

## **Women in God's Church**

by Rhoda Foust (Lehigh Acres, Florida)

Many have written about this subject, Women in The Bible, and Women in God's Church. However, few seem to present a thorough study from the Bible perspective, along with Strong's Concordance and the original Greek usage of certain words. Those who want to say that women have no right to speak in a public church building will use 1 Cor.14:34-35 for proof of their argument. But let us take a close look at the scriptures often used by these people.

Paul, in establishing order in the early church, and in the context of confusion that was developing in *(Continued on page 6)*

## **The Quest, For "The Kosher Pig"**

by John Leitch (Canada)

Is it possible to make a pig into something that is Kosher? In this article, I will demonstrate how some people have spent a lot of time, money and effort towards a similar purpose. In the following article, this writer will use the pig, not only as something God forbids His people to eat, but also symbolically, of anything God forbids in His word.

People seem to have changed very little from the time they were created. When the Bible tells people *(Continued on page 8)*

## **Why Tragedy may be the Only Way to Wake Up God's People**

by Richard Markland (Lebanon, Ohio)

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Each one of us can remember the shock felt on September 11, 2001. All of us have stories to tell of what we were doing when terrorists struck the World Trade Center and 3,000 innocent people died.

The two most recent tragedies to hit home are the Virginia Tech shootings and the bridge collapse in St. Paul, Minnesota. How many of us are taking note that we could *(Continued on page 9)*

## **I suffer not a woman to teach-- Let your women keep silent**

The answer to 1 Tim. 2:12 and 1 Cor. 14:34

**(The Short Version)**

by Dianne D. McDonnell (Arlington, Texas)

A great lie of Satan is that women have limitations on HOW they can serve God. They may teach children and other women, but not men; do PRIVATE but not PUBLIC teaching. Yet these "rules" didn't come from the lips of Jesus!

Instead Jesus praised the woman of *(Continued on page 10)*

## **The Faith Once Delivered**

by Isaya Ouma Owak (Kenya)

It is time we come to know and understand the words that Jude put in the holy Word of God for the church of God—the faith once delivered. What is this faith, who delivered it, and to whom was it delivered?

Some churches would quarrel with Jude's exhortation to carry on a vigorous defense of the faith that was once for all entrusted—delivered—to God's people (Jude 3).

It is surely a praiseworthy goal to which all of us should aspire. But we must be quite clear what it means. In fact, the questions as to what was that faith, when was it *(Continued on page 11)*

## **Cyrus the Israelite?**

by Cam Rea (Kendallville, Indiana)

### **Introduction:**

Cyrus the Great, a name that many historians and students of the Bible are familiar with. Most of us know who Cyrus was and what he did both good and bad. But, have we ever considered his origins? In this small article we will examine Cyrus the Great and the various tribes that joined him in his rebellion as well as his death.

### **Cyrus the Great and the Median question:**

Cyrus the Great who was the king of *(Continued on page 13)*

## **Knowledge EXPLOSION!**

by David Ben-Ariel (Toledo, Ohio)

The Torah has come to mean the Law, the Prophets and the Writings. In Hebrew this "Old Testament" collection is called TANAKH: an acronym for Torah ("Law"), Prophets (Neviim) and the Writings (Ketuvim). TNK is the Hebrew root for the word.

Jesus NEVER corrected the Jews or charged them with tampering with the Bible. God had promised and prophesied that the Jews/Judah would be responsible (out of all twelve tribes) for the preservation of His Word (Gen. 49:10, Rom. 3:2), and hasn't taken that gift and responsibility from them, even though most of them, as prophesied, remain blinded to *(Continued on page 14)*

## **Sometimes They Come Back**

**An Investigative look into the Assyrian  
invasion and deportation of the  
Ten Tribes of Israel -- Part #4**  
by Cam Rea (Kendallville, Indiana)

### **Esarhaddon, Cimmerians, and the New Threat:**

Esarhaddon ascended the throne and became the next King of Assyria in 680 BCE. Esarhaddon was the youngest son of King Sennacherib and his mother was possibly of Hebrew origin who went by the name of Queen Naqi'a (Zakitu).[87] When Esarhaddon became King his mother gained much *(Continued on page 3)*

LETTERS section ---

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**Isaiah 58:1** Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

**Ezekiel 33:8-9** When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

**Ephesians 5:11** And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove (expose) them.

**1 Timothy 5:20** Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.

**Women Preachers are an Abomination (06-09-07)  
by David Ben-Ariel (Toledo, Ohio)**

The below letter is written in regard to a letter "Satan's Agent".

**David Ben-Ariel writes:**

"Women preachers are an abomination." (Reason for Unsubscribing from our [lists](#).)

**Laura Lee writes:**

I sincerely hope that you rethink your actions at some point. Teaching people would make more sense than to get rid of them when they don't agree with you. Women teach publicly every time they write an article, or publish a newsletter and you never said one word about that. There is no difference between, a woman writing a Biblical article, publishing a newsletter or speaking in front of a group of people. Anyone who is teaching from the Bible, be it man or woman is doing what God wants us to. If a man or a woman starts teaching things of Satan then they are not one of God's and we need to discern that by their fruits.

I do not believe that you have gone into the Greek, Hebrew or Historical background on the things you are using to condemn and keep women from teaching others the word of God. If you would study those things you would understand that men and women are to be partners, whether it be in spiritual matters or in marriage. Study the divorce rate and why it is so high. When husband and wife are partners equally sharing in everything together, the marriage works. When the husband tries to control the wife through some form of abuse or being to strict those marriages fail because there is no partnership, it is more like a dictatorship. Men will fail approval of God if they bar women from teaching the word of God.

There are many scriptures in the Bible that speak of abominations, but I don't see a single one that says that it is an abomination for any man, woman or child to teach the word of God, whether it be in an article, a newsletter or from a podium in a room full of people. Through your own misguided hatred of women you are teaching against God. I hope you will rethink this matter and join us again at some point because we can learn from you just as you can learn from us.

Below are only a couple of scriptures in regard to what an abomination is and these and others never say that teaching the word of God is an abomination to God and those who teach such

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ON PAGE 18**

**“Sometimes They...” continued from page 1)**

power and influence at the court. Queen Naqi'a was called ummi sarri or mother of the king. She would help Esarhaddon decide many plans and policy's during his reign as King.[88] King Esarhaddon's first order of business was to regain the trust of Assyria's old allies, and put down the on going rebellions. Esarhaddon would extend his hand out to the Medes to regain their trust. Esarhaddon needed the Medes to help him crush Urartu, Elam, and the Cimmerians. Esarhaddon also wanted the Medes for another reason. That reason was to support who ever the King decided to sit upon the thrones of Assyria and Babylonia when he died. The idea behind this was to prevent another civil war or mass rebellion. It seems the Medes pretended to have interest, and as time went on the idea was soon to fail.[89] As Assyria was slowly regaining its power of influence mainly in the west. It was still having problems in the east. Tensions were high in the east especially with an old familiar group known as the Cimmerians. This time the Cimmerians seem to have more control over the province of Mannae. The man to lead the Cimmerians was known by the Assyrians as King Teushpa of the Umman Manda. He would lead the Cimmerian forces into battle against King Esarhaddon. This term Umman Manda must be addressed before we go on. Umman Manda is not only addressed to the Cimmerians by the Assyrian's, the Assyrians also apply this term to the Sakae and the Guti. The dialects of Umman Manda can possibly mean People of Manasseh Umman means people and Manda means Manasseh. The reason for this is when one looks at the northern dialects of Aramaic, Persian, and Hebrew. The d sound was changed for the s sound, and Manda becomes Manasseh. Also this term Umman Manda has been analyzed, and traced to the semitic nomads that lived in the eastern region of Israel, where the tribe of Manasseh lived, but also to the Euphrates river. So from the west of the Euphrates to the east of Manasseh the term Umman Manda is common.[90] Now this Teushpa would battle King Esarhaddon at Khubushna which was a city in the Khubushkia province in 679 BCE. Teushpa would be defeated and his forces driven into the already wounded Kingdom of Phrygia.[91] King Esarhaddon mentions Teushpa in his letter. Teushpa of Gimirrai, the Umman-manda whose home is remote, in the land of Hubushna, besides the whole of his army, I destroyed with the sword.[92] After the battle King Esarhaddon drove them back into Anatolia where they would go on to conquer what was left of the Phrygia.[93] We can also speculate that these Cimmerians were a mixed bunch. Some coming from the

already conquered portions of Phrygia, and some from the province of Mannae that Teushpa led into Assyria were possibly the same Cimmerians that were defeated by Sennacherib around 695 BCE. Also if we read the inscription you notice Esarhaddon refers to their home being remote, in the land of Hubushna. This sentence may have two meanings in it. When he speaks of their home being remote, Esarhaddon could be saying their land was far off, and he knew where the Gimira (Cimmerians) came from. Some might argue this due to the name Hubushna in the inscription. The only problem with this, is that Hubushna is not remote and is well known by the Assyrians. Hubushna is a region found in central Asia Minor, and used to be a part of the Kingdom of Phrygia, and before that it belonged to the Hittite's. So it doesn't seem that Esarhaddon would think Hubushna was remote, but I could be wrong.[94] Now after this battle there would be another rebellion coming out of northwestern Iran and into Assyria around 674 BCE.[95] Now earlier we discussed how Esarhaddon wanted the support of the Medes due to their growing power. Esarhaddon wanted to avoid a war with the Medes due to the economic loss it would create. The economic loss would be the horses that Assyria bought from the Medes for their army. War would finally break out between the two that would involve a few others.[96] Esarhaddon even wrote a prayer about it in his letter addressing the issues of loyalty, tribute, and rebellion.

Regarding Kastariti, the chieftain of the city Karkassi, who has sent the following message to Mamitiarsu, chieftain of the Medes, saying, 'Let us get together against the Assyrians!' Will Mamitiarsu listen to him, will he take notice of him, will he turn his face toward him, and within the year make war on Esarhaddon, king of Assyria?

As you can read that this prayer questions the intentions of the northern provinces of Assyria as well as the Medes. Esarhaddon wants to know if they will unite against him by asking the gods. Now this next prayer of Esarhaddon indicates an alliance has been made with an added tribe.

Will Kastariti, together with his warriors, or the warriors of the Gimira, or the warriors of the Medes, or the warriors of the Mannai, or any other enemy whatever, as many as there may be, succeed in their plan? Will they take Kisassu, either by storm, force, war. Battle and slaughter... by battering ram, or any other artifice of war by which a town may be taken, will they force their way into the midst of that city Kisassu, will their forces conquer that city of Kisassu, will it fall into their hands?[97]

From this inscription the forces under a man named Kastariti united and created a coalition against Assyria. Now the interesting

part is that Esarhaddon mentions Gimira. One would think that they have finally been uprooted and driven out. Many Gimira were still settled in the land of Mannai at this time. What else is interesting in this inscription is the mentioning of Mannai. The Gimira (Cimmerians) lived in this province already. So why would Esarhaddon mention the place as separate from the Gimira? Esarhaddon speaks of the warriors of Mannai, and the warriors of Gimira who he previously defeated, and sent back running into Asia Minor as separate people. The answer maybe the Ishkuza. We will talk more about the Ishkuza later. This anti-Assyrian alliance coming from the northeast of Assyria, and led by Kastariti also known as (Phraortes) the first king of Media would be defeated, but it wasn't the end of them. King Kastariti would flee back into a now independent northwestern Media, while the Cimmerians would return back to Mannae, or possibly fled to Asia Minor.[98]

**Esarhaddon's Palace:**

Some may wonder what does Esarhaddon's palace have anything to do with the tribes of Israel? Maybe nothing, but we may have a clue of who the tribes were. During Esarhaddon's reign, he decided to build a place. During the building of the palace Esarhaddon needed material for his inscriptions. So Esarhaddon stripped the slabs that mentioned the annuals and campaigns of Tiglath-pileser III off the walls, and had them for the most part mutilated. The reason for this is that Esarhaddon wanted them for his own inscription. This very act was never done before nor after Esarhaddon. Now some may say we have many accounts of Tiglath-pileser III from his own inscription's. This is true. It seems the Esarhaddon kept the beginning rule of Tiglath-pileser III, but when it reaches Tiglath's campaign in the Northern Kingdom of Israel it is bare! We have a few remnants about Tiglath's campaign concerning Israel which I provided earlier in the article, and that's all we have. Also the inscriptions concerning Syria for the most part are gone as well. After King Rezin's death the inscriptions bare little, if any, if nothing anymore. What's funny is that Esarhaddon wanted them for his inscriptions. The problem is he never finished it. It would be left alone till it was discovered. This act seems deliberate. It seems that Esarhaddon was damning Tiglath-pileser III for bringing in the Israelites. If you have not noticed so far the name Gimira or Gamera and the many other names that are identical, are often the aggressor going strait for the jugular vein in Assyria. I also know that Assyria had many rebellions within it's borders. But when the Assyrians are talking about the people of Gimira they get a tongue lashing.[99]

Enter into the midst of the Mannai, all the troops should not enter. Let the cavalry and the Dakku invade the Gimiraa (Cimmerians), who have spoken saying, The Mannai pertain to you, we have not interfered. Certainly this is a lie. They are the offspring of outcasts, they recognize nether the oath of a god nor a (human) agreement. Let the chariots and baggage wagons take up a position on either side of the pass; (then) with the horses and the Dakku, let them enter and take the plunder of the plain of the Mannai; and let them return and at the pass let them bivouac..... once or twice they shall enter and..... plunder and the Gimiraa (Cimmerians)..... they come, the troops..... shall enter against the cities of the Mannai.....Belhabu of the Mannai..... they will change to the hands of the king my lord..... on the fifteenth day the moon appears with the sun. This is against them. Will you restrain the feet of the Cimmerians from them? If they approach, their coming and going of any sort I not know? I have sent a message to the king my lord. May the lord of kings inquire of a man acquainted with the country and may the king, at his pleasure, send to his troops raiders in addition to the (other) fighting men. A fortress there against the enemy do you provision for yourself. Let all the troops enter the Gududanu.[100]

As you can see they are regarded as the offspring of outcasts. Which seems to indicate that their forefathers were cast out by God, and the ones being referred to here are the generation that were born in exile. Also we notice that they recognize nether oath of a god nor a human. These two terms seem to correspond with (Amos 4:3). Also this letter shows us how much Esarhaddon hates them, and gives us a good example as to why the slab inscriptions of Tiglath-pileser III were mutilated. Esarhaddon wanted all memory erased of these cursed people.

#### **Ishkuza:**

Soon after the battle with the Cimmerians we have this interesting group known as the Ishkuza. These Ishkuza came from the ranks of the Cimmerians and are identified with the Scythians. Before we go on we must understand that the word Scythian is a generic term. George Rawlinson explains: The term 'Scythic' is not... ethnical. It designates a life rather than a descent, habits rather than blood. It is applied by Greeks and Romans to Indo-European and Turanian races indifferently, provided they are nomads, dwelling in tents... living on the produce of their flocks and herds...[101]

But who are the Ishkuza, and where did they come from? The name Ishkuza was first mentioned by the Assyrians during the reign of Esarhaddon.

Will the Iskuza warriors who live in the

district of the Mannai, and have moved to the frontiers of the Mannai, succeed in their plan? Will they march out the pass of Hubushkia and reach the towns of Harrania and Anisuskia, and take much booty and heavy spoil from the borders of Assyria?[102]

From this inscription we gather that the Ishkuza originated in the region of Mannai (Mannae), and soon after began to spread out and settle on the frontiers of the land of Mannai. Also we have no indication of a war between the Cimmerians and Ishkuza. Also the Assyrians see no difference between the two groups. The Assyrians also called the Ishkuza (Umman Manda) like they did with the Cimmerians. Also many Historians have said that archaeologists cannot distinguish who is a Scythian from a Cimmerian, and their names were also interchangeable. Take for instance the name Iskuzai or Asguzai which occurs rarely in the Assyrian language of Akkadian. But Gimirrai and Gamir were the terms to distinguish the Cimmerians and Scythians in the Assyrian language of Akkadian. Now the name Ishkuza is derived from the Hebrew term Ishak. Ishak means Isaac, and Isaac was the name for the Ten tribes in the Kingdom of Israel (Amos 7:9). Also the name Ishkuza was known as Zohak and Sakai in Persian, and Saka in Afghanistan.[103] This term Saka in Afghanistan is interesting. In the Bactria region near the Oxus river the locals called them Sakan or Iskuza, which both names meant the Sons of Issac.[104] Now that we have an idea who the Iskuza were, the question is what did they do? In 676 BCE the Iskuza (Ishkuza) appear among what was left of the Cimmerians in the region of Mannai. Most of the Cimmerians had long moved west or northwest by this time into Asia Minor, and some possibly went north through the Caucasus into what is today southern Russia, and some of them even joined the ranks of Esarhaddon's army.[105] Now around 676 BCE a Scythian king by the name Ishpaka led his forces along with the aid of Urartu, and the Cimmerians into Assyria, while making various raids into the region. King Esarhaddon had to do something about the situation before it got way out of hand. In 676 BCE King Esarhaddon met the Iskuza (Scythian) forces and slew King Ispaka in the battle. The Scythians returned north back to Mannai, and King Esarhaddon returned home. Esarhaddon's next move was to invade the Medes and gain back what they lost, and also put an end to the border raids being conducted by the Medians. But during the invasion of Media it seems the Iskuza (Scythians) were already in northwestern Persia as allies to the Medes, and also settled in the former Kingdom of Urartu where they established their capital known as Sakiz.[106] In any case Esarhaddon still took

many Median cities, and a few provinces, and much spoil. We could speculate that Esarhaddon decided not to go the distance due to the presence of the Iskuza in the area. Esarhaddon wrote a prayer about the situation.[107]

I ask thee Samas; great lord, whether the nobles and governors of Bit-kari and Saparda with their warriors, horses and military forces, as many as there may be, will be opposed, and whether... himself, or his son, of the Iskuza warriors, or anyone else who is with him, will attack the nobles and governor, nobles, warriors, horses and troops of Esarhaddon, king of Assyria, which are in Bitkari, and which have entered the land of the Medes in order to collect the tribute of horses, (be attacked) by the hand of the Iskuza warriors?[108]

After some time had passed Esarhaddon came up with a sly plan that yanked the Scythians away from their alliance with the Medians. King Esarhaddon gave his daughter to Bartatua the King of the Iskuza (Scythians), in order to gain their support. This would be a good move at first, but over time the Scythians would prove to be to unstable to control, and it also gave them a voice when it came to Mesopotamian politics.[109]

Regarding Bartatua, king of the Iskuza who has just sent his ambassador to Esarhaddon, king of Assyria, about a princess... I ask you Shamash, great lord, if Esarhaddon gives a princess to Bartatua king of the Iskuza for a wife, whether Bartatua will observe and keep his oath to Esarhaddon, king of Assyria?[110]

What I find interesting is that King Esarhaddon is willing to make an alliance with King Bartatua. It seems King Esarhaddon is fearful of the Iskuza, even though King Esarhaddon had beaten the Iskuza forces. Or the Iskuza became powerful due to the influence they had in Media, and that may suggest that some of the Medes were their kin, and they were just protecting their interest. Now after these events King Esarhaddon would begin the task of putting down rebellions one after another in the west during the last years of his life. So much for Pax Assyria when it comes to the west. Now after most of the rebellions were put down, King Esarhaddon would finally die in 669 BCE on his way to Egypt. His son Ashurbanipal would take control of a dying empire.[111]

#### **Ashurbanipal and the Medes:**

Ashurbanipal would begin his reign in 668 BCE. Once King Ashurbanipal took the throne he gained the rebellions that his father fought previously. In 667 BCE he sent a stronger army to put down the rebellion in Egypt, and retook the city of Memphis. In doing so a man by the name of Necho would

be put on the throne of Egypt with the Assyrian army backing his claim. Now around 664 BCE Gyges of Lydia would come to Ashurbanipal asking for military assistance against the same old foe, the Cimmerians. Ashurbanipal sent a message to his god Shamash asking for what would be a wise thing to do in dealing with the Cimmerians and others. The king wishes to know whether such a messenger will return safely to Assyria, or will he be attacked by the Cimmerians, or the Urartians, or the Mannaeans, or the Scythians, or the... eans, or any enemy, and whether they will seize and kill that messenger. Also Ashurbanipal viewed the Gimirrai (Cimmerians) as a wicked people.

They were a wicked enemy, who had never honored my ancestors or me.

Ashurbanipal hated and feared the Cimmerians and Scythians so much, he seems to constantly ask the gods what will their next move be, and how bad will they hurt us.[112] King Gyges would give Ashurbanipal two Cimmerian chieftains to gain military assistance from Assyria. Assyria would help by attacking the Cimmerian rear in Asia Minor. But also Ashurbanipal records that Gyges looked to Egypt for assistance and by doing so rebelled against Assyria. Ashurbanipal was so furious he says: His messenger whom he kept sending to me to bring me greetings, he suddenly discontinued... he sent his forces to the aid of Tushamliki king of Egypt, who had thrown off the yoke of my sovereignty. I heard of it, and prayed to Assur and Ishtar, saying, 'May his body be cast before his enemy, may his foes carry off his limbs.' The Cimmerians, whom he had trodden underfoot by calling upon my name, invaded and overpowered the whole of his land.

King Gyges would die in battle against the Cimmerians around 652 BCE.[113] Before the rebellion and death of King Gyges by the Cimmerians. King Ashurbanipal of Assyria invaded the land of the Mannaeans around 660-659 BCE to recover some lost territory, and some key fortresses within and around the region of Mannaeans, that Esarhaddon had passed into the hands of the people of Mannaeans. On the way back it seems that Ashurbanipal's forces invaded into Median territory, and took many towns and fortresses from the Medes. The reason for this is unclear, but for the Medes it meant war. In 653-652 BCE A man by the name of Phraortes who was king of the Medes would lead his forces against Assyria and die in battle.[114] What is interesting about Phraortes name is that its the Greek form for the name Phares. King David of Israel was from the line of Phares. Could it be that this Phraortes was an Israelite who's family before him was settled among the Medes? The name Phares in Median territory would be

rare to hear if ever. In any case the prophet Jeremiah said: As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me. 33:22[115]

As you can read David's seed was multiplied. It makes one wonder how many more Israelites in captivity were from the line of David.

#### **Iskuza domination of Media:**

Soon after the death of Phraortes. King Madyes led his Iskuza (Scythian) forces into the land of the Medes where the Scythians would rule for 28 years.[116] During the 28 year rule most Medes would adopt the manners and customs of their Scythian masters. Everything from dress to warfare. Median families would send their sons to Scythian schools that trained them in the arts of archery and language. We could say Scythianization became the trend from Asia Minor to the Indus Valley.[117] It was during the Scythian rule of Media that the Cimmerians were giving King Ashurbanipal trouble again. In around 641-640 BCE King Dugdammī of the Umman Manda is not the King of the Umman-Manda according to one of Ashurbanipal inscription's. Ashurbanipal calls him: King of the Saka and Qutium.

This inscription and title makes one wonder if Dugdammī was a Scythian King, or maybe Ashurbanipal couldn't tell them apart as we noticed earlier with other Assyrian kings in the past. In any case, the terms Cimmerians and Scythians no matter how generic the terms maybe, they are still one in the same.[118]

#### **The Fall of Assyria and the Scythian rampage:**

During the reign of Ashurbanipal many rebellions popped up here and there. The beginning of the end for Assyria began in 652 BCE. Ashurbanipal's older half brother Shamash-shum-ukin, the crown prince of Babylonia, rebelled for he felt that he should be king of Assyria. The war between the two brothers would last for almost three years, and the battles seem to never end. In the end the crown prince of Babylon lost all hope. With his city being slaughtered, he decided to set his palace on fire and die in the flames. Elam would not subdue till it was completely destroyed and Susa leveled. Elam's gods would become captives in Assyria, and thrown to the four winds. Ashurbanipal would celebrate this triumph by riding his chariot through the streets of Nineveh, with three Elamite princes and a King from Arabia harnessed to his chariot. The Cimmerians were still a problem, but could not be subdued. Egypt had been stripped, and left with only a loincloth to wear. One could look at Ashurbanipal's reign and say it was a

success. But in all reality it was one exhaustive campaign after another. Even though Ashurbanipal drained the riches from the Near East, it also drained him as well, and most likely was the cause of his death.[119] With the death of Ashurbanipal in or between 631 or 627 a message of rebellion went out to all those who wished for revenge. It was soon after that the Scythians launched a massive attack on the Assyrian Empire. After crossing the Assyrian border the city of Calah was in the cross hairs of the Scythians. Calah had great importance due to being not only the military headquarters but also the armory. By taking this city was an act of ripping the heart out of the nation. Assyria was now for the most part without an army.[120] The Scythians would raid town and province, and taking all they can, while burning the past behind them as they left. The Scythians would pass through Assyria like a hot knife through butter. Now out of all this rampage, the Scythians came upon the land of Palestine. Only to be given gifts by Psammitichus the king of Egypt, and sent them on their way.[121] It was some time later around 616 BCE that the Scythians would switch sides back to the Assyrians, and join them along side Mannaeans and Egyptians. The reason for the switch is unclear, and it could be due to the Scythian chiefs that were murdered by the Medes during a banquet. This may have caused the temporary switch that pitted Scythia against Media for a short time.[122] Scythia's opponent was the Babylonians, Medes (Manda), Guti, and Gimiri. Assyria also sent messengers to the city of Ecbatana. Calling for the Scythians of that city to come to their aid. Once the Scythians arrived they seem to have switched sides, and in 612 BCE the walls of Nineveh came tumbling down, till all that was left was the dust being kicked up from the ground. Also I want to point out that the term Medes at the time Assyria fell seems to be a Greek mistranslation. It seems that the Babylonians didn't recognize them as Medes, but as Manda which is a different group, and most likely related to the Gimiri. [123]

1 Woe to the bloody city! it is all full of lies and robbery; the prey departeth not; 2 The noise of a whip, and the noise of the rattling of the wheels, and of the prancing horses, and of the jumping chariots. 3 The horseman lifteth up both the bright sword and the glittering spear: and there is a multitude of slain, and a great number of carcasses; and there is none end of their corpses; they stumble upon their corpses: 4 Because of the multitude of the whoredoms of the wellfavoured harlot, the mistress of witchcrafts, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts. 5 Behold, I am against thee, saith the LORD of hosts; and I will discover thy

skirts upon thy face, and I will shew the nations thy nakedness, and the kingdoms thy shame. 6 And I will cast abominable filth upon thee, and make thee vile, and will set thee as a gazing stock. 7 And it shall come to pass, that all they that look upon thee shall flee from thee, and say, Nineveh is laid waste: who will bemoan her? whence shall I seek comforters for thee? Nahum 3:1-7 (KJV)

So complete was the destruction of the Assyrian capital that two centuries later Xenophon and his Greek mercenary army of 10,000 men passed the ruins of Nineveh unaware of what they were passing. Not a single vestige of Assyrian power remained. A people who had lived on the Tigris for more than 2,000 years had literally disappeared from the face of the earth. -----Richard Gabriel, *The Great Armies of Antiquity*. [124]

**Final thoughts:**

In conclusion to this article, we have to realize that not only do they sometimes come back, but sometimes they don't forget. But before I let you go, I have one last inscription to show you. It's from the reign of Ashurbanipal. During my research I came across this unique find, and I want to share it with you. You will not find any commentary for this tablet, nor in a book that I'm aware of that even talks about it. This inscription was discovered, translated, cataloged, and forgotten for more than 60 years until now.

To the king of the countries my lord, your servant Bel-ushezib. May Bel, Nabu and Shamash bless the king my lord. When the sun stands within the halo of the moon, (then) shall all men in every land bear witness to the truth: the son shall bear witness to the truth with his father. Saturn stands within the halo of the moon. When a halo surrounds the moon and Cancer stands within it, (it means that) the king of Akkad will continue long in life. When a "river" surrounds the moon, floods and rain storms will follow. Cancer stands within the halo of the moon. A king, mighty and just . . . during the reign of the king your father . . . (fragments) . . . Arad-Gula . . . as follows, "That which concerning the forgotten (?) grain (?) the . . . official . . . Concerning this word which Mardia heard . . . and the tribal chief." Yadi', the tribal chief, and all the chiefs of Yakimanu, had appointed him in the presence of the general, over the country of the Mannai; but now they say, "The slayer of our lord shall not become great over us."

The lord of kings should ask the generals. May he hear of the welfare of the king, it rejoices me likewise. Now Mardia, the overseer of the slaves of the household of the general, having forsaken his lord, entered the service of Nergal-asharidu; let him bring over the interpreter (?) and the captains to Nergal-asharidu; they shall take (the) oaths

and carry one talent of silver with them to their homes. . . . food, grain, date-wine . . . took. May the king know (of it). [125]

Here is the translation of the above emphasized passage with the equivalents of the names Yadi, and Yakimanu given in English.

Chief Judah, the tribal chief [Yadi], and all the chiefs of Jacobs people [Yakimanu] had appointed him in the presence of the general, over the country of the Mannai.

[87]Jackson, *Women Who Ruled*, p. 127  
[88]Marsman, *Women in Ugarit and Israel*, p. 348  
[89]Saggs, *The Might that was Assyria*, p. 104  
[90]Davidiy, *The Tribes*, p. 30  
[91]Kristensen, *Who were the Cimmerians, and were did they come from?* p. 100  
[92]Annals of Archeology and Anthropology, By University of Liverpool Institute of Archeology, p. 106  
[93]Goodspeed, *A History of the Babylonians and Assyrians*, p. 291  
[94]Annals of Archeology and Anthropology, By University of Liverpool Institute of Archeology, p. 106  
[95]Edwards, Boardman, Bury, Cook, *The Cambridge Ancient History*, p. 564  
[96]Roux, *Ancient Iraq*, p. 327  
[97]Capt, *Missing Links Discovered in Assyrian Tablets*, p. 117  
[98]Falk, *A Psychoanalytic History of the Jews*, p. 192  
[99]Rogers, *A History of Babylonia and Assyria*, p. 266-267  
[100]Capt, *Missing Links Discovered in Assyrian Tablets*, p. 119-120  
[101]Rawlinson, *The Sixth Oriental Monarchy*, p. 20  
[102]Capt, *Missing Links Discovered in Assyrian Tablets*, p. 120  
[103]Davidiy, *Origin*, p. 40-42  
[104]Hand, *Jeremiah's Journey*, p. 110  
[105]Davidiy, *Origin*, p. 43  
[106]Tamara, *The Scythians*, p. 45  
[107]Williams, *The Historians' History of the World*, p. 423  
[108]Capt, *Missing Links Discovered in Assyrian Tablets*, p. 121  
[109]Edwards, Boardman, Bury, Cook, *The Cambridge Ancient History*, p. 358-359  
[110]Klaube, *Politische religiose texte*, p. 30  
[111]Saggs, *The Might that was Assyria*, p. 108  
[112]Draws, *Early Riders: The Beginnings of Mounted Warfare*, p. 111-112  
[113]Capt, *Missing Links Discovered in Assyrian Tablets*, p. 126  
[114]Gershevitch, *The Cambridge History of Iran*, p. 114, 116  
[115]Collins, *Israel's Lost Empires*, p. 199  
[116]Herodotus, *The Histories*, p. 59  
[117]Vogelsang, *The Afghans*, p. 90  
[118]Gershevitch, *The Cambridge History of*

*Iran*, p. 118  
[119]Roux, *Ancient Iraq*, p. 333-336  
[120]Edwards, Boardman, Bury, Cook, *The Cambridge Ancient History*, p. 219  
[121]Keller, *The Bible as History*, p. 296  
[122]Herodotus, *The Histories*, p. 59  
[123]Davidiy, *Origin*, p. 52  
[124]Gabriel, *The Great Armies of Antiquity*, p. 137  
[125]American Oriental Series, Volume 6, *State Letters of Assyria*; Harper 1109 (83-1-18, 47), pg. 221-2.

**Article found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0041/a2007-041-03.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

**(“Women in God’s...” continued from page 1)**

the Gentile church services in Corinth said, "Let your women keep silence in the churches; for it is not permitted unto them to speak, but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saidth the law. And if they will learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home; for it is a shame for women to speak in the church." 1 Cor. 14:34-35

Researching this topic in Strong's Concordance, I find the word "speak" as used here, in the orig. Greek has nothing to do with speaking under inspiration, or of prophesying. The word used is *laleo* = defined: to speak, talk, preach, etc, but then an additional reference is given to another number which defines this word in this particular usage, and says: *laleo* = an extended or random harangue, ask, bid, boast, call, etc."

This then, was not a direct reference by Paul toward an inspired female speaker, or one speaking in an orderly fashion, but women who were randomly haranguing, questioning and interrupting the order of services to quarrel and in a disorderly manner discuss doctrines of the church.

This is further attested to in Haley's Bible Handbook (pg.535). "Paul here forbids, (1 Cor.14:34) what he seems to allow in 1 Cor. 11:5. There must have been some local circumstances, unknown to us, that gave point to these instructions. Possibly some very bold women, converted temple prostitutes maybe, were putting themselves forward..."

1 Tim. 2:11-12 Paul says: "Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. I do not permit a woman to teach, nor usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence..."

Strong's Concordance: a)silence = desist from bustle and language b) silent = close, secret, hold peace c) subjection = to subject one's self to obey d) teach = teach, (as to) learn e) usurp = and authority = (same def.

given for both words) to act of oneself, to dominate.

**Editor's Note:**

The words "usurp authority" as used in 1 Timothy 2:12 is Strong's #831 in the Greek and is the word "Authenteo" or "Authentein" and is of a sexual connotation having to do with Temple Worship, Temple Prostitution and Temple abortion of children in other words murder of children. We will try to print something in regard to this in the future. Laura Lee

These words show a woman should learn without noisome bustling and/or chatter (talking), and refrain from interrupting while learning. She should not dominate, or take to herself authority over a man who has authority. Could this scripture not equally apply to anyone--men, as well as women--who does not have a position of authority? It clearly instructs women of non-authority not to "usurp" (take of one's self the authority) over one who already has authority.

So--according to the original Greek usage, Paul--in both places--is simply telling the unruly, noisy, and rude women to be quiet and listen to those men who had the authority to teach, not haranguing, interrupting, asking questions in a disorganized way. He was telling them: if they did not understand, they were to wait until they got home and ask their husbands (who were also in attendance) to explain what had been taught.

It makes no sense at all for a woman who has been a Bible student for many years, converted and growing by the power of God's holy spirit, to go home and ask an unconverted (and possibly hostile) husband questions about spiritual matters if he is unconverted. Paul could not have been speaking to inspired women or women with unconverted mates! It was (is) only to women who try to cause discord or disruption that Paul addresses in 1 Cor. 14:34.

Acts 1:14-15 shows there were 120 members during the early church--both women and men gathered together. Acts 2:1, 4 shows them observing the Day of Pentecost when they were all filled with the holy spirit (both men and women) and spoke, during the observance of this Holy Day, in many foreign languages. Did not women also receive the holy spirit? Did God allow only men to receive this gift? Did he make a difference in the sexes?

Paul in Gal. 3:28 answers this, "there is neither Jew nor Greek, neither slave nor free, there is neither male, nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus..."

**PROPHETS AND PROPHETESSES**

Anna was called a prophetess. The original word used here, from Strong's

Concordance says: prophetis = fem. of prophetes (a male prophet, and inspired speaker, a poet, etc) = and means; a female foreteller or an inspired woman.

So... this shows Anna was a female prophet (prophetess) who spoke under inspiration in the then known and accepted church (temple). Since her long and inspired speech was preserved in the scriptures, she must have had God's approval to "speak" in church.

Of course, some may say: Anna was an old woman and lived during the time before the new church was established. Another argument is: the office of "prophetis" has been dropped, voiding the office of the female "prophetis". Accepting this to be true, it has no bearing on the words Paul used in reference to the virgins who prophesied, the women who were to cover their heads when they prophesied, nor when he said, "greater is he (she?) that prophesieth...", etc. The word he uses is not from "prophetes" (which is the orig. Greek word used when referring to a particular person - (usually from the Old Testament) but from either "propheta" or "propheteuo" which is defined as: "prediction--from scripture or otherwise--foretell events, divine, speak under inspiration, and exercise the prophetic office."

So, Paul was talking of another type of "propheteuo", or prophesying (propheta) which was distinctly different than the one used in reference to prophets in the Old Testament.

Acts 21:9 speaks concerning the new church era. An evangelist, Phillip, had four virgin daughters who did "prophesy". Here again, the word used is: "propheteuo" and means = to foretell events, an inspired speaker, to exercise the prophetic office. Here were four women who were in the office of prophetesses who were inspired to foretell events or speak (expound).

There are examples, in the Bible, where God used women to lead men.

It is a well known fact that God used Mrs. Loma Armstrong to start, and help **H. W. Armstrong** raise up a church.

If a woman--just as a man--has been growing by the power of God's holy spirit for many years, yet has not acquired spiritual wisdom and discernment and the ability to advise younger converts--whether it be man or woman--there is something seriously wrong with her spiritual condition. Yet, this is denied to women, as a whole, due to lack of understanding by the leaders of many churches.

The Bible records many ways God used women to fill offices of authority, and shows them making decisions that effected whole nations and the lives of people hundreds of years into the future. Paul instructs that she is not to be the leader over a husband, but God has allowed her certain privileges: a) To

be co-ruler with her husband in her home, b) to also have the gift of the holy spirit, and c) to have the freedom to prophesy, that is to exercise the prophetic office and share her spiritual knowledge with others according to Strong's Concordance: prophet: to foretell events, and be an inspired speaker, to exercise the prophetic office.

Titus 2:3-4 actually instructs older women to be teachers of good things, teaching young women to be sober minded....etc. And we know women are to teach their children. But, in view of the scriptures above, can this imply inspired women can ONLY teach younger women and children?

The only way these scriptures can be used with no contradiction is to determine WHEN, and/or WHY a woman is to speak, and/or is to be silent. Is not the answer simply: She is not to overrule a (speaker) man or any person in authority during worship services? If and when she is not being inspired by God's holy spirit to prophecy (speak), she is to keep quiet, just as any person is to keep quiet when another inspired person is prophesying (speaking)? See 1 Cor. 14:30-31 which says: If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.

**SOME THOUGHT PROVOKING QUESTIONS**

1. IF PAUL FORBADE A WOMAN TO SPEAK (SIMPLY BECAUSE OF HER SEX) DURING CHURCH SERVICES--WHY WAS SHE TOLD TO COVER HER HEAD WHEN SHE PROPHESIED? The orig. Greek word used means the same as "prophet" (except for one being fem.-the other masc.) and both refers to the act of "edifying, exhortation, and comforting".

2. IF A WOMAN IS NOT PERMITTED TO SPEAK (under inspiration of the Holy Spirit) IN CHURCH, WHY DID PAUL INSTRUCT CHRISTIANS, "...RATHER TO PROPHESEY..."? (1Cor.14:1), If so, why did God not make a distinction on the day of Pentecost? And how are women to know which spiritual instructions are denied to them and which ones pertain strictly to males?

3. IF ONLY A MAN IS QUALIFIED TO PROPHESEY--WHY WAS THE SAME ORIGINAL GREEK WORD "PROPHETEOU" USED IN REFERENCE TO BOTH MEN AND WOMEN IN ACTS 2:18?

4. SINCE GOD RECOGNIZES CERTAIN WOMEN AS "PROPHETESSES"--AS WITH ANNA AND THE FOUR DAUGHTERS OF PHILIP--AND BY SAYING, "YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHESEY" (PROPHETEOU) HOW CAN THERE BE A DISTINCTION? AND WHEN,

IF NOT IN THE END TIME, ARE THEY TO DO THIS? We can be sure the daughters, virgins with neither husbands or children, were not restricted to learning from their husbands, nor were they prophesying to children and women only.

5. WHY IS IT THAT WHEN A WOMAN OFFERS TO "SPEAK" IN CHURCH IT IS CONSIDERED THAT SHE IS "USURPING AUTHORITY" AND NEVER ACCEPTED AS AN INSPIRED SPEAKER--BUT WHEN A MAN SPEAKS, IT IS TAKEN FOR GRANTED HE IS INSPIRED?

6. WHO CAN REFUTE THAT WOMEN OF BOTH THE OLD AND THE NEW TESTAMENT HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED AS INSPIRED SPEAKERS--OR AS FEMALE PROPHETS--SUCH AS ANNA OR THE FOUR DAUGHTERS OF PHILIP? WHAT WOULD THE ATTITUDE BE TOWARD THESE LADIES IF THEY SHOULD BE A PART OF SOME CHURCHS TODAY? ARE WE TO DISREGARD THEIR EXAMPLES?

7. WHY HAVE NO FEMALE PROPHETS BEEN ENCOURAGED IN THE CHURCH TODAY? IS THERE A SCRIPTURE THAT SHOWS THE DISCONTINUATION OF WOMEN FILLING THE OFFICE OF A PROPHETESS OR A DEACONESS (MINISTER)?

8. KNOWING THAT DEACONS (MINISTERS) ARE QUALIFIED TO PREACH - (PROPHECY), AS SHOWN CLEARLY BY THE SERMON GIVEN BY THE DEACON (MINISTER) STEPHEN, IS THERE A BIBLICAL REASON WHY A DEACONESS (MINISTER) (fem. of the same Greek word of deacon) SHOULD NOT BE ACCEPTED TO PROPHECY?

9. IF DEACONS (MINISTERS) ARE QUALIFIED TO "PROPHECY" IN THE CHURCH, IN VIEW OF WHAT STRONG'S CONCORDANCE REVEALS, SHOULD NOT DEACONESSES (MINISTER) ALSO BE ENCOURAGED TO PROPHECY (TEACH)?

In addition to the scriptures discussed to this point, there are many other references to women that God used in both the Old Testament and the New Testament. Paul mentions several women who were actively involved in the ministry of the New Testament church. Rom. 16:1-16

Can we read Rom. 16 and conclude these women were denied speaking and/or prophesying? I think not!

The only way we can harmonize all of these scriptures is to accept that when Paul denied women the right to speak in church it was because there were mitigating circumstances that required that kind of correction for that particular situation. Otherwise, we have to conclude that Paul contradicted himself, and God has become a respecter of persons.

This is but a short study of a woman's place in God's Church. There are numerous

scriptures that offer insights into how God used women's talents to serve his purpose. Religious leaders have often forgotten Christ's instruction to them in Mat.20:25-28: (25) But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. (26) But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your servant; (27) And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your slave: (28) Even as the Son of man came not to be served unto, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Some religionists have assumed that they have the authority to determine how women are to use their God given talents in worship services. By so doing they ignore Gal. 3:28: There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

When pastors or religious leaders insist that women have no right to use their God given talents in service to their congregation they have taken upon themselves the role of ruler instead of servant.

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\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

### **("The Quest, For..." continued from page 1)**

to stay away from something that is exactly what we crave and run after. People mistakenly think that if they call what God forbids by a different name, it will change what it is.

On the other hand, people rationalize that if they apply the rules for what God approves, to what is not approved, God will be obligated to give His blessing on the substitute. I will give three examples of this kind of thinking, starting with the far out and ridiculous. I will use the first example (everyone will recognize as error) to show how people have used the very same type of reasoning in the other two areas of behavior, to which God has **never** given His blessing.

#### **First Example**

**A man planning replacing the Passover lamb (Exodus 12:21) and using a pig, as a substitute.**

I would like the reader to visualize a person preparing for the Passover season two thousand years ago. A man suddenly realizes, he will need to obtain a lamb for this occasion, but that will require putting out some money and traveling a fair distance to obtain one. The man reasons, "It is only symbolic anyway, and if I handle this in the

proper manner, I can avoid the cost and hassle of procuring a lamb. There is a perfectly good pig in the backyard, so I will use the pig. I will simply apply all the rules for the Passover lamb and transfer them to the pig."

#### **Plan of Deception**

- **A**---At all times, this sacrifice will always be referred to as a lamb and never called by what it really is, a pig.
- **B**---The pig will be chosen on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the first month.
- **C**---I will take the pig to the temple mount and have the Levite inspect it for spots and defects. Hopefully he will be so engrossed in his mission to find a spot or blemish that he won't even notice, the sacrifice is in reality, just a pig.
- **D**---I will cook the pig in the same manner as the Passover lamb and because, the people's focus will be on the celebration, they won't even notice, the sacrifice is a pig.
- **E**---Whatever is not eaten and left over, will be burnt.

The man reasons; "if the rules for the lamb are applied to the pig and the pig is at all times called the lamb, people will not notice and God will approve". At this point, the readers of this article will be chuckling and stating the obvious. "The sacrifice is still a pig." No matter what is done to it or what it is called, the fact remains; it is still only a common everyday pig.

#### **Second Example**

**A person is planning to use the first day of the week to replace the commanded seventh (4<sup>th</sup> commandment, Deut. 5:12-14). This substitute would now become the person's day of rest.**

Many people today and also many prominent religious organizations understand this commandment, but they also realize the world around them marches to the beat of a different drummer. Like the man with the pig, they think, "If the first day of the week is presented in a clever enough way, Bible students and even God Himself, won't even notice or care." Some people's path of reasoning follows the same pattern as the man with the Passover pig.

#### **Line of Reasoning**

- **A**---People rationalize by always calling the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week "the Sabbath or the Lord's Day" it will become God's approved day of rest.
- **B**---We will all stop working on the first day of the week, similar to what is commanded on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the week.
- **C**---On the first day of the week, we will all gather in religious meetings to



worship and sing praises to God. People feel if this is done, God will surely approve the substitute.

- **D**---We will get the government to pass laws to stop people from working on the first day of the week. Their idea is; if it is supported by a government decree (as in same sex marriage), then God will have to change also and recognize the substituted first day, in place of the 7<sup>th</sup>.

As in the first example of the Passover pig, the first day of the week can be observed in a similar manner to the seventh and even called The Lord's Day or the Sabbath, but the fact remains, it is still the first day of the week. Just as the pig cannot be made into a lamb, the 1<sup>st</sup> day cannot be made into the 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Third Example

**People wanting to divide a portion of the called out people (the ekklesia of God) and form them into a congregation belonging to a religious party; symbolized by its corporate seal. The seal is a representation (graven image-Exodus 20:4) of an authority to whom, people have made themselves subject, in religious matters. The new congregation will give its allegiance to and obey party headquarters (Rom. 6:16). It seems people have always wanted to be ruled by humans rather than by God (1 Sam. 8:6-7). The new religious party congregation will have appointed and hired elders subordinate to the organization's earthly headquarters and their doctrinal committee. These people will be in place of Biblical (Church) elders, who answer to a heavenly headquarters and have no superior between themselves and God's written word.**

A Biblical elder cannot be hired because he already has a boss (Christ) and there is no record in the New Testament of the Church hiring elders. Christ's servants can only be supported (1 Cor. 9:11-14, 2 Cor. 8:1-4), never hired. They only have one boss not two.

They can be hired to fix your car or make a tent (Acts 18:3), but not to preach the word of God. It is impossible for a person to function with two masters (Matt. 6:24, Matt. 23:8).

Although the Bible clearly states there should be no divisions (1 Cor. 1:12-13, 1 Cor. 12:25, Gal. 2: 12) in the Church and also warns of men coming in the latter days to do this very thing (Acts 20:29-30 and Jude verses 17-19 NIV), people still feel comfortable in and covet their divisional denominations (religious parties). Like the man with the Passover pig, these people use the same strategy.

First, always call the division "the

church" and not what it really is, namely just an everyday, common religious party.

Secondly, to complete the deception, take every scripture, which pertains to the Church belonging to Jesus Christ and apply these same scriptures to their own divisional denomination. The very same method our friend used in his attempt to slip his pig by at Passover. People reason, if they take all the scriptures pertaining to the Church and apply them to the substituted religious party it will make the party acceptable to God.

### This Is How It Goes.

- **A**---We will at all times call our denomination "the church" and never by what it really is; namely, a division or religious party.
- **B**---The division that has been torn out and separated itself from the Church (by requiring its elders to answer to an earthly headquarters) will gather on the seventh day of the week, the same as the Church of Jesus Christ.
- **C**---The division will have congregations and appoint elders, very similar (on the surface) to a congregation of the Church, which belongs to Jesus Christ.
- **D**---The division will claim their doctrine is based on the Bible (even though the Bible teaches against division), just like each individual member of The Church Of Jesus Christ has their personal doctrine based on what they perceive the Bible says (Phil. 2:12). Furthermore Galatians 5:20-21 states, that forming one of these divisions will prevent a person from entering the Kingdom. A person would be wise to check the Greek dictionary's meaning of the words (dissensions and factions-NIV) listed in Galatians 5:20.
- **E**---All congregations, which belong to religious parties, will be subject to their earthly party headquarters and their commands (Rom. 6:16). This is similar to all the congregations of The Church of Jesus Christ, individually and separately (Revelation chapters 2 and 3), answering to their head (Christ), who at this time, is in heaven. Headquarters of any organization is where its head is located (dictionary).

I realize what I am writing here, is unsettling to people who have (with the purest of intentions) spent large portions of their lives serving these institutions of division, but pure intentions don't always make our behavior acceptable in God's sight. With pure intentions Paul went around persecuting and killing Christians.

People seem to be scurrying back and forth these days, searching from one religious party to another, looking for the "True Church". This behavior makes this

writer think of a person on a quest for a Kosher Pig. Just as the man could not make his pig into a lamb, a religious party division cannot be made into a part of the Church belonging to Jesus Christ. People can call their party "the church" as the man can call his pig "a lamb" but changing a name does not change what something is. Shakespeare brought out this point many years ago, when he made the statement "A rose by any other name, would smell as sweet".

In conclusion, it appears most people today are swallowing this deception (that a religious party is a part of the Church belonging to Jesus Christ), hook, line, and fishing boat. Israel in past history thought they needed to worship God through the image of "the golden calf" (Exodus 32) because Moses was absent and had gone up to the mountain of God. Today, various religious parties have convinced people they should be worshipping God through the party system, symbolized by their corporate seals (modern day "golden calves"). Why? It is because Christ, like Moses, is absent and has gone up to the Father's throne (Acts 7:55-56). If people would only look to a heavenly headquarters and Christ, they would reap the fruit (Gal. 5:22), but instead, people look for approval from an earthly headquarters, religious party leaders and doctrinal committees, thereby reaping that fruit. People may not want to notice and admit to the differences between a congregation belonging to a religious party and a congregation of the Church belonging to Jesus Christ, but this writer is willing to bet some of his favorite Passover matzos, it won't go unnoticed by our Lord on judgment day.

Article found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0044/a2008-044-02.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**("Why Tragedy may..." continued from page 1)**

easily be victims of such disasters at any time? How many of us realize we could have been in the World Trade Center, or the Virginia Tech campus or driving to and from work on the bridge in St. Paul? Have we put ourselves in place of the victims who were caught by complete surprise?

When looking at Bible prophecy as God's people, we have the basic understanding of such chapters as Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21. We are also familiar with Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28. Where, however, are events such as the World Trade Center, Virginia Tech and a collapsed bridge over the Mississippi River mentioned in the Bible? They aren't, of course, and this is why we need to take

notice of just how easily we could be affected by what is happening around us at any time.

God's church has been given the understanding of Bible prophecy, but by all indications we are viewing the future mostly on the basis of what we have come to understand without realizing we could be affected at any moment by events that are not prophesied.

Take a look at events around us and it is obvious that tragedy is striking close to home. Will tragic events be the main way in which God will have to deal with a lukewarm attitude pervasive not only in the world, but also in God's church? For anyone who doubts such scenarios, looking back at the tragic shootings of church brethren at services in Wisconsin shows just how easily we could be affected by totally unexpected events. It was recently reported in [The Journal](#) that two long-time members were killed by a tornado in Oklahoma. Such tragedies use to be unheard of in God's church. I am not saying the brethren killed were Laodaceans or disobedient to God, but my point is that we need to realize that God's way of life must be first and foremost in our lives because an unexpected tragedy could strike each and everyone of us at any moment.

I fear for the people of God. Since we are living in a Laodacean era, such a spiritual condition is not looked upon with favor by God or Christ in Revelation 3. Corrective measures are severe.

#### Editors Note:

Church era's are not found in the Bible, however a Laodacean attitude and/or spiritual condition is definitely prevalent in the world and church today. Mt. 24:12 And because iniquity (lawlessness) shall abound (increase), the love of many shall wax cold. Laura Lee

How many brethren feel they are God's favorite because they belong to a certain group? God does not play favorites, but He does look with favor upon His people when His way of life is first and foremost above everything else. We as God's people are in a sad state of confusion, and it may well be that God will have to remove His protection in order to wake up His people. This is not the case for everyone, but for most.

When we stop doing things our way, and allow God to have the say so, His protection and favor will be granted. Until we do, we may well see tragedy strike God's church in a way we never have before. God's people are being judged now, yet are we willing to realize that God is not only upset with the state of the world, but also with His church.

Article found on line at:

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[er0044/a2008-044-03.htm](#)

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

### ("I suffer not..." continued from page 1)

John 4 who turned the **men** of her village to Jesus, and helped convert many of them. He reprimanded the disciples who claimed it wasn't time for the harvest and pointed out that they were reaping where others had sown! The King James translators realized that this was a vital point and therefore added the word "men" as if men had done this sowing, but most other versions translate it correctly. "I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; **others** have labored, and you have entered into their labor. And from that city many of the Samaritans believed in Him **because of the word of the woman** who testified, 'He told me all the things that I {have} done.'" John 4:38-39, quoted from the New American Standard Bible.

The primary one sowing these seeds was a woman! Jesus didn't tell her to stop her public testimony-- our Savior praised her!

Paul himself took a woman on a missionary journey to Ephesus, called one woman a Minister, and praised another woman as an outstanding Apostle. (See ["Traveling through Time"](#) and ["Junia, a Woman Apostle"](#) at [ChurchofGodDFW.com](#).) Scripture does not contradict itself! How then can we have two scriptures that read as if Paul is restricting women from teaching and telling them to "keep silent" in church? I wrote ["Paul and Women Teachers"](#) and ["Let the Women Keep Silent, what did Paul mean?"](#) However, many have requested a shorter answer to both of these scriptures, so here is the short version.

#### Let the Women keep Silent?

The "keep silent" admonition was written to a church at Corinth that was a short forty mile boat ride away from the world famous Oracle at Delphi. At this temple women priestesses uttered babble which was interpreted and presented as messages from a pagan god. In 1Cor, Chapter 12, Paul introduces the subject of "spiritual gifts" and then he reminds church members they were once running after dumb idols themselves. Someone in the group had delivered an especially shocking "message" while claiming to be speaking under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

1Cor 12:3 Therefore I make known to you, that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus is accursed"; and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. (NAS)

So we have Paul defending spiritual gifts

in this chapter while saying that this particular "prophet" was not being directed by the Holy Spirit! Again the KJV adds maleness to this person while the Greek says "no one". Later we learn these false prophets are female just like at Delphi! As we examine chapter 14 we find many references to speaking in languages (tongues) and the prophetic gift. Paul scolds the disrupters and demands that prophets keep control over their own spirits. Paul finally makes a ruling affecting the entire **ekklesia**, a word that means "the converted true believers, the called out ones": A clear translation is, "Let those women keep silent among the called out ones."

The New American Standard: Let *the* (THOSE) women keep silent *in* (AMONG) the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but let them subject themselves, just as the Law also says.

Let those women--who are not yet a part of the converted membership-- keep silent among the called out ones--the **ekklesia** -- and subject themselves to their poor embarrassed, converted husbands. Rather than participating in services as the converted women do, they are to ask their husbands to instruct them at home. The KJV adds several words to this verse that are not in the Greek manuscripts, adding "your" to women, and the phrase "they are commanded". These added words make it sound like a universal ruling against ALL the women when it is not.

THOSE and AMONG written in all capitols are alternate translations of the Greek words. To find **hoi/hai** (male/female forms of the same word, Strong's 3588) translated as THOSE see Matt 8:33, 9:12, 10:36, and 12:3 in the New King James. The Greek **en** is frequently translated as AMONG, see Matt 2:6, Matt 4:23, Matt 16:8 and Matt 20:26. The word translated as "churches", **ekklesia**, means the true believers within the churches, both men and women.

All members participated in services as we see in 1Cor. 14:26 and 31, and this was to continue, but women attending with converted husbands--wives who were not presently among the "ekklesia"-- were not to participate as the converted women did.

#### Reprimanding the False Prophet

One final verse that proves someone was being reprimanded for saying "Jesus be cursed" is found at the end of the letter. 1Cor 16:22 If **anyone** does not love the Lord-- a curse be on **him**. Come, O Lord! New International Version

\*The word "him"-- in "a curse be on him"-- is taken from a third person verb and could be **her** just as easily. At the first of this verse the KJV has "If any man" instead of correctly translating "If **anyone**..." again confusing the issue. Paul was correcting a

woman! This entire passage is only hard to understand because several key words are mistranslated. Disruptive women who prophesy falsely are the ones that must "keep silent"-- not believing women!

**Fighting False Doctrines**

Paul left Timothy behind in Ephesus to stop false teachers; 1Tim 1:3. The church there was fighting many false doctrines from the religion of Artemis because Ephesus was the world center of her worship. The mystery religions and Gnostic beliefs shared many of these same beliefs.

**Here are five of these false doctrines widely believed in Ephesus:**

1. Eve was created before Adam and received "special knowledge" when she ate the forbidden fruit.
2. Female "Mediators" passed this "special knowledge" on to men during sexual rites featuring intercourse.
3. Mediator women mixing sex with worship were called "**Authenia**" from the Greek word "**Authenteo**".
4. Warrior women called Amazons, who were superior to men, founded the city of Ephesus and set up the worship of the fertility goddess Artemis.
5. Artemis, whose name meant SAFE, could keep a woman safe during the dangers of childbirth.

Paul is arming Timothy against every one of these evil doctrines! He warns him in 1Tim 1:20 against two teachers who blaspheme, one a female named Hymenaeus meaning "Wedding Song" and the other a male named Alexander. The doctrine of female Mediators is countered in 1Tim 2:5, "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men..." A few verses later Paul moves to stop female teachers such as Hymenaeus by instructing, "I do not permit a woman to teach or to AUTHENTEIN a man, but to be in silence."

**A Woman is not to Teach What?!**

The entire King James phrase "to usurp authority over" is incorrectly translated from one Greek word, "AUTHENTEIN". This word is used only once in the New Testament, and is called by an early instructor, "a coarse word". The "ein" ending tells us that it is the "to" form of a verb made from *Authenteo*, Strong's 831. A noun form of the same word is "*Authenia*" which is the term for the women "Mediators" mixing intercourse with religion! Paul is saying he won't allow women to teach or to \_\_\_ a man! Insert a coarse sexual word, which is our closest word to the Greek word "*Authentein*". At the time of Paul it meant to have sex as a part of worship--a joining of a man with a female mediator who

represented the goddess being worshipped.

In the very next verse Paul stops the doctrine of Eve being created first, "For Adam was formed first, then Eve." Next he points out that Eve was deceived, not given special knowledge. The final verse proves that Paul is countering evil doctrines!

**Safely through Childbirth**

1Tim. 2:15 should be translated "But she (a woman) will be safe throughout the childbearing if they (her and her husband) continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control." Paul uses the word "safe" not the word "saved" as it is usually translated. The Phillips Bible comes closest with, "Women will come safely through childbirth..." Remember the meaning of Artemis' name? It meant SAFE. Paul is making a play on words that God keeps women safe-- not Artemis!

We have studied the context, the backgrounds of Corinth and Ephesus, the evil doctrines, and peeked into the Greek text with modern software. The simple conclusions are that in Corinth Paul was stopping pagan women from posing as prophets and demanding that they keep silent, and in Ephesus he was fighting women "Mediators" teaching evil doctrines. Neither of these two passages of scripture can rightfully be used to limit Christian women serving God however He directs them.

For more in depth details and sources, see "**Paul and Women Teachers**" and "**Let the Women Keep Silent, what did Paul mean?**" in the women's section at the web site, [www.ChurchofGodDFW.com](http://www.ChurchofGodDFW.com).

**Article found on line at:**  
<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0044/a2008-044-04.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

**("The Faith Once..." continued from page 1)**

delivered, and who delivered it, are at the very heart of the matter.

Do the Scriptures which are given by inspiration of God (2 Timothy 3:16) teach one group to keep Holy Days on certain days different from other groups, or one to allow divorce and remarriage while others do not? With such variation, who is right? And if all represent "the truth," where does that place the Holy Spirit? Is the Spirit perhaps confused? Clearly not. There is only one expression of truth with the mind of God. The Apostle Paul wrote (Ephesians 4:5) there is one Spirit and one Faith.

The challenge, surely, is for the church of God to extract the nuggets of truth from the Scriptures. That is where the truth lies. Not from added tradition, or changing what

the Holy Spirit revealed, or adding to the Word of God. Sanity and stability can return only when we recognize that we dare not add to nor detract from the Word of God as expressed in the Old and New Testaments. There lies the faith once delivered!

For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book (Revelation 22:18-19).

Do you want to know what Jesus taught? Look to the Scriptures! Should you accept a "new" teaching? Too often the **church** flitted off to a new, but powerfully-presented doctrine, without thorough examination of the Bible text! Paul urged, "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good" (1 Thessalonians 5:21). Elsewhere he says: Now the spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons (1Timothy 4:1). This is what took place in the **church** in 1972; people thought that deceptive prophecy was from God. But to depart from truth means you were in that truth first.

If we fail to measure our beliefs against the yardstick of the divinely-inspired Word of the living God, then we could be in deep trouble. The Apostle Paul went on to tell the Thessalonians that for those who do not love the truth, God sends upon them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they be condemned who did not believe the truth (departed) but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Are we contending earnestly for the faith once for all (not part truth, part error) delivered to the saints? When you hear "new doctrine" from whatever source, are you like the Bereans (Acts 17:11) searching to see if these things are so? Or do you simply accept it?

Where do you get your beliefs? Let all of us who claim to be Christ's, fine tune our love for the truth and earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the church in the Scriptures.

**Let us fear God as the Bible says:**

Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. Then shall ye return, and discern between

the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not (Malachi 3:16–18).

Jesus Christ makes it clear that His true disciples are to become one, one in doctrine, in direction, in hope, in faith, in the fruits of God's Spirit, and in love. He wants all church members to become one as the Father and He are one.

That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me (John 17:21–23).

#### What Makes Us as One?

The only thing that can unite us is the faith once and for all delivered to the saints. This is comprised of: Sabbath, Holy Days, baptism, church government, proper sanctity of marriage, etc.

Jesus said His Church would never die and He called them the little flock. You can be assured there are ministers remaining faithful to all of these things. You need to know and give support to them. If you do not yet know who they are or where they are, ask God to lead you to them. He knows who they are and where they are located. You now have guidelines on how to identify them:

- 1) They teach proper marriage.
- 2) They keep the correct Holy Days.
- 3) They have the right church government.
- 4) They feed the flock of God.

#### How Did I Come to Be in the Church?

I was a young man fifteen years old when my dad came across a booklet titled, **The Wonderful World Tomorrow, What Will It Be Like?** This is the book I started reading thoroughly. At that time I was a Sunday-keeper, and what I believed was that if I died, I would go to heaven and be with the Lord.

That was in 1983 and I started subscribing to get more books. I became a member of **Worldwide Church of God** and continued with them up to 1995 when I was called to attend a regional East Africa Leadership Meeting at the **Worldwide Church of God** office in Nairobi. In 1996 things started to change. We were not to keep the Sabbath because they said there is no New Testament law that requires keeping it. The Sermon on the Mount replaced the Ten Commandments. There was no Passover. Tithing was done away. "Now is the only day of salvation," was introduced. "One in three and three in one"—the Trinity—was brought in. That year was my end in the **Worldwide Church of God**. They wanted to

give me their new-found faith, beliefs; but I told the minister that was there, I wanted the old path.

Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein (Jeremiah 6:16).

I tried to get them back on track, but I could not. I went to Europe and met the leader there, but I was given no proper answer. This was in 2001. When I came back, I joined one of the splinter groups from **Worldwide Church of God** thinking that they were following the truth, but they were not. I started to pray so that God might lead me into His true church.

I started asking myself, "Why do some keep Sunday Pentecost? Why do people in other 'so-called' churches of God divorce and remarry?" I know of a minister in one of these groups divorced and remarried two times. A deacon in one of these churches has been divorced and remarried five times.

When I was reading with prayer and supplication, God showed me the truth that has to be believed and followed. Let me tell you, I searched the truth more than anything else in my life and tried the spirits. "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God" (1 John 4:1).

#### I have known those who have departed from the truth as the Apostle Paul said:

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy [Spirit] hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them (Acts 20:28–30).

Some time back I believed these false ministers would come from the Roman Catholic Church, **but the Bible says that they would be in the very church of God.**

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of (2 Peter 2:1–2).

I have seen them in sheep's clothing (lots of money). As one minister told me, they have a lot of money in America and they lack the things to do with that money. If we agree to be with them in their church, they will give us the money. They are doing that to their subjects now.

They do not endure sound doctrine, but after their own lusts shall they heap to

themselves teachers. This is what is taking place here. They have ordained five deacons in a year in Kenya, and those have been in the church for only three years.

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables (2 Timothy 4:3–4).

I have come to discern between the synagogue of Satan and the true worshipers. On Sabbath, June 5, 2004, God, who created me and called me when the time was good for Him to use me, directed His minister, and I was ordained to the office of Elder so that I might work for Him by feeding His flock here in East Africa.

I would urge those in the church, the little flock who have kept the original doctrine, to hold it fast as God spoke to the church in Thyatira: "But that which ye have already hold fast till I come" (Revelation 2:25). Faith is believing what God says, not what scholars say. That belief, that faith, is what pleases God, putting us in a position to have a right relationship with Him. A right relationship, even on a human level, must have trust as its foundation. So we trust God. This is what I came to understand—that God gave His truth once and for all, to those He loved. God and His Word do not change.

God told Adam not to eat the fruit in the middle of the Garden of Eden. Satan came to change what God said. Satan told Adam, "No, you will not die as God said." And remember, Adam and Eve had God's Word. God spoke to them, instructed them, but they did not hold on to that which was delivered to them by their Creator.

Brethren, are we going to change what God says? Are we going to listen to Satan as Adam and his wife did in the Garden of Eden?

Or are we going to be like Abraham? What will be the evidence that we are holding on to the faith once delivered to the saints? If we live by it, our works and actions will be the evidence of our faith. Like Abraham, our actions show our desire to follow and live by that faith. Remember that Abraham was declared right with God because he did not change what God told him. When God told him to sacrifice his son Isaac, he did not change what God said to him.

To complete our lives in that faith once delivered, are we willing to believe and do whatever God tells us? Consider those first experiences as we began to believe: we faced family pressures, work pressures, peer pressures, etc. Armed with only those words, we willingly faced any opposition to act on what God commands.

As we deal with our trials, do we remember that first love? Do we remember the challenges we were willing to confront

with only the words of God as our evidence? It is no different today; will we believe God or men? God needs to find out if we will obey Him until the end—no matter what—just as He did with Abraham. "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved" (Matthew 24:13).

To test whether we stand by that faith, God's pattern is to bring us to the point—a brick wall or a Red Sea—that seemingly allows no escape. That is where He can find out what is truly in our hearts—hearts of belief or evil unbelief.

Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God (Hebrews 3:12).

### **Will we believe Him or scholars again?**

Trials will not cease to come until the Second Coming of Christ and the establishment of the Kingdom. As we contend with trials that seem to move us away from the faith of our fathers and these trials seem to provide no way out, are we going to trust every word of God?

The only evidence we have in these circumstances is God's words. Will we trust them? As we did when first called, will we hold fast to the end? So this faith is simply contending for what God gave His church, acting on it without watering it down—even the absolutes—no matter what the circumstances are, no matter what the physical evidence looks like, no matter what price we have to pay.

This applies not only to the big trials of life, but even more so to the little decisions we make each day. "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much" (Luke 16:10). Human nature chooses to rely more on carnal reasoning and human tradition and examples rather than on God's Word. What governs our daily actions? We can prove to be faithless by discounting the words of God, compromising, and making them of no effect. "Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition" (Mark 7:13).

### **Now it is up to you to make a decision with what you want to do.**

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live (Deuteronomy 30:19).

I would urge my fellow brethren in this remnant body of Christ, just like Joshua said: "But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD" (Joshua 24:15). Will you serve the Lord?

May we all be in one accord while looking for the soon-coming Kingdom of God, which will be set up when Christ comes. And let us not be weary in well doing, for in due

season we shall reap if we faint not.

### **Article found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0044/a2008-044-05.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

### **("Cyrus the..." continued from page 1)**

Persia was famous for freeing the Jews and allowing them to return to their land and rebuild their temple. He is also famous for conquering much of the Israelite territory before he freed the Jews to return home. In 550 B.C.E. Cyrus threw off the Median/Scythian yoke and rebelled against the Median/Scythian king named Astyages. This Astyages was the last of the Umman-manda/Median kings and was considered to be a tyrant. Because of his tyranny Cyrus with others revolted and won, and in doing so conquered the Median/Scythian empire. Now before we go any further you may be asking how do I get Medes and Israelites/Scythians in the same boat. For starters the Medes were really not Medes. It seems that the archaic term was applied to exiles where ever they were settled, and thus took on the name of the previous owner of the land that was conquered. Now to fully understand this we must go back to the Assyrian empire when Tiglath-pileser III was in power. This Assyrian king attacked the Medes twice. The first time Tiglath-pileser III would deport 65,000 Medes from the area. While the next invasion was another 154,000! Thus when added, the Assyrian's captured and deported 219,000 Medes to other parts of the empire! But also we must keep in mind that these numbers could be exaggerated. Also we need to keep in mind that there may have been others taken along with the Medes who were not Medes who were taken during the Assyrian invasion. Now since this area is wide open and under Assyrian occupation, the region had to be filled. When the Israelites were taken captive, Tiglath-pileser III sent many into this Median territory to settle and live, and to produce child and goods and to defend the borders for the greater Assyrian empire. Because of this it seems the exiled Israelites would take on archaic tribal, provincial, or even regional names. But also it is quite possible that there were Medes, or types of Medes living further east that were out of range from the Assyrian expansion, but also it doesn't rule out the fact that there may have been roving bands of Medes still in the area. Now to give you a better understanding we must look at the inscriptions from both Persian and Greek.

When Cyrus the Great began his rebellion against the Median/Scythian empire Herodotus mentions some tribes that took part with Cyrus: "**Now the Persian nation is**

*made up of many tribes. Those which Cyrus assembled and persuaded to revolt from the Medes, were the principal one on which all the others are dependent. These are the Pasargadae, the Maraphii, and the Maspai, of whom the Pasargadae are the noblest. The Achaemenidae, from which spring all the Perseid kings, is one of their clans. The rest of the Persian tribes are the following: the Panthialaei, Derusiaei, Germanii, all of which are attached to the soil, the Daan, the Mardians, the Dropicans, and the Sagartians, who are Nomads."*

Notice in the inscription that many tribes join him in his rebellion. The names that are mentioned are of great significance. First name in the list is the Pasargadae. Pasargadae means "**Sons of Gad**" and this tribe of Gad can be found in the region of Carmania. What makes this tribe so interesting is that it's the very tribe that the Achaemenid dynasty came from! Cyrus the Great was either a full blooded Israelite or half. In either case Cyrus has Israelite blood and belongs to the tribe of Gad! From the Pasargadae came the two other leading tribes that seem to be the foundation of Persia, and that is the Maspai and Maraphii. These three tribes together supplied the nobles and supplied the officers for the army and the court, and most likely these three tribes were kin to some extent due to the nature of their position among each other in terms of relations. The next tribe mentioned that is recognizable is the Germanii or Carmania. The Carmania are from the tribe of Reuben, and the name Carmania seems to come from the Reubenite clan found in the book of Numbers chapter 26 known as the Carmi. This Carmania is also called Germanii by Herodotus and can be found in the region named by them called Carmania which is east of Persia. Also found within the region of Carmani was the tribe known as Isatchae or Issachar. There are very few sources on the Isatchae, but we do know they settled south of the Caspian sea as well as east of the Caspian sea. The Sagartians or Asakarta in Persian are also from the tribe of Issachar. It's said that the Sagartians settled around an oasis in Yazd and were known for their use of the dagger and lasso. Also it's mentioned that they used no or little armor. This could be due to the hot climate in the region. In a way they do resemble the American Cowboy. Now the next tribe that is mentioned is the Daan or Dai, and rendered as Dahae in Persian or in old Persian "Daha". The tribe the Dahae came from could be from the tribe of Dan do to the nature of the various spellings. But, it is possible that they were from the tribe of Ephraim. For the Dahae seem to be the Dahanites, and the name itself is similar to the Ephraimite clan known as Tahanites found in the book of Numbers

26:35. This is due to similarity in consonants based on the letters D and T. Now that we have examined some of the tribes mentioned in the list it seems that the Scythians or Saka never were conquered by Medes or left Media for the region is still crawling with Scythian tribes from north to south, and east to west. Also Cyrus the Great seems to be of full or partial Israelite blood, and to make matters interesting to the reader, consider where Cyrus gained his Israelite blood.

Cyrus' mother was a Umman Manda princess named Mandane. This Mandane was the daughter of Astyages who was king of the Umman Manda. Now princess Mandane's name is of interest and she could be named after two tribes, the first being Manasseh since her name Manda is another possible and plusable name for Manasseh due to the "d" being changed or expressed like the letter "s". Thus Mandane becomes Mansae. The other alternative for Mandane is after the tribe of Dan do to the last letters in her name dane which is another form of Dan or Dani or like the Danes. But let me remind you this is pure speculation. Now some may say Umman Manda means Mede, but this doesn't seem to be the case. In one of the Persian inscriptions the term Umman-Manda is used. Cyrus says he conquered them: **"He made the land of Gutium and all the Umman-manda bow in submission at his feet."**

This term Umman-manda which is found in the Babylonian chronicles seems to suggest a region of people who are all related to a certain extent. Before Cyrus came to be, Cyaxares was leading them against Assyria. One would think that if there was a shift in power by a different ethnic group it would have been noted. But as stated before it seems that the Medes never threw out the Scythians, but the Scythians threw out Scythians. As if and most likely do to a change in power and politics rather than ethnicity. Now even though Cyrus had conquered the Umman-manda many were still not conquered. It seems that many more lay beyond his reach. One of these groups was the Massagetae.

**Cyrus meets the Massagetae:**

Once Cyrus defeated Astyages and collected Astyages Umman-manda hordes, he sets out and takes Babylon in a continued effort to ever expand his empire. Reports from the north begin to filter down from outpost, to officer, to courtier, to Cyrus, that the Saka are on the move and making raids. During the next 9 years Cyrus has a series of forts built along his most northern frontier. Most of these forts are newly found cities. The reason for this is due to the Scythian raids disrupting the peace in the Persian empire. It seems that the border towns that were erected did not stop the Scythian raids

which cause Cyrus to make an expedition to the north to defeat and subdue the various Scythian tribes that wreak havoc upon his land. This Massagetae Cyrus was going to face was lead by a Queen named Tomyris. According to Herodotus Cyrus sends ambassadors in an attempt to court her for Cyrus, but this is a joke. For Cyrus has no need for her as a wife. In turn Tomyris does not allow the men to advance and gives warning to Cyrus to not step foot on her territory. Cyrus does not listen and goes in with a large army. Tomyris has her son Spargapises lead 1/3 of the Massagetae towards Cyrus's forces. Cyrus leaves a small detachment behind with food and drink in which the Massagetae take and defeat the small Persian army and begins to eat and drink what they had left. Once the Massagetae became drunk Cyrus and his forces fell on the camp and killed many taking few prisoners alive like Tomyris's son Spargapises. Spargapises learning of what happened committed suicide. Tomyris learning of what happened considers the tactic by Cyrus as cowardly. Tomyris vows revenge and Cyrus does not take heed to the warning. Cyrus pushes further into Massagetae territory where he and his forces meet up with the Massagetae face to face. In turn the Massagetae won the battle and Cyrus's body was taken. Queen Tomyris has Cyrus's head cut from his body which she dips into blood as a symbolic act for her sons revenge. Now how much of this is true and how much of this is false is up to the reader to decide. Herodotus does seem plausible in his account. Also to support Herodotus's view as to what happened to Cyrus the Greek physician and historian Ctesias says that Cambyses sent his court official named Bagapates to bring back Cyrus's corpse to Persia for funeral services. What ever happened to Cyrus on that fateful day was death indeed. But what makes this interesting and so ironic is that Cyrus came from the tribe of Gad, and was killed in battle by his own kin the Massagetae who were in turn the combined tribes of Gad and Manasseh.

**Article found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0044/a2008-044-06.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

**("Knowledge..." continued from page 1)**

Yahshua/Jesus, but not for long! (Rom. 3:3, 11:28-29). Then they'll repent and be as zealous as Paul/Saul, with the advantage of all their biblical background and understanding, coupled with the Holy Spirit and additional truth and understanding! That's what Satan is afraid of! And his

serpentine ministers. (Zech. 8:22-23, 12:10).

However, Jesus did prune their teachings of various TRADITIONS that were simply wrong. Those were ADDITIONS - but they weren't included in the Bible or forcibly inserted. The same thing can be said of TRADITIONAL CHRISTIANITY today: they've added and subtracted from the Word of God with their BAPTIZED PAGANISM, with their polluting influx of demonic doctrