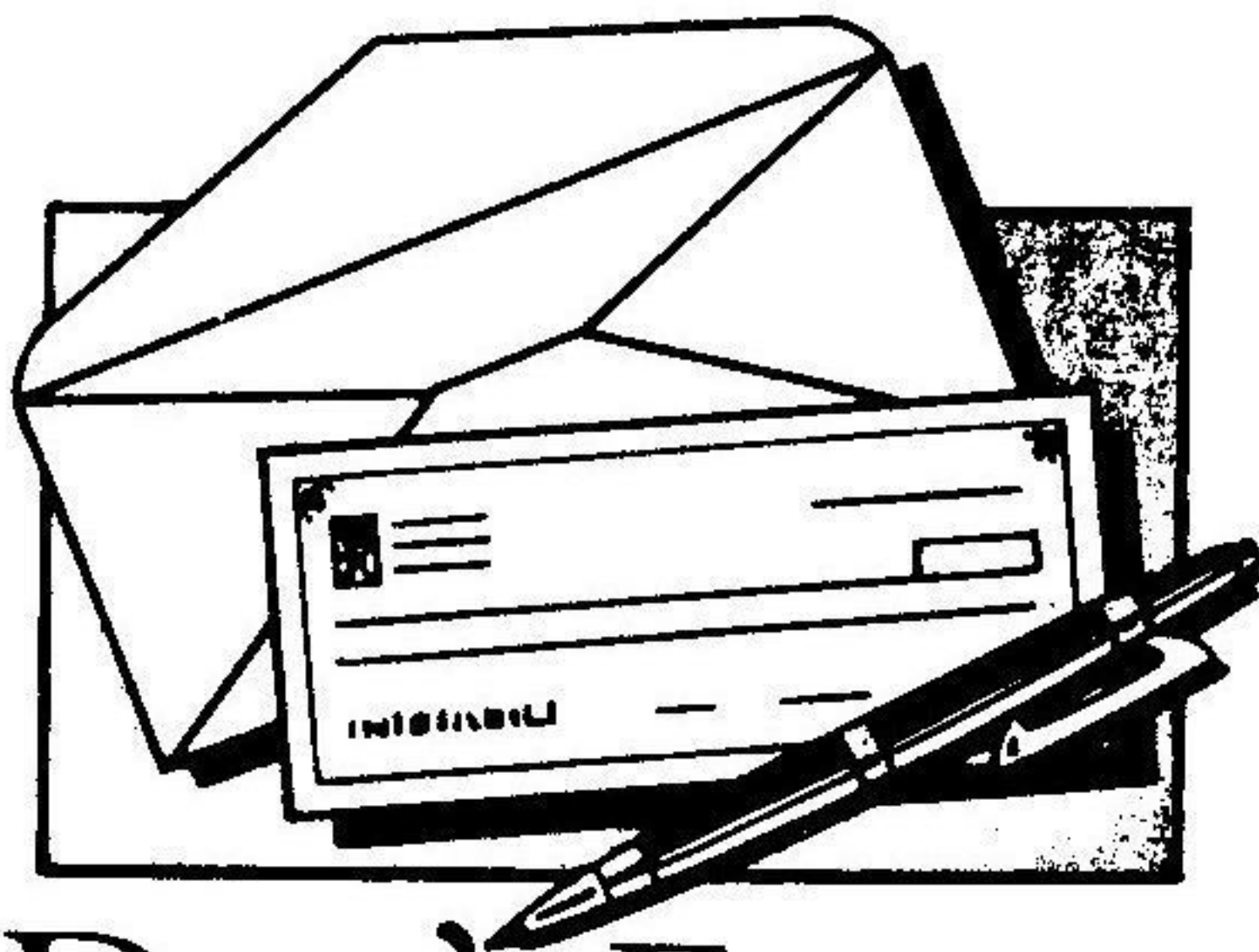
## *Do I Need To Return It?*

There are brethren who expressed their sentiments about returning **second tithe**; they have no problem returning the **first tithe** but have questions like, **what about the Second Tithe: Do I need to return it?**

Let me wish and hope for you a blessed and a prosperous year. With the coming of this new year, we can thank God that He brought us through the year 2006 and pray that He will help us to meet the challenges of the year 2007.

Overcoming the potentially devastating events of the 2005 special session, has in many ways been a huge challenge for the Association. But thank God for those of you who continued to support the work with your prayers, encouragement, and financial gifts.

Your efforts have been invaluable in sustaining the work through this most difficult time. It is our earnest prayer that you have not, and will not allow the clouds of the special session to obscure the sunlight of our Savior's love and



# Don't Forget Your Tithe

loose your faith and your hold on Christ. After all, we have been warned that “every thing that can be shaken will be shaken.” MYP 30.

So, dear brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Determine more than ever to draw closer still closer to His Word and rest and work in His love.

