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# **Articles**

# The Devil, UFOs, and Invaders from Space!

by HOIM Staff, John Keyser (Azusa, California)

Do "flying saucers" exist? And are they extraterrestrial visitations from another planet or planets? Or do they involve Satan the devil in some way? If so, how? And for what reason?

There is no doubt that many unexplained phenomena occur which nobody understands fully. Many claims have been made by men and women who say they have seen unusual creatures or strange beings who appeared to be unearthly in appearance. Sometimes they seemed to appear out of a strange flying object, perhaps some sort of space craft. Some of these men were put to lie detector tests, and even put under hypnosis, to determine whether they were lying. The tests proved that they sincerely believed that they saw what they saw. They themselves were sincerely convinced. But whether they were confused, or whether they saw what they thought they saw, that is another question.

In a nineteen-year span of time more than 10,000 sightings of "UFOs" or "unidentified flying objects" were recorded and classified, and Project Blue Book of the United States Air Force was instituted to investigate UFOs. The report concluded: "In our experience, the persons making reports seem in nearly all cases to be normal, responsible individuals. In most cases they are quite calm, at least by the time they make a report. They are simply puzzled about what they saw and hope that they can be helped to a better understanding of it. Only a very few are obviously quite emotionally disturbed, their minds being filled with pseudoscientific, pseudo-religious or other fantasies."

Opinion surveys indicate that several million Americans believe they have seen objects that could be described as unidentified flying objects, or "UFOs." What could they have seen?

Over a two-year period hundreds of cases were investigated by the University of Colorado, under the direction of Dr. Edward U. Condon. A number of alleged UFO photographs were analyzed in depth. Some were successfully explained, but at least one, showing a disk-shaped object in flight over Oregon, is classed as difficult to explain in a conventional way. When the study was completed, it concluded that there is no evidence to justify a belief that extraterrestrial visitors have penetrated our skies. But nevertheless, from time to time we still hear of new sightings, new encounters, strange new bizarre phenomena.

Most UFO sightings have been explained as actual sightings of kites, weather balloons, missiles, the planet Venus, or any number of meteorological phenomena.

But still the sightings persist, and not all of them are so easily explained. What could they be? As we shall soon see, Satan the devil is actively involved in these manifestations!

## The Spirit World

It is not my purpose here to go into great detail describing many alleged sightings of UFOs -- you can read about most of them in any number of books. But one thing is certain -- the **Project Blue Book** did not close the lid on the subject of "flying saucers." The controversy, the furor, is as great today as it ever was! And movies such as **Close Encounters of the Third Kind** only serve to stir up interest.

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Perhaps three percent, or less, of the actual sightings are difficult or impossible to explain satisfactorily by conventional explanations. Could some of them be actual extraterrestrial visits? Or is another explanation more likely?

Scientists discount the plausibility of extraterrestrial visits from alien planets. They point out that interstellar or intergalactic travel by spaceship is virtually impossible to any life forms as we know them. Such travel, spanning many light years (and remember, light travels at a speed of 186,000 miles per second!) would require tremendous velocities far beyond the capability of man; it would probably require hundreds or thousands of years, for just one "trip," and perhaps many generations of creatures would have to be born, live, and die, on such spaceships in their cross-galactic journeys; not to mention the constant danger and incessant bombardment from cosmic rays and other hazardous radiation which itself would destroy any life forms before they reached our planet.

This is indeed a formidable objection to the possibility that extraterrestrial visitors are keeping planet earth under surveillance.

Another objection is simply this: If creatures have managed to successfully accomplish such lengthy voyages through space, and finally reached earth, why are they so secretive and hesitant about contacting us? Why don't they contact our national and governmental leaders? Why do they hide under a cloak of anonymity and obscurity? Why are they so ephemeral? Why won't they allow their existence to be documented? Why won't they allow themselves to be scrutinized, studied, and carefully observed? Why are they so reluctant, after such a tedious voyage, to communicate? It doesn't make much sense.

But there is another explanation for many of the "unexplained" UFO phenomena, and that explanation involves the existence of the "spirit world."

The *Bible* carefully documents the existence of a world of both righteous angels and demons. Also, the *Bible* shows that these angelic creatures from time to time have contacted various men, bringing them messages from the throne of YEHOVAH God. Among these men were Abraham, Moses, Joshua, Gideon, the parents of Samson, Ezekiel, Daniel, Zacharias the father of John the Baptist, Mary the mother of Yeshua the Messiah, the two women who went to Yeshua's tomb, the disciples when they were gathered to see Yeshua ascend into heaven, and the apostle John in the book of Revelation.

In the days of the prophet Elijah a very strange thing occurred. When it was time for Elijah to cease his ministry, and for Elisha to take over in his stead, YEHOVAH God determined to take Elijah away. As the two prophets were talking, Elijah told Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so.

"And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven" (II Kings 2:9-11).

Most people would have recoiled in great fear. Here indeed was a "flying object," a very strange one at that -- a completely unexplainable phenomena by conventional means. Everybody knows that chariots cannot fly! What's more, everybody knows that there are no such things as "horses of fire"! No doubt that most serious scientists would have dismissed this account as the ramblings of a religious "crackpot" observer.

But what Elisha saw most people would have regarded as a true "UFO"!

And most people, if they saw an angel, would probably assume it was a being from outer space. And in the strict sense of the word, they would be correct! For angels, the Bible shows, can indeed "fly."

## **Invaders from Space?**

The strange vision of Ezekiel, of the Throne of YEHOVAH God surrounded by cherubim, each of them having a "wheel," and the wheel having a "wheel within a wheel," which moved in straight lines and 90-degree angles, could easily be interpreted as a UFO by human observers. These "wheels," which may be likened to "chariots," could in fact account for

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some of the mysterious UFO sightings which have never been explained.

Again, however, we must also consider the demonic world and the strange manifestations of demons. Some of the lurid accounts of men being thrown into great agitation and fear by strange beings from outer space, may actually be connected with demonic visions, manifestations, and phenomena. We should remember that the Bible calls Satan the "prince of the power of the air." He does have certain abilities to stage theatrical performances and visual phenomena connected with the atmosphere of the earth.

The multiplying sightings and signs of UFOs in the heavens, seen by millions of people, could be explained as the workings of Satan the devil, who is preparing the world to be deceived.

Prior to the second coming of the Messiah certain events will happen, Luke records: "And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory" (Luke 21:25-27).

Could it be that the devil, restless and rebellious, overflowing with resentment and hostility, and knowing that Yeshua the Messiah is soon going to return, is creating a "diversion" by spiritual manifestations in the skies, leading millions of people to believe that extraterrestrial beings are spying on the earth, preparatory to a coming extraterrestrial invasion? Could the devil cunningly be plotting and creating these "UFO" manifestations as a prelude to the second coming of Yeshua the Messiah and YEHOVAH God, so that when they do return the nations of the world will automatically assume that they are not the Messiah and YEHOVAH God at all but Invaders from Outer Space?

What plan could be more deceitful, more diabolical, more clever?

We know that a spirit world exists. We also know that the devil and his demons are continually waging war right now against mankind -- that Satan is the real archenemy of man! How clever it would be for him to lead mankind into believing he is our friend, and that YEHOVAH God and the Messiah are the real enemies -- invaders from the nether regions of the Universe!

No doubt that Satan and his hierarchy of demons are behind some of the unexplained and bizarre phenomena connected with the Occult and with certain "UFO" manifestations and weird observations.

## The Witch of Endor

The Bible shows that demons can at times manifest themselves as ghostly creatures. The classic account of the witch at Endor, who conjured up an apparition of Samuel the prophet, is a case in point. In this account we find that Samuel the prophet was dead (I Samuel 28:3). He had been buried. At that time King Saul had put away -- banished -- all wizards and those who possessed familiar spirits (demons) from the land (same verse).

But Saul was going out to battle against the Philistines, and his heart trembled with fear. He sought to find out how the battle would go, and inquired of YEHOVAH God, but the Lord answered him not (verse 5). Desperate, Saul sought a woman with a familiar spirit -- a witch -- to help probe the future (verses 7-8). Saul wanted the woman to bring up Samuel out of the grave, to speak to him (verses 9-11).

An apparition appeared which looked like Samuel, although it really wasn't. No witch has the power to resurrect a person from the grave -- only YEHOVAH God has that kind of power. But a demon appeared, disguised as Samuel the prophet. The woman said to Saul, "I saw gods [elohim, judges] ascending out of the earth. And he said to her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived [that is, he thought] that it was Samuel [although he never saw him for himself!], and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself" (I Samuel 28:12-14).

The account goes on to show that this apparition informed Saul that the Philistines, upon the morrow, would conquer the army of Israel, and Saul and his sons would perish in the battle.

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"Then Saul fell straightway all along on the earth, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel [the apparition which appeared like Samuel]: and there was no strength in him; for he had eaten no bread all that day, nor all the night" (verse 20).

If YEHOVAH God would not answer the pleas of Saul, or give him any answer (verse 6), YEHOVAH would surely not resurrect Samuel from the grave to give Saul the answer. This being conjured up by the witch at Endor must have been a familiar spirit, a demon. The entire episode frightened the king greatly.

Even so, some of the strange, frightening encounters some have had with supposed UFOs may very well be similar spirit manifestations created by Satan and/or his host of demons.

This world at the present time is given into the hands of the Devil. He is its "god" (II Corinthians 4:4). He has used all his powers to deceive the world as to the true nature of YEHOVAH God (Revelation 12:9). He has successfully deluded billions of people into worshipping him, claiming that he is "God." He has been so successful that when YEHOVAH God returns in power and might, the entire world will be marshaled together to fight against Him at Armageddon (Rev. 16:12-14; 19:11-20).

## **Future Plagues**

The Apostle John, in Revelation, wrote of future catastrophic events to befall planet earth leading up to Armageddon. He described it thus:

"And out of the temple [in heaven] came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands. Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of YEHOVAH God who lives forever and ever...Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, 'Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of YEHOVAH God on the earth" (Revelation 15:6-7; Revelation 16:1).

The command to the seven angels to pour out their plagues upon the earth is given by a "loud voice" that proceeds out of the Temple. This is the voice of YEHOVAH God Himself. The command to the seven angels is executed with speed; for the pouring out of the seven plagues -- one after another -- proceeds swiftly to the end. And then, at the pouring out of the seventh plague, there comes once more "a loud voice...out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, 'It is done!'" (Verse 17). The phrase "from the throne" further verifies that this great voice is the voice of YEHOVAH God. After this John speaks of the events to occur when the seven plagues are unleashed --

"So the first [angel] went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshipped his image" (Revelation 16:2).

At the pouring out of the **FIRST PLAGUE**, a terrible sore or eruption that cannot be healed fell upon the men who had the mark of the beast, and who worshipped his image. The similarity between the "sore" of this first plague and the sixth of the plagues of Egypt is quite striking. While the plague in Egypt was without a doubt literal and physical, the one here, in keeping with the character of the Book of Revelation, represents a "sore" or eruption of a moral character -- breaking forth upon the surface of human society. The word "earth" here must be taken in the sense in which it is customarily used in Revelation, i.e., as designating the more settled, ordered, and stabilized part of the earth, as distinguished from the turbulent and restless "sea" of the nations and peoples in general. Therefore, "the earth" designates the Western or Christianized nations that are, in general, following the paganized tenets of the Catholic Church and her whorish Protestant offspring. "The sea" -- on which the second plague is poured out -- designates the surrounding peoples and tribes of the world.

At the pouring of the **SECOND PLAGUE** a tremendous loss of life takes place in the "sea" of the earth: "Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead man; and every living creature in the sea died" (Revelation 16:3).

There is, of course, a resemblance here to the first of the ten plagues of Egypt, when the waters of the Nile were turned into blood -- see Exodus 7:20-21. It is quite evident that the plague in Egypt was literal, whereas that of the second plague

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in Revelation is figurative. The words in Revelation 16:3 bring to our mind a picture of *death by violence in an enormous scale*, for "blood" is the symbol of death by violence. It is the blood of death-*wounds* that is here specified -- the blood as of one *dead*. The extent of this blood-shedding is so vast that the whole world of the surrounding nations (the so-called "heathen world") is figuratively colored red.

That the shedding of blood in war is here meant, is evident alone from the symbol of the sea out of which the beast arose. The scourge of warfare inducing death on a huge scale is indicated by a double image: first the changing of the sea into blood, second the dying of the living creatures in the sea. But it is evident that the two are not simply coordinate. The changing of the sea into blood is referring to those who actually perish in battle, while the death of all the living creatures in the sea represents the *greater number* of those who die as a result of war -- hunger, distress, etc.

It doesn't require much imagination to realize the causes and agencies capable of bringing about the conditions so vividly described in this vision. These causes and agencies are clearly at work right now.

The pouring out of the **THIRD PLAGUE** affects the sources of the world's material prosperity: "Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. And I heard the angel of the waters saying: 'You are righteous, O Lord, the One who is and who was and who is to be, because You have judged these things. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and you have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due.' And I heard another from the altar saying, 'Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments" (Revelation 16:4-7).

The waters of the rivers and fountains or springs are the sources of abundant vegetation and stand for whatever is conducive to the welfare and prosperity of the individual or the community. Also, the highest application of this figure is to the sources of spiritual prosperity and fruitfulness -- as we see in Psalm 1:1-3 and Jeremiah 17:7. But since there will be no springs of spiritual waters in the world when this vision is fulfilled, the figure must have the wider application of material and worldly prosperity.

The agencies of material prosperity are the great industrial plants, the various means of transportation, and all the contributory agencies of manufacture and commerce. Now if we consider all of these as being converted into factories for the production of agents of destruction (as we saw in World War II), such as poisonous gases, biological weapons, nuclear weapons and all the hideous things at the command of modern science capable of destroying life and property, and into rockets and other such modes of delivery that can quickly transport these agents to the areas where they can do the most deadly harm, we will have in mind a state of affairs which not only could be brought quickly into existence even as things are now, but which also would answer perfectly to the symbols used in the passage about the third plague.

They that "have shed the blood of saints and prophets" refers back to the subject of the first plague -- "the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image." Because they have shed the innocent blood of saints and prophets, YEHOVAH God has given them blood to drink. This is in accordance with the foundational principle of YEHOVAH's justice that was laid down at the beginning of the development of human society after the Flood: "Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed" (Genesis 9:6). We also have a fulfillment here of Isaiah 49:26, which reads: "I will feed those who oppress you with their own flesh, and they shall be drunk with their own blood as with sweet wine."

The last part of the third plague gives a response to the words of the angel, which response comes from the altar, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments." This refers back to the cry of the souls from under the altar, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" (Revelation 6:10). The hour of vengeance -- long waited for -- has finally arrived.

In the **FOURTH PLAGUE** the sun is turned from a source of supreme blessing to mankind into an agency of terrible torment: "Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of YEHOVAH God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory."

This, of course, is symbolical, and is to be taken as signifying that the supreme governmental authority of those days will

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be an instrument of the most cruel oppression instead of being a source of good -- a preserver of life, a benefaction to the people. The words "and power was given him to scorch men with *fire*" make it clear that the governmental powers of those days are to become instruments for the execution of YEHOVAH God's wrath -- of which *fire* is the usual symbol. However, the effect of this judgment upon the men it is directed to shows how hopelessly hardened they have become. Instead of humbling themselves before YEHOVAH God, who has power over these plagues, they blaspheme His Name, neither repenting nor giving Him glory. This reminds us that YEHOVAH God *gives repentance* (see Acts 5:31; 11:18); and it shows that in those terrible days the time for repentance will have gone forever. When man does not yield to YEHOVAH God but stands out in a spirit of defiance and haughtiness there can only be one outcome -- man must come far short and be consumed by the power of YEHOVAH.

The judgment of the **FIFTH PLAGUE** has, in common with the fifth trumpet, the plague of darkness: "Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. And they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores and did not repent of their deeds" (Revelation 16:10-11).

This plague falls upon the throne of the beast which has become, in the fullest sense, "the throne of iniquity." Under the fifth trumpet the darkness was caused by dense smoke arising from the bottomless pit -- whereby the sun and the air were darkened. Here, in this plague, the agency of the darkness is not specified -- it is merely stated that the kingdom of the beast "became full of darkness." There is, in fact, a notable absence of details in the Bible's description of these plague judgments. John hurries from one to the next as if in a great hurry to reach the end of the series.

Under the fourth plague the sun became intensely hot, so much so that men were scorched with fire. Now it is the other extreme. In the former case we understand a time of fierce persecutions and oppressions carried out by the government itself, and in the latter, a time of weakness and failure of the power of the government. Whatever the details may be, they are such to produce much distress -- men "gnawed their tongues because of the pain," but once again there is no turning to YEHOVAH God. They "blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and sores and did not repent of their deeds." While these words certainly describe a state of extreme hardness of heart and rebellion, they also indicate that those upon whom this plague falls have some knowledge of YEHOVAH God -- sufficient at least to realize that HE is the Author of these judgments. Yet, the hardness of their hearts is such that they withstand Him and speak blasphemies against His Name. This plague is reminiscent of the ninth Egyptian plague, which consisted of "a darkness over all the land, even a darkness which might be felt" (Exodus 10:21).

We are now reaching the end. The description of the last two plague judgments contains much more detail than the preceding ones. Forces are unleashed in the **SIXTH PLAGUE** which cause all the remaining elements of human society to gather together from the region East of the Euphrates River –

"Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of YEHOVAH God Almighty. 'Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame.' And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon."

The region East of the Euphrates is that from which conquering hordes originated throughout history -- the latest being that of the Turks. It is, therefore, very appropriate that the Euphrates should be used to represent a dividing line between the civilized and uncivilized world. The agencies that bring about this tremendous gathering are represented as three unclean spirits likened to frogs -- a distinct reminder of the second of the plagues of Egypt. These three evil spirits from the mouths of the dragon, beast and false prophet now unitedly put forth their greatest effort to resist the purposes of YEHOVAH God. The result is a great concentration of the hosts of wickedness at a place which is figuratively called *Armageddon*. Not only are "the kings from the east" -- mentioned in the sixth plague -- there, but also "the kings of the earth and of the whole world." The meaning of the name Armageddon is "The Hill of Slaughter." The root meaning of the Hebrew original is given as a *place of rendezvous* or *gathering*. Clearly, therefore, the word has a figurative, not a geographical meaning. The reason for the hosts to be gathered there is for "the battle of that great day of YEHOVAH God Almighty." We see the concentration of all the powers and host of evil, but we see no opposing forces, and nothing

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is said of the battle itself -- or its outcome. But what is lacking here to complete the description is found in Revelation 19:11-21. This we will cover shortly.

Verse 15 of this passage is very striking. The speaker is not named or referred to in any way. However, the words are unmistakably those of Yeshua the Messiah, and refer back to his arrival in Revelation 14:14. In the message to the church at Sardis Yeshua had said: "Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you" (Revelation 3:3-4). He also speaks there of a few "even in Sardis, which have not defiled their garments." The Messiah's coming "as a thief" means at a wholly unexpected moment and without any great fanfare. However, when YEHOVAH God arrives to do battle at "Armageddon," the whole earth will be the theater of the outpouring of His wrath and fiery indignation, from which His faithful promise of deliverance will protect those that obey and worship Him.

The last, or **SEVENTH PLAGUE**, is poured out into the air: "Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, 'It is done!' And there were noises and thundering's and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nation's fell. And great Babylon was remembered before YEHOVAH God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And great hail from heaven fell upon men, every hailstone about the weight of a talent. And men blasphemed YEHOVAH God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great" (Revelation 16:17-21).

Since the air completely envelops the earth, the suggestion here is that of all-embracing judgment. But more than that, the air is the abode of all the evil spirits and powers -- see Ephesians 2:2 and 6:12. Therefore, this plague seems to have those evil spirits as its principal object. The sixth plague was a comprehensive judgment upon all the enemies of YEHOVAH God upon the *earth*. Now the *air* is visited. The words "It is done!" declare the comprehensiveness and finality of the judgment. The symbolic manifestations of judgments in the *voices*, *thundering's*, *lightnings* and *earthquake* remind us of the final shaking of all things foretold in Hebrews 12:26-27 (quoted from Haggai 2:6), which signifies "*the removing* of those things that are shaken." The impression given here is that all the powers that had withstood YEHOVAH God's purpose concerning His kingdom are now laid in ruins.

One part of the world-system that is singled out here for special mention -- as having been struck under this judgment -- is "the great city" and "the cities of the nations." This, of course, is Babylon and those cities that have been part of her great mercantile empire. It is said that great Babylon came into remembrance before YEHOVAH God, "to give to her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath." This subject, like that of the battle of Armageddon, is left unfinished to be taken up in a subsequent vision. The words "great Babylon" correspond to "the great city" in the preceding part of the verse; and the *islands* and *mountains* correspond to "the cities of the nations." Any way you look at the passage, it conveys the idea of the utter prostration of all the strongholds of the enemy -- and the destruction of all his possessions.

Finally, special mention is made of the great hail that fell out of heaven, the hailstones being of enormous size. The point which this concluding verse of the passage is intended to emphasize is the continuing blasphemy of these enemies of YEHOVAH God to the very end. The blaspheming of YEHOVAH God has already been mentioned twice under three plagues, and along with that it is said that *they did not repent*. But here, when the blaspheming of YEHOVAH God is recorded the third time, no mention is made whether they repented or not -- from which we may infer that the men were killed by this hail like the Amorites in Joshua 10:11. We have here the end of YEHOVAH's judgment on the *earth*, though still not the end of all things.

According to the prophecies of the Bible, the devil will marshal the armies of the world to fight against YEHOVAH God when He returns from heaven. The Apostle John says: "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils (demons), working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of YEHOVAH God Almighty" (Revelation 16:13-14).

John continues: "And they gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon" (verse 16).

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In this last great climactic battle, the devil and his minions will be utterly defeated by YEHOVAH God. John records the battle itself: "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS" (Revelation 19:11-16).

## John continues this graphic description:

"And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; that ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone" (verses 17-20).

Can you imagine it? The devil will deceive the nations so completely that they will gather their armies together to fight against YEHOVAH God and His angelic hosts! The people of the world will believe he is an invader from outer space -- an alien being -- a diabolical creature from some other galaxy or planet. They will fight against him bitterly, to the very death. The devil and his last mighty defensive effort to maintain his kingdom and power will be overthrown. His ages old rebellion will be squashed.

The Devil will cleverly counterfeit the second coming of the Messiah and the coming of YEHOVAH God the Father, making millions think the False Prophet is the true Messiah, and deceiving them into believing the real Messiah and his God are alien invaders from space, or the Antichrist. But his plot will succeed for only a short time. And then he will be exposed for the evil impostor he really is!

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# Iron Sharpening Iron

New American Standard Bible (Proverbs 27:17)
As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

# In regard to: Roles of Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Article by Ray Daly
Comments by Darwin Lee (Bismarck, North Dakota)

Ray Daly's article, "Roles of Father, Son and Holy Spirit" was very informative up to a point and that about the middle of the article where he writes, "Thus, if there were only "one" Holy Spirit, then as mentioned, how can he be MANY individuals". After that point and to end of article there seems to be some concepts that could well be of a personal opinion even though he uses scripture to back up his "opinion".

It appears that Acts 2:38 makes it clear that to receive the Holy Spirit is (as being in them), by baptism being fully emersed in water. **Acts 2:38 (KJV)** Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

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Ray does write, "In other words, those with the holy spirit within them will become the 'Sons of God'". I can agree with that. **Romans 8:9 (KJV)** But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, <u>if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you.</u> Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

As to his statement of "sons in waiting", I might think of that as the "many called" would be those having the Holy Spirit with them (needed to be called) but not in them, waiting at a future time to be sons of God in the day they will respond to God, as opposed to having God's spirit in them to those who were called and chosen and remained faithful to that calling.

I'm not sure that many, have thought about it much of what that calling now is to or for. It cannot be just to receive salvation, otherwise the many would totally lose out on salvation and be condemned to death forever since many are called now but few are chosen. The calling now is to be the first fruits of the sons of God, with a second calling to be sons of God as well for the many at another time.

So, when the scriptures say, "many shall be called but few chosen", are the many then condemned to eternal death because they in one way or another become disinterested, disillusioned, concerned with the things of this world, and therefore could not be chosen?

Called and chosen now for what other purpose other than just getting "saved"? Well, read it in **Revelation 20:6 (KJV)** Blessed and holy *is* he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

So, to me those many yet to be called to and for salvation could well be thought of as "sons in waiting". After all, God's intention is to have all men and (women) to be His sons and daughters. **Genesis 1:27 (KJV)** So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. **John 3:17 (KJV)** For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. **1 Timothy 2:3-6 (KJV)** For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man **Christ Jesus, Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time**. **Ezekiel 18:32 (KJV)** For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye. Ezekiel 33:11 "Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live...."

As for the many who have been called and left their calling, are they now forever lost? Many have even been in God's church and left. I mean left the faith once delivered. Went back to old doctrines of "mainstream Christianity". The devil deceived them into believing certain doctrines to be "new understanding", but all it was is "old wine" in new "wine skins" sold as the purest of wine.

I believe, unless they gave up on God altogether, they are guilty of what Esau did by selling his physical birthright for but a bowl of perhaps some really tasty soup. Esau didn't value his birthright, so he sold it for mere instant gratification not considering his profound actions and deeply regretted it later. But it was too late. Like if you sold me your fancied 1958 white-pink interior ford galaxy convertible in priceless shape. You realized later what a valuable thing you had and now you come to me and want to buy it back and I say, "you sold it to me, sorry it's not for sale"!

So, to, as Esau did, they lost their "spiritual" birthright, however they did worse than Esau, at least he sold his and got something for it. These people just gave their birthright away for nothing, thinking it wasn't worth anything. Perhaps they sat in Sabbath meetings being bored waiting for a power outage, bored to death listening to a minister preaching about the kingdom to come and what part they would play (work) in it with Christ. Besides, what's all the excitement about being a king and priest with Jesus anyway? **Revelation 1:6 (KJV)** And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

I'm sure God filled the void calling others to take their place, and you may be one of them, perhaps. Again, that birthright is for being an associate "king and priest" with Christ in His kingdom to come. Let us not discard that calling as though it was some kind of piece of trash. Next to eternal life, that calling is priceless, so, let us not give it away to someone else as many did.

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"Sons in waiting", for all those yet to be called to eternal life only, could be a way of looking at it.

# In regard to: Ezekiel's Message

Article by John & Rosemary Morton Comments by Craig White (Australia)

The author of this article (like many commentaries) does not seem to understand duality in this case and the sequence of events/chapters that comprises Ezekiel (with inset chapters) that lead to the conclusion that captivity will happen again.

For example, Ezek 38 & 39 occurred historically in some sort of way as typological of what will occur again in a much greater fulfillment.

Many protestants believe in Jeremiads because they can see that Jeremiah has a message that is relevant to this day.

We can see that there are warning messages from many prophets that we can emulate or proclaim today and that includes Ezekiel's.

So logically, if Ezekiel is to be preached and proclaimed today, we can use every chapter including prophecies about Egypt, Edom et al – they all had historical relevance and fulfillment. These we have always taught.

Why would Ezek 33 be any different? So, when we place a title to the captivity doctrine of 'Ezekiel's Message' we do not mean that it refers to all of the book and all its contents. We know that it contains other messages, hope etc. What we mean is that there was a very serious message to our peoples back then as a type of what is needed to be proclaimed today: a warning that if we do not repent, then eventually invasion and enslavement will ensue.

# In regard to: Ezekiel's Message

Article by John & Rosemary Morton
Comments by Dwight Fleming (Oroville, California)

I very much enjoyed this article which clearly demonstrated how Ezekiel fulfilled his commission during his day. The conclusion that Ezekiel's message to the House of Israel was only intended for that time is one that I have heard before back in the 1970s. This article certainly has some valid points on the fulfillment of the message at that time. But to also conclude that the Church should not endeavor to preach that message today may not fully jive with scripture and even other prophecies.

What was Ezekiel's message? "Son of man, I send you to the children of Israel, to a **rebellious nation** that has rebelled against me . . . And you shall speak **my words** unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear, for they are most **rebellious**" (Ezekiel 2:3, 7). Is our nation today **rebelling** against God's Word?

"But if the wicked **turn** from his wickedness, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall live thereby" (Ezekiel 33:19 and similar scriptures found elsewhere).

Did not Jesus **commission** His church to go into all the world and preach the gospel? "And that **repentance** and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations" (Luke 24:47; see also Matthew 28:19-20).

And wasn't Ezekiel's message a message of **repentance**?

Doesn't repentance mean to turn? Isn't this what God kept saying through Ezekiel at that time? That His people needed to turn or repent of their rebellion and wicked ways. If not, they would then suffer the consequences of their sin and rebellion.

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If that message isn't still valid today in this sinful and rebellious world, then what is? Ezekiel's message is vitally needed to be preached to our nation today which has strayed far from the God which has blessed us abundantly.

Was Ezekiel's message to be preached at another time period than during his own day? Notice Revelation chapter ten: There we have the apostle John witnessing a mighty angel coming down from heaven, verse one. In his hand is a "little book" or a "small scroll" which is **open**, verse two. John is told to take the little book from the angel, verse eight. What happened next?

John is then told to eat this little book just like Ezekiel was told to eat the scroll (See Ezekiel 3:1-3) Both with John and Ezekiel the book was as sweet as honey in their mouths. Why? Because it was the same message in both cases. John is later told that he "must prophesy **again** before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings" (Revelation 10:11). In other words, the warning message of Ezekiel would go out at a later time!

"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples, and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world is come. Wherefore, let him that thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall" (I Corinthians 10:11-12).

"I **charge** thee therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall **judge** the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom: **Preach the word**; be instant in season, out of season; **reprove**, **rebuke**, **exhort** with all patience and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall heap to themselves teachers who will tickle their ears with fables rather than the truth" (2 Timothy 4:1-4).

This was Paul writing to Timothy. Are we then to conclude that Paul's admonition to Timothy was only for Timothy and not for any minister of God today? We all know the correct answer to that question.

"Therefore to him that knows to do good, and does it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17).

Don't forget that Ezekiel was a priest, a minister of his day (Ezekiel 1:3). Unlike Ezekiel, haven't too many ministers today who claim to be servants of Jesus Christ abandoned or forsaken God's word? Is this why God expresses His anger at the shepherds of Israel (both ministers and public officials) in Ezekiel 34? And who have failed to expound and explain God's holy word to make His righteous ways credible and wholesome to His scattered remnant and to all nations?

Too many ministers only want to preach a message of escapism whether it be heaven or a place of safety. "They tell the seers, 'Stop seeing visions!' They tell the prophets, 'Don't tell us what is right. Tell us nice things. Tell us lies. Forget all this gloom. Get off your narrow path. Stop telling us about your Holy One of Israel'" (Isaiah 30:10-11 NLT).

God's message of repentance and turning to righteousness is consistent in every book of the Bible. No part of God's word should be ignored nor labeled as no longer pertaining to our generation. Anyone who has studied history knows that it repeats itself because each generation must learn the lessons of truth for their day.

# In regard to: A Little Here and A Little There

Article by Laura Lee Comments by James Steinle (Swanville, Minnesota)

A very interesting article overall giving us things to think about. Yes, how easy it is to read over something and actually not see it! Laura mentioned towards the end of her article that most scholars believe Job lived shortly after the flood or possibly even before it. In Job 2:11 it talks about 3 friends of Job, one with the name of Eliphaz the Temanite. Genesis 36:10 mentions Esau's sons, one being an Eliphaz who had a son named Teman in verse 11. The information goes on through verse 16. I believe it is very likely Eliphaz, a friend of Job, was a first cousin to Jacob, approximately 2000 years before the birth of the Messiah.

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Editor's Note: Actually, what I said in the article was:

"The book of Job is one of the oldest books in the Bible. No one seems to know exactly when it was written. Most scholars believe Job lived shortly after the flood but were things in place shortly after the flood for Job to have the wealth that he had? I don't know but I would say it is more likely that Job lived before the flood sometime and dinosaurs were an everyday part of his life."

Scholars are all over the place about Job. I believe the most prevalent point among scholars is that the book of Job was written about 2000 years before Christ. It would then follow that they believe Job lived after the flood, but I don't think any of them are for sure about when Job lived.

## Eliphaz the Temanite maybe Esau's Son

Job 2:11 Now when Job's three friends heard of all this evil that was come upon him, they came everyone from his own place; Eliphaz the Temanite, and Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite: for they had made an appointment together to come to mourn with him and to comfort him.

Gen 36:10 These *are* the names of Esau's sons; Eliphaz the son of Adah the wife of Esau, Reuel the son of Bashemath the wife of Esau. Gen 36:11 And the sons of Eliphaz were Teman, Omar, Zepho, and Gatam, and Kenaz. Gen 36:12 And Timna was concubine to Eliphaz Esau's son; and she bare to Eliphaz Amalek: these *were* the sons of Adah Esau's wife. Gen 36:13 And these *are* the sons of Reuel; Nahath, and Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah: these were the sons of Bashemath Esau's wife. Gen 36:14 And these were the sons of Aholibamah, the daughter of Anah the daughter of Zibeon, Esau's wife: and she bare to Esau Jeush, and Jaalam, and Korah. Gen 36:15 These *were* dukes of the sons of Esau: the sons of Eliphaz the firstborn *son* of Esau; duke Teman, duke Omar, duke Zepho, duke Kenaz, Gen 36:16 Duke Korah, duke Gatam, *and* duke Amalek: these *are* the dukes *that came* of Eliphaz in the land of Edom; these *were* the sons of Adah.

## Bildad the Shuhite maybe a Son of Abraham and Keturah

Bildad (Hebrew: בֶּלְדֵּד Bildad), the Shuhite, was **one of Job's three friends who visited the patriarch** in the Hebrew Bible's Book of Job. He was a descendant of Shuah, son of Abraham and Keturah (Genesis 25:1 - 25:2), whose family lived in the deserts of Arabia, or a resident of the district.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bildad#:~:text=Bildad%20(Hebrew%3A%20%D7%91%D6%B4%D6%BC%D7%9C%D6%B0%D7%93%D6%B7%D6%BC%D7%93%20Bilda%E1%B8%8F),a%20resident%20of%20the%20district.

**Gen 25:1** Then again Abraham took a wife, and her name *was* Keturah. Gen 25:2 And she bare him Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak, and Shuah.

### **Zophar the Naamathite Unknown**

Bible Dictionaries - Smith's Bible Dictionary - Naamathite

**Naamathite,** [E] the Gentile name of one of Jobs friends, Zophar the Naamathite. ( Job 2:11; 11:1; 20:1; 42:9) There is no other trace of this name in the Bible, and the town whence it is derived is unknown. (But as Uz was in Arabia, probably the Naamah where he lived was on the Arabian borders of Syria.) [E] indicates this entry was also found in Easton's Bible Dictionary

## Bibliography Information

Smith, William, Dr. "Entry for 'Naamathite,". "Smith's Bible Dictionary". . 1901. Encyclopedias - International Standard Bible Encyclopedia - Naamathite

**NAAMATHITE** na'-a-ma-thit, na-am'-a-thit (na`amdthi, "a dweller in Naaman"; ho M(e)inaion basileus): The description of Zophar, one of Job's friends (Job 2:11; 11:1; 20:1, etc.). Naamah is too common a placename to permit of the identification of Zophar's home; the Septuagint renders it as "king of the Minaeans."

https://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionary/naamathite/

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### Job

The Alexandrian Septuagint contains an addition to Job 42:16 stating that Job died at the age of 240.

## https://www.gotquestions.org/when-did-Job-live.html

## Conclusion

Above is further proof for those mentioned in the Book of Job, however I believe we need more proof so we may have to shelve this one until more proof comes along.

When I said that I believed Job lived before the flood, it was and still is my opinion. There is compelling proof for at least two of the friends of Job to perhaps be relatives of Esau and Abraham however I will caution everyone about names. There are six women including me named Laura Lee that I know of in Bismarck alone, none of which are closely related to me. Many people today and in Bible times had the same name. So, in this case I think you need more proof in order to say these people are for sure related.

One point of proof that sort of tips the scales in either direction, before or after the flood and that is the age of Job when he died. If he was 240 years old when he died, it could very well be that he lived shortly after the flood. At that point in time when due to the new environment people did not live as long as they did before the flood.

As far as the dinosaurs go, if Noah brought some on the ark, they may have died out shortly after the flood or they may have gotten smaller over time due to the new environment.

Whether Job lived before or after the flood he had a knowledge of dinosaurs or God wouldn't have spoken to Job in regard to them and Job showed no surprise when God brought them up. If someone has proof for when Job lived, I would like to see it. Laura Lee

# In regard to: A Little Here and A Little There

Article by Laura Lee Comments by Mike Hillyard (San Andreas, California)

### Mike writes:

What or who is the crooked serpent of Job 26:13, Whom God's hands have formed?

## Laura writes:

Job 26:13 By his spirit he hath garnished the heavens; his hand hath formed the crooked serpent.

## **Albert Barnes Commentary:**

He hath garnished the heavens - He has formed the stars which constitute so beautiful an ornament of the heavens.

His hand hath formed the crooked serpent - Or, rather, the fleeing serpent - ברח נחש *nachash barach*; see the notes at <u>lsa 27:1</u>. There can be no doubt that Job refers here to one of the constellations, which it seems was then known as the serpent or dragon. The practice of forming pictures of the heavens, with a somewhat fanciful resemblance to animals, was one of the most early devices of astronomy, and was evidently known in the time of Job; compare the notes at <u>Job 9:9</u>. The object was, probably, to aid the memory; and though the arrangement is entirely arbitrary, and the resemblance wholly fanciful, yet it is still continued in the works of astronomy, as a convenient help to the memory, and as aiding in the description of the heavenly bodies. This is probably the same constellation, which is described by Virgil, in language that strikingly resembles that here used by Job:

What is being spoken of in Job 26:13 is a constellation.

#### Mike writes:

(Here a little there a little, Isa 28:9-13)

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### Laura writes:

Isa 28:9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? *them that are* weaned from the milk, *and* drawn from the breasts. Isa 28:10 For precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, *and* there a little: Isa 28:11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. Isa 28:12 To whom he said, This *is* the rest *wherewith* ye may cause the weary to rest; and this *is* the refreshing: yet they would not hear. Isa 28:13 But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, *and* there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

### Mike writes:

So, who created Satan?

### Laura writes:

Eze 28:13 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone *was* thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Eze 28:14 Thou *art* the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee *so:* thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Eze 28:15 **Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.** Eze 28:16 By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Eze 28:17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

God created a perfect cherub in Lucifer. Lucifer chose to sin.

#### Mike writes:

Revelation 12:9 "So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called Satan and the Devil, who deceives the whole world"....

## Laura writes:

Rev 12:9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

### Mike writes:

Ecclesiastes 1:13 "It is an experience of evil God has given the sons of man, to humble them by it". Do you know of any creature more evil than Satan, whom God's hand has formed?

#### Laura writes:

Ecc 1:13 And I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all *things* that are done under heaven: this sore travail hath God given to the sons of man to be exercised therewith.

Satan is as evil as they come.

### Mike writes:

The next question would be, why did God create the crooked serpent known as Satan and the Devil? God creates the light and the darkness, He makes peace and creates evil, "I the Lord do all these things".... Isa 45:7-9.

#### Laura writes:

Isa 45:7 I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these *things*. Isa 45:8 Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together; I the LORD have created it. Isa 45:9 Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! *Let* the potsherd *strive* with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?

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## Mike writes:

Why? ...." turn such a one over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord" 1 Cor 5:5... There is none that is good, no not one. Romans 3:10, Psalm 14:1-3. Here a little there a little........

### Laura writes:

1Co 5:5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

Rom 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

**Psa 14:1** To **the chief Musician**, *A Psalm* **of David**. The fool hath said in his heart, *There is* no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, *there is* none that doeth good. Psa 14:2 The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, *and* seek God. Psa 14:3 They are all gone aside, they are *all* together become filthy: *there is* none that doeth good, no, not one.

### To sum it all up:

Isa 45:7 I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things.

And all that God does is so we might be saved.

This however is not the end of the story. Everything that God created was good. One thing God did was to create all creatures in heaven and all humans on earth with "Free Will". Some creatures in heaven and some humans on earth have rejected God. The opposite of good is evil. In a round about way God created evil by creating everyone with "Free Will". Everyone has the capacity to choose to do good or choose to do evil. God generally does not interfere with anyone's "Free Will".

The reason there is pain and suffering on earth at this time is because people have "Free Will" and when a person chooses to do evil God just doesn't interfere with that "Free Will" no matter how evil it is. The only reason God will interfere with a persons "Free Will" is if He has called a certain person to do a specific work, then He will protect that person from the "Evil Free Will" of others, just like in some instances He protects you from "Time and Chance" and even from "Accidents".

I can recount in my own life many times where God has interfered just to save me from "Evil Acts by Other People with Free Will", and from "Time and Chance" and "Accidents". For example, I was working in Lake Mills, Wisconsin and I was done for the day. You know how it is, I was tired and just wanted to go home. I had to stop at the grocery store first and all went well. I was in line waiting to check out and the line was moving along, and the cash register worked just fine. Then it was my turn to check out. The cash register stopped working. Three people in succession looked at and tried to get the cash register working and not one of them could figure out why it just quit working. A few minutes later and just as quick as it had stopped it started working just as good as before it quit. They checked me out and I started to drive home. When I stopped at the intersection of County A and Highway 18, I knew immediately why the cash register jammed. There were three cars smashed and in various places on the highway and in the farmers field and the police and ambulance were not yet there. Meaning it just happened and I just missed it.

More recently I was in our attic and tripped over a large piece of plastic Darwin had put up there so my office chair up there would glide more easily. The plastic is a quarter inch thick and very hard. When I tripped, I landed on the plastic, but it felt like I landed on a pillow, and I wasn't hurt at all.

If others have stories like these send it over and I will attach it to this.

So, no God did not create "Evil" for the sake of creating "Evil" it came about through those He created with "Free Will". Those who chose to do "Evil" rather than to do "Good". God allows the "Evil" as well as the "Good" that we may be saved.

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# In regard to: A Little Here and A Little There

Article by Laura Lee
Comments by Dwight Fleming (Oroville, California)

Excellent job on your "A Little Here and A Little There" article. You weaved the various inputs from me and yourself and others in a very cohesive fashion. I could see the Holy Spirit inspiring you in your writing. I have already received positive feedback from a good church friend this morning.

Editor's Note: Thank you, you also did a great job. Laura Lee

# In regard to: Bodies and Souls As Commodities

Article by David Sielaff
Comments by Laura Lee (Bismarck, North Dakota)

I only have one thing to add to this article. The author claims that it will be decades before Christ returns, in my opinion I believe the return of Christ is much closer than that, probably sometime within the next 10 years or less. No one knows when Christ will return but there are many signs in place that argues for sooner than for later.