We know that you must be experiencing personal trials, troubles, stresses and temptations. But we ask you, please do not give up. Pray more fervently. Cling tighter to God’s Word and His love. And please remember the Association and its efforts to provide truth-filled literature, cassettes, CD’s and workers to proclaim this most precious truth. Not that the Lord cannot fulfill His work without us, but that He has ordained that we have a crucial part to play in this grand cause. God wants our earnest prayers, our faith, our best efforts and our resources. Yes it is His command and our privilege to do our utmost in promulgating the truth.

One of the most important part that we can do, among others, is the returning of a consistent **second tithe**. Unfortunately, over the past years, the **second tithe** income has been very low. Because of this, the 2006 session mandated that the Executive Council remind and encourage us to contribute not only a **first tithe**, but also a faithful **second**

**tithe** as outlined by Inspiration. This fund is very much needed if the Association is to continue its work.

## **SECOND TITHE: WHAT IS IT?**

We are all familiar with the **first tithe**. We know that the **first tithe** is ten percent of our earnings, or what the Scriptures refer to as “increase.” The Lord commanded Israel to “truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year.” Deuteronomy 14:22. The word “increase” refers to our profits, not our gross, but our income after our investments. In other words, we are commanded to give a tithe (ten percent) of our net earnings.

We are all familiar with the uses of the **first tithe**. We know that it is to be used toward the direct support of the gospel, which includes the publications and sustaining those who proclaim it. (See Testimonies for the Church, Vol.9 pp 246-250). The Symbolic Codes support this: “The Ministerial Department,” Inspiration declared, — workers and Present Truth publication — shall be maintained by the **first tithe**.” (The Symbolic Code Vol. 4, Nos. 1-3, p. 4).

**But what about the second tithe?**

“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith,

—  
saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.”

Malachi 3:10

“Under no other conditions does He promise His blessings. You have hard luck? You cannot make ends meet? Start paying your tithes. Notice carefully that God requires not only **tithe** but **tithes**; that is, tithe and free will offering.”

Timely Greetings, Vol.2 No. 30, p. 19.

This tells us that God requires a **first** and a **second tithe**. The second, however, is used as you would general offerings. That is, the first is used for the support of the gospel but, as we will see, the second is used as general offerings. However, note that this **second tithe** is a required contribution unlike strictly voluntary offerings.

“Though the Lord commands, ‘Bring ye all the **tithes** into the storehouse’ (Mal 3:10). He does not say to bring all the offerings. Thus He shows that if we would engage in some personal charity or missionary activity, we would sustain it from offerings, not from **tithe**.” The Answerer Book, No. 4 p. 45.

There is clear evidence that God requires a **second tithe**. This fund is also crucial for the work, because it supports those phases of the work for which the first tithe cannot legitimately be used. So,

where is the evidence for a **second tithe**? “And thou shalt eat before the LORD thy God, in the place which He shall choose to place His name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and firstlings of thy herbs and of thy flocks. At the end of three years thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year, and shalt lay it up within thy gates. And the Levite, (because he hath no part nor inheritance with thee) and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied: that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest.” Deuteronomy 14:23, 28,29.

“To promote the assembling of the people, for religious service, as well as to provide for the poor, a **second tithe** of all the increase was required Every third year, however, this **second tithe** was to be used at home, in entertaining the Levite and the poor... This tithe would provide a fund for the uses of charity and hospitality.” Patriarchs and Prophet, p. 530

Thus, the **second tithe** was a **second ten percent** to support the areas of the work that the first could not.

## **USES OF THE SECOND TITHE**

As we have just seen, the **second tithe**

was used to support the assembling of the people for religious service and to provide for the poor. (Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 530). In other words, it takes care of buildings, the general operations, and the needs of the poor. In short, it constitutes our general offerings and benevolent fund. (Answerer Book, No. p.63). This means that the **second tithe** supports all the functions and areas of the Association for which the **first tithe** cannot be used. This would include things such as the general office, building maintenance, sessions and general meetings, some aspects of DLI, and of course, the Benevolent Department.

As you can see, this fund is crucially important to the continuance of the work of God.

## HOW TO RETURN SECOND TITHE

In short, the **second tithe** is returned after the **first tithe** is deducted from your increase. "If one's income is \$15 a week, then his **first tithe** will amount to \$1.50, and his **second tithe** on the remaining \$13.50 will amount to \$1.35. Thus, his **first and second tithe** on \$15 increase will total \$ 2.85." The Answerer Book," No. 4, p. 52

"In cases where it is impossible to pay a full **second tithe**, then, of course, a part is acceptable." (Ibid, p. 63).

## LET US NOW RETURN WHAT IS DUE TO OUR GOD: SECOND TITHE

"We cannot resort to the denomination's practice of raising goals during church services, for such a practice detracts from the object of the meetings, and desecrates both the house of God and His Holy Day... The Message therefore announces unequivocally that the Davidian who will please the Lord, will faithfully and systematically contribute a second tithe of his increase to this necessary fund.. Let all Present-truth believers faithfully pay a first and second tithe as far as possible, then the Association can maintain its ministerial school, in addition to its boarding school for all needy and worthy children in Present Truth who are of age, and provide a home for the aged, medical care for the needy sick, food for medical care for the needy sick, food for the hungry, and burial for those who fall at their posts of duty."

Ibid p. 50-51

We cannot stress more plainly the importance of returning the **second tithe**. It is left to the individual as we always hear but according to Inspiration it is a command from the LORD to "bring ye all the **TITHES** into the storehouse" May we do our part brethren and let us leave the results to the Lord. May God bless us all as we strive to do His will this year, 2007

# Principles of Family Finance

“Money May Be a Blessing or a Curse.—Money is not necessarily a curse; it is of high value because if rightly appropriated, it can do good in the salvation of souls, in blessing others who are poorer than ourselves. By an improvident or unwise use, money will become a snare to the user. He who employs money to gratify pride and ambition makes it a curse rather than a blessing. Money is a constant test of the affections. Whoever acquires more than sufficient for his real needs should seek wisdom and grace to know his own heart and to keep his heart diligently, lest he have imaginary wants and become an unfaithful steward, using with prodigality his Lord’s entrusted capital. {AH 372.1}

When we love God supremely, temporal things will occupy their right place in our affections. If we humbly and earnestly seek for knowledge and ability in order to make a right use of our Lord’s goods, we shall receive wisdom from above. When the heart leans to its

own preferences and inclinations, when the thought is cherished that money can confer happiness without the favor of God, then the money becomes a tyrant, ruling the man; it receives his confidence and esteem and is worshiped as a god. Honor, truth, righteousness, and justice are sacrificed upon its altar. The commands of God’s word are set aside, and the world’s customs and usages, which King Mammon has ordained, become a controlling power. {AH 372.2}

## TIPS ON FAMILY FINANCES

For many families, one of the biggest sources of disagreement and aggravation is the subject of family finances. For many of us, the money coming in never seems to match the money going out. Then of course, there always follows the stress of what to spend the money on, and when, and how much, and where, and on and on.

Getting control of your finances means a lot more than just getting control of

your money. It means getting a handle on your habits – both thinking and spending – as well as your short term and long term goals. Not only can getting control decrease much of your stress (making for a more satisfying family life) it can also help you efficiently prepare for the future (making for a more leisurely life as the family matures). Although many families make use of a

constant uphill battle with the finance gremlins.

### Spend Less, Save More

It sounds simplistic, but simple concepts are often the basis for effective life changes. So where do you start to bring your finances under control? Begin by taking the time to work on (and live by)



financial advisor, a large degree of your financial control can be handled on your own.

Leaving your finances “to chance,” as so many families do (many without even realizing that they are doing it) is a sure-fire path to allowing them to get out of control. Without a plan – for a budget, for getting the most value out of the things that you buy, and for your future – you will most likely find yourself in a

a family budget – everything else flows from there. Then, concentrate on how to save money on what you own or buy, and how to get the most purchasing power possible. All along the way, try to remember to include planning for the future in your budgeting process whenever you can.

Eliminate the waste: Quit paying large sums of money for things that are rarely used – expensive toys that sit in the cor-

ner, things for hobbies that you never took up, 4-wheel drive SUV's a thousand miles from the nearest snowstorm. Stop "investing" in wasteful items and get rid of those that you have and convert them into cash.

**Decrease your debt:** Collectively, we keep adding to our debt load month after month. At the same time, our saving rate is generally headed downward. With a super-strong (and growing) economy, you may be able to hold on to such a position for a while, but should the economy stagnate – or crash – you can quickly lose your footing. Start the process by putting the reins on spending that increases your debt load, both on necessary items (like food and shelter) and those that are not necessities (like "toys"). See some tips on saving money on specific items and getting control of your purchases. Then, with the aid of a family budget, begin to designate a specific amount monthly toward reducing the debt – not paying the monthly minimums but adding enough to make a concerted effort at debt reduction. Many families also take advantage of Home Equity Loans, where they can consolidate their debt into a lower monthly payment (and generally a lower interest rate) so that they can concentrate on debt reduction. A good source for comparisons is, where you can get up to 4 offers from lenders, all competing for your business.

**Start a program of saving instead of spending:** Not only do you have the benefit of eliminating waste (and the availability of money from the elimination) you can begin to focus on long term goals instead of short term spending. If you are not already involved in an investment program (or if you are not devoting enough to it), get started now.

**Don't procrastinate:** Because of compounding – the negative effect of compounding when it comes to credit (the longer you have the debt the more interest you will pay) and the positive effect of compounding with savings (the longer you have the savings the higher the return) to procrastinate is to cost yourself lots of your hard earned dollars.

It is amazing the difference getting control of your finances will make in your life. Less money will be wasted, so you may find you don't have to work as long (or hard) to make ends meet. That means you'll have more time to spend on the important things in your life. Your stress level most likely decreases in direct proportion to the decrease in bickering over family money.

<http://www.ourfamilyplace.com/finances>

Many people assume that financial plan-



# *Financial Planning*

Begins with

## *Spiritual Values*

ning primarily deals with cold hard cash. Most financial planners would disagree. Financial planning is the process of aligning your financial choices with your life passions. And although financial planning can tell you how to accomplish your goals, it cannot tell you what your goals should be. Values transcend the cash and the numbers.

The financial planning process helps families prioritize their core values and structure their finances to better meet their goals. Balancing a family's financial goals and making the financial choices according to those values is at the heart of financial planning. Financial woes often come, not from a lack of income, but from a failure to live according to one's desired values.

Our culture seduces us into believing happiness can be packaged into a commodity that can be wrapped and put under the tree. Consequently, we spend money on fleeting goods and services

that jeopardize the long term goals that that could have provided a deeper fulfillment.

Financial planning begins with life planning. Everyone faces the challenge to purposefully decide what they want to accomplish with their life and then structure their finances to help them reach those goals. Individuals who have given some contemplation to the spiritual side of life are much closer to being able to provide an answer to the meaning of their life. Without some spiritual sensitivity it is difficult to even formulate the right questions.

One common temptation is to judge our well-being not by what we have, but by how much we have in comparison to others. Today's borderline poor live as well as the upper-middle class did a few decades ago. But, that does not stop them from feeling poor. Luxuries ultimately disappoint us as we become used to the higher standard of living. But the



luxury loses its luster and the happiness it brings is short-lived.

The old saying is true: Money can't buy happiness. Families earning \$25,000 a year spend money as though they were trying to keep up with those making \$50,000 per year. While those making \$50,000 per year often go into debt trying to live like those making \$100,000. For many families, the lure of "Joneses" wins out over deeper values that require the foresight, discretion and patience of saving.

Financial decisions tug a lot at the conscience. Sometimes the battles of the soul grow into the all out war of a sleepless night. It is difficult to live life with your head, your heart, your words and your actions all in alignment. When they are not, we live in the pain caused by misalignment. In that regard, comprehensive financial planning touches our soul.

It is difficult to write about family financial values without sounding religious and moralistic, and that's the point. Ultimately, our financial decisions betray our practical theology. The process of financial planning brings families to decide which values they want to live by, and causes them to adjust their daily monetary decisions to fit those values. To illustrate, imagine a female executive working for a biotech company earning

a six figure income. Her desire and passion though, as she has grown to see, is to become a park ranger by age fifty. Focused on her goal, she makes financial decisions in harmony with her values. She keeps her lifestyle expenses low to provide her the freedom to save and invest the difference so that she can reach her goal. Simultaneously, she takes the appropriate continuing education classes in the evenings to make her an attractive candidate for the position.

Financial planning is ultimately about gaining the maturity and the freedom to do what we think we should be doing with our lives. The goal is a profoundly spiritual goal even when the financial planning to support it is mundane. . . . Take some time . . . to ask what you believe you should be doing with your life. Then ask how you can structure your finances and your career to support that calling.

*This Article was written by David John Marotta for his column "Marotta on Money" which appeared in Hudson Valley Business Journal, January 1, 2007.*

# Health Corner:

## *Hidden Animal Ingredients*

Content	What It Is	Its Use
Albumin	The protein component of egg whites. Albumin is also found in animal blood, milk, plants, and seeds.	To thicken or add texture to processed foods.
Anchovies	Small, silvery fish of herring family.	Worcestershire sauce, Caesar salad dressing, pizza topping, Greek salads.
Animal shortening	Small, silvery fish of herring family.	Packaged cookies and crackers, refried beans, flour tortillas, ready-made pie crusts.
Carmines (carmine, cochineal, or carminic acid)	Red coloring made from a ground-up insect.	Bottled juices, colored pasta, some candies, frozen pops, "natural" cosmetics.
Calcium stearate	Mineral typically derived from cows or hogs	Garlic salt, vanilla, meat tenderizers, salad-dressing mixes.
Capric acid (decanoic acid)	Animal fats	Added to ice cream, candy, baked goods, chewing gum, liquor and often not specified on ingredients lists.
Casein (caseinate)	A milk protein. It coagulates with the addition of rennin (see rennin below) and is the foundation of cheese.	An additive in dairy products such as cheese, cream cheese, cottage cheese, and sour cream. Also used in adhesives, paints, and plastics.

Content	What It Is	Its Use
Clarifying agent	Derived from any number of animal sources.	Used to filter wine, vinegar, beer, fruit juice, soft drinks.
Gelatin	Protein from bones, cartilage, tendons, and skin of animals. Much of the commercial gelatin is a by-product of pig skin.	Marshmallows, yogurt, frosted cereals, gelatin-containing desserts, molded salads.
Glucose (dextrose)	Glycerol from animal fats or plants.	Processed foods, cosmetics, perfumes, lotions, inks, glues, automobile antifreeze. Used as emulsifier.
Isinglass	Gelatin from air bladder of sturgeon and other freshwater fish.	Clarify alcoholic beverages and in some jellied desserts. Rarely used now.
Lactic acid	Acid formed by bacteria acting on the milk sugar lactose. Imparts a tart flavor.	Cheese, yogurt, pickles, olives, sauerkraut, candy, frozen desserts, chewing gum, fruit preserves, dyeing and textile printing.
Lactose (saccharum lactin, D-lactose)	Milk sugar.	Culture medium for souring milk and in processed foods such as baby formulas, candies and other sweets, medicinal diuretics, and laxatives.
Lactylic stearate	Salt of stearic acid (see stearic acid below).	Dough conditioner.
Lanolin	Wax; fat from sheep's wool.	Chewing gum, ointments, cosmetics, waterproof coatings.
Lard	Rendered and clarified pork fat. Often fat from abdomens of pigs or the fat around the animal's kidneys.	Baked goods.

Content	What It Is	Its Use
Lecithin	Phospholipids form animal tissues, plants, lentils, and egg yolks used to preserve, emulsify, and moisturize food.	Cereal, candy, chocolate, baked goods, margarine, vegetable oil sprays, cosmetics, and ink.
Lutein	Deep yellow coloring from marigolds or egg yolks.	Commercial food coloring.
Myristic acid (tetradecanoic acid)	Animal fats.	Chocolate, ice cream, candy, jelled desserts, baked goods.
Natural flavorings	Unspecified, could be from meat or other animal products	Processed and packaged foods.
Oleic acid (oleinic acid)	Animal tallow (see tallow below)	Synthetic butter, cheese, vegetable fats and oils, spice flavoring for baked goods, candy, ice cream, beverages, condiments, soaps, cosmetics.
Palmatic acid	Animal vegetable fats.	Baked goods, butter and cheese flavoring.
Pancreatin (pancreatic extract)	Cows or hogs	Digestive aids.
Pepsin	Enzyme from pigs' stomachs	With rennet to make cheese.
Propolis	Resinous cement collected by bees	Food supplement and ingredient in "natural" toothpaste.
Rennin (Rennet)	A coagulating enzyme obtained from a young animal's stomach, usually a calf's stomach	Rennin is used to curdle milk in foods such as cheese and junket--a soft pudding like dessert.

Content	What It Is	Its Use
Royal jelly	Substance produced by glands of bees.	"Natural foods" and nutrient supplements.
Sodium stearoyl lactylate	Substance produced by glands of bees.	"Natural foods" and nutrient supplements.
Sodium stearoyl lactylate	May be derived from cows, hogs, animal milk, or vegetable-mineral sources.	Used in cake, pudding, or pancake mixes, baked goods, margarine.
Stearic acid (octadecenoic acid)	Tallow, other animal fats and oils	Vanilla flavoring, chewing gum, baked goods, beverages, candy, soaps, ointments, candles, cosmetics, suppositories and pill coatings.
Suet	Hard white fat around kidneys and loins of animals	Margarine, mincemeat, pastries, bird feed, tallow.
Tallow	Solid fat of sheep and cattle separated from the membranous tissues	Waxed paper, margarine, soaps, crayons, candles, rubber, cosmetics.
Vitamin A (A1, retinol)	Vitamin obtained from vegetables, egg yolks, or fish liver oil.	Vitamin supplements, fortification of foods, "natural" cosmetics.
Vitamin B12	Vitamin produced by microorganisms and found in all animal products; synthetic form (cyanocobalamin or cobalamin on labels) is vegan	Supplements or fortified foods.
Vitamin D (D1, D2, D3)	D1 is produced by humans upon exposure to sunlight; D2 (ergocalciferol) is made from plants or yeast, D3 (cholecalciferol) comes from fish liver oils or lanolin	Supplements or fortified foods.
Whey	Watery liquid that separates from the solids (curds) of milks in cheese-making.	Crackers, breads, cakes, processed foods in cheese-making.

# An Unforgettable Experience

About a year ago in Jan. of 2006, I felt a burning pain in my chest right after our Bible study.

It was very uncomfortable and I started to get very anxious, I was thinking "Could this be a heart attack or something?" I remember it was cold out side and the only thing that seemed to help was to walk around, so I started walking around the block rubbing my chest.

I must have gone around the block six times, and it seemed to help a little. But as soon as I went back to my house the pain started again. By that time my wife was home and was gravely concerned. She insisted that I go to the Hospital. Thank God Bro. Jose Luis was home nearby.

My wife called and he came and took me to the emergency room where I was given a sonogram and a CAT scan. The doctor said it didn't look too good and

that I would definitely need surgery soon. My gall bladder needed to be removed, he declared. I stayed five days in the hospital with I.V. in my arm and nothing to eat. Yes, nothing to eat. It was rough. This was the first time in my adult life that I stayed the hospital. The cost was pretty high: about two thousand dollars per day.

What was worse was that everyday teams of doctors would earnestly try to scare me into having surgery to remove my gallbladder. But sick and in great pain though I was, I refused. My wife and family insisted that I should listen to the doctors and do whatever they said – remove my gallbladder with surgery. No, no, no. I was firm as a rock. The doctors declared that in a few days or weeks, I would be back in the hospital with more terrible pains than ever from bigger gallstones. I did not cave in. I was going to use Natural Medicine

So I called brother Stanford and he told me that the remedy was in the book he wrote "How to Kill Your Loved Ones With Food." As soon as I got out the hospital I grabbed the book, read the instructions and followed them. It was a simple formula using mainly lemon juice and olive oil. Can you believe it! So simple and yet so powerful. It was just what I needed to cure my problem. With so much olive oil and lemon juice in my stomach. I felt nauseous, but a few drops of peppermint oil made a big difference and it was more acceptable to my stomach. In a few days the terrible stones had dissolved and gone. Thank GOD for our Health Ministry.

Now, guess what happened a year later? I went to get my gallbladder checked out again and have the doctors double check, although I felt no pain. The radiologist and doctors were most amazed. They couldn't find any stones. No, it was not possible, they thought. They had never seen such a thing. They called one another and searched and searched. You would think that they were looking for precious stones. I was amused and happy. The supervisor said, "Are you sure they told you that you had gall-

stones?" She said, those stones don't go away. I said, "yes with lemon juice and olive oil, they do go away." What a testimony it was for them. They believed that only with surgery removing the gallbladder could such problems be solved.

But thank God they found no stones. God's simple natural remedies worked effectively.  
"Praise God"

## God's simple natural remedies worked effectively. "Praise God"

I have learned a good lesson too from the experience. It was a wake up call to me to pay more attention to my diet and health. I decided to follow more strictly the guidelines given by Inspiration. I simplified my diet (less fried and processed foods), and more salads and alkaline foods, and only about 20% acid-forming foods. May God bless everyone as we learn that God's ways are better than man's ways and Natural Remedies do work when properly applied. Praise God.

Bro. Edgar  
Brooklyn, New York

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# Youth:

## The Leaders of Tomorrow

*“ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.” Romans 12:1,2. ”*



Dear Youth,

Christian Greetings!

I know your world may look like a rainbow painted with different hues and radiating colors you choose for yourself for nobody can, except you.

However, it would be much more colorful if such a painting will be shared

by someone of the same faith and who has the same interest and goal.

Youth of today, you might think God has forgotten you and is just concentrating on the older folks but as the Lord is guiding the mature in age, He is very much in tune with your business too as He reveals Himself to all through three ways:

1. God reveals His will to us in His Word, The Holy Scriptures, the Bible.
2. God's voice is also revealed in His Providential workings; and it will be recognized if we do not separate our souls from Him by walking in our own wills, and following the promptings of an unsanctified heart, until the senses have become so confused that eternal are not discerned, and the voice of God.
3. God's voice is heard, is through the appeals of His Holy Spirit, making impressions upon the heart, which will be wrought out in the character.

If you are in doubt upon any subject, you must first consult the Scriptures. If you have truly begun the life of faith, you have given yourself to the Lord, to be wholly His, and He has taken you to mold and fashion according to his purpose, that you may be a vessel unto honor. You should have an earnest desire to be pliable in His hands, and to follow whithersoever He may lead you. You are then trusting Him to work out His designs, while at the same time you are co-operating with Him by working out your own salvation with fear and trembling." 5 T p. 512

My dear Youth, sometimes God uses a small still voice to get our attention which is effective at times and a loud speaker in other times but in whatever voice He deals with us tenderly and lovingly and with the assurance that He will always understand where we're coming from.

We know that the only thing that we can bring to Heaven is our Character and with that: A character formed according to the divine likeness is the only treasure that we can take from this world to the next. Those who are

under the instruction of Christ in this world will take every divine attainment with them to the heavenly mansion.

Developing a character that fits us to Heaven is happening right now and it must be happening to you, for one piece of wood is of no value until joined in with the rest to warm the whole house. Therefore, get involved. Though distance separate us but let us make it our one United goal to build bridges instead of walls this year 2007.

Join the Youth Society: The Leaders of Tomorrow by completing the information sheet attached.

May we put God first place in our hearts and He will take us to places where we can be a blessing, and that my hope is you will prayerfully consider this invitation.

**Love and Prayers,**

**Sis. Judith**

# Thoughts from Amber

Being a youth myself, I realize that as young people in these last days, it is hard trying to live up to the lives of our parents, and to follow Christ's example. My name is Amber, I'm 15 years old, and I am sincerely looking to starting a group of young Shepherd's Rod believers who are interested in befriending those of similar faith, who are striving to become one of the 144,000.

What we need as young people is a support system; I know from experience, from having been in public school for years, and home-schooled a few also, that common Christians do not hold the same standard, that the public school is polluting, and that it's hard to make very close friends without sacrificing principle or lowering your standards. It shouldn't be this way, and it makes it harder to walk with Christ when you feel like you're alone, and like you have no one to relate to what you're going through; the struggle of teenage years, the confusion and the peer pressure. What I'm looking for, what I see is lacking, is that in Davidian youth-by title-there is not enough communion, there is little study, and for the most part it's a form of religion, adopted from our parents. I want us to stand together, befriend one another, talk to each other, share each other's

problems, study with one another, and together-form an army for the Lord. Your religious faith, your profession, must match up with your lifestyle; Religion should be, Ellen White says, the influence DOMINATING all others, yet it seems that it's merely dry formalism in modern times. I want us all to have a sincere, devoted interest in the Lord's cause, and I think that if we strive together, and pray for one another, we can all better develop within ourselves a personal, living relationship with the Lord that will influence others, and give us a good reason to hope and to live.

God bless, - Your Sister in Christ,  
Amber Roderick.

**YOUTH:**  
***The Leaders of Tomorrow***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel.# \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUTH**  
**The Leaders of Tomorrow**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel.# \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

# Do People Mistake You For Jesus?

A few years ago a group of salesmen went to a regional sales convention in Chicago. They had assured their wives that they would be home in plenty of time for Friday night's dinner. In their rush, with tickets and briefcases, one of these salesmen inadvertently kicked over a table which held a display of apples. Apples flew everywhere. Without stopping or looking back, they all managed to reach the plane in time for their nearly missed boarding. **ALL BUT ONE!!!**

He paused, took a deep breath, got in touch with his feelings, and experienced a twinge of compassion for the girl whose apple stand had been overturned. He told his buddies to go on without him, waved good-bye, told one of them to call his wife when they arrived at their home destination and explain his taking a later flight. Then he returned to the terminal where the apples were all over the terminal floor. He was glad he did.

The 16 year old girl was totally blind! She was softly crying, tears running down her cheeks in frustration, and at the same time helplessly groping for her spilled produce as the crowd swirled about her, no one stopping and no one to care for her plight. The salesman knelt on the floor with her, gathered up the apples, put them back on the table and helped organize her display.

As he did this, he noticed that many of them had become battered and bruised; these he set aside in another basket. When he had finished, he pulled out his wallet and said to the girl, "Here, please take this \$40 for the damage we did. Are you okay?" She nodded through her tears. He continued on with, "I hope we didn't spoil your day too badly."

As the salesman started to walk away, the bewildered blind girl called out to him, "Mister..." He paused and turned to look back into those blind eyes. She continued, "Are you Jesus?" He stopped in mid-stride, and he wondered. Then slowly he made his way to catch the later flight with that question burning and bouncing about in his soul: "Are you Jesus?" Do people mistake you for Jesus? That's our destiny, is it not? To be so much like Jesus that people cannot tell the difference as we live and interact with a world that is blind to His love, life and grace. If we claim to know Him, we should live, walk and act as He would. Knowing Him is more than simply quoting Scripture and going to church. It's actually living the Word as life unfolds day to day. You are the apple of His eye even though we, too, have been bruised by a fall. He stopped what He was doing and picked you and me up on a hill called Calvary and paid in full for our damaged fruit.

## Letters



I want to thank you for previously sending me some tapes and brochures. I'd like you to know sincerely how this message has changed my life. I would like to study this message inside and out.

Can you tell me how I can get the hold of a Shepherd's Rod book?

- *Lauder Lakes, Florida*

I am very interested in knowing everything about Present-day Bible Prophecies. Please send me any material that you may have to help me learn more about God's word and to become a better Christian. Thank you in advance!

- *Nashville, Tennessee*

Thank you for your free literature. It has helped me to understand so much. I have several friends who are being deceived into the Sacred name theory. Would you please send me 25 copies of "God's Titles Not Restricted To One Language" to share with them.

- *Portsmouth, Virginia*

I am so glad that you offer SDA Bible prophecy tapes for FREE. I am very looking forward to listening to them. Please send them immediately. If you

make any more new Bible prophecy tapes, please mail them to me.

- *Escondido, California*

Dear Pastor in Charge:

Thank you ever so much for the parcel you've sent me. Three cassettes and three CD's. I value all what you have sent me. I will keep and tell it to the world of South Africa, particularly in the province of Cape, East and West. May the Lord richly bless you.

- *Republic of South Africa*

Dear Pastor,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord. My name is Dare Alabi while my date of birth is May 09. I read about your ministry on the internet and I could see how the word of God is being manifested through your ministry. I thank God for your ministry.

I want to ask for a favor from you though. I want to know if you can help me with a prophetic word of God concerning my personal life. I will be very glad if you can do that for me. As God directs, I need prophetic words of God concerning all areas of my life including but not limited to: Finance,

Relationship/marriage, health, career, spiritual growth, God's purpose for my life; others.

I surely want to do God's will and I therefore, wish to know His purpose for my being. I also need you to pray for me concerning all areas of my life.

Thank you very much and I will be happy to read from you promptly.

God bless.

- *Canada*

Dear Sir/Madam,

I greet you in the name of the LORD GOD. I hope you are doing very fine still under the umbrella of the LORD.

With me fine. I am a Zambian male aged 28 years, a teacher by profession at a basic school.

Sir I am here by asking for assistance spiritually in terms of books and audios. I am very interested in furthering my knowledge spiritually to be able to assist my colleagues and friends that are non believers and believers.

I will be very happy to hear and receive from you. Your assistance will benefit us spiritually together with my neighbours and friends

- *Zambia, Africa*

Dear Sirs -

You sent me some first tracts which I've been studying with a ndola DSDA group and I'm learning the new truths despite strong opposition from my wife and church members. I haven't found anything wrong with this message. All I

need is to learn more so that I teach my family and others too. There is reality in the messages. I did not find the audio tapes in the parcel you sent me though indicated on the parcel. Any attempts to find them from the post office failed because I did not inform them on time.

- *Zambia, Africa*

Dear Brethren

First of all I would like to say how are you in the name of Jesus Christ? I am fine in the Grace of God.

After this greeting, I would like to talk via this letter about following. Still I am Christian but I have shortage of spiritual books. Bible says that it is not good soul be without knowledge. I have no knowledge I would be food in the taste of devil. You can save me by sending spiritual material so that God bless you. Send me the Holy Bible, video cassettes, magazines and tape cassettes. Among other thing, I want to learn spiritual education. Teach me, I want to get more knowledge so that send me education book.

Finally, I would like to give more thanks for your good cooperation with me.

- *Ethiopia*

Dear Sir/Madam,

My friend gave me this little book "The Entering Wedge". The genesis of diet and health. I love reading it. I bring it every time I go home to the Philippines.



I read it over and over again.

Would you please send me one more copies of this? I would like to give my seven children (each one of them) to be their guide for their health because Health is really Wealth. This is the BEST book that I ever read.

Thank you very much. If I need to send some money for the stamp, please call me. I really appreciate this.

Thanks.

- *Philippines*

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

Thanking you so much for the tracts and tapes and pray that you will receive our gift. May God bless you each one. Still weighing up the Shepherd's Rod.

- *Australia*

Dear Bro/Sis.

I'm previously church elder of the mother church in Philippines. But through the home church movement message that Babylon is the church, I joined the movement. At this present time my longing is to study more specially in the messages of the Shepherd's Rod. Thank you. God bless.

Hello,

My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am from New York and live in Bangkok, Thailand. I go to India for work and have met a group of 45 who have come out of the Seventh-Day Adventist and now want to be in the General Association of Davidian Seventh-Day Adventists. I will

be going back to next India.

- *Thailand/India/New York*

Please send me enough salvation material to rigid my faith in Christ. I am financially not strong to get and buy the salvation material. Please send me enough resources may Lord bless you.

- *India*

Hello

My name is \_\_\_\_\_. A friend gave me a timely Greetings to read and I find them very interesting. I am a Seventh-Day Adventist but I have never heard any of this. I would like some more copies and a CD on the 144,000, the Great Multitude, the Eleventh Hour Call and the Harvest. Also, the entering Wedge. Thank you and may God bless you.

- *Ontario, Canada*

Greetings to the Prophetic Ministries, I am requesting that you send me the following Items: God's Four Thrones, Why?; Three Days and Three Nights in the Heart of the Earth; Heaven's Call for Laymen; The General Conference Special; The Great Paradox of the Ages. May the Lord continually bless you all with His love and mercy.

Eagerly and patiently waiting on the Lord Jesus Christ's return. I would like for you all to send me a picture of Mountain Dale, NY.

*Nassau, Bahamas*

# Announcements

## D.L.I. 2007

### **GET READY ! GET READY!! GET READY!!!**

Before you are aware of it, our International D.L.I. classes will be starting in June 2007, right here at HQ— Mt. Carmel Center, NY.

Are you preparing yourself for greater and more efficient service in the Master's vineyard? Are you seeking diligently to double your talents? Are you willing to make real sacrifices for the Master who actually laid down his life that you might be saved?

We encourage you to speedily meet the requirements for the D.L.I. classes, if you have not already done so. You must have a **fellowship card**. Please obtain the Application from your area leader or the office at Mountain Dale. Of course there is a stipulated quantity of reading as found on the Fellowship Application that must be completed, besides the other Rod standards detailed likewise on the same Application.

Since according to Inspiration, we must seek to get "sixty seconds worth of distance run out of each unforgiving minute." ( 5 Answerer, p. 24), the Education Director encourages you to say a serious prayer asking God for a miracle in your circumstances, and then immediately begin to show that your faith is real, by consistently making preparation. **"Is anything too hard for the Lord? Gen. 18:14.**

## **UPCOMING SESSION**

First Announcement.

It's almost time for Session 2007! Session as usual will be one week – July 27<sup>th</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup> Please mark these dates on your calendars. We are encouraging every card-holding member to come out to Session this year and have a wonderful time in the Lord!

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

Januario Legaspi and Rhodalyn Geasin. They were joined together in holy matrimony on December 25, 2006!! Let us all pray for God's richest blessing on this new family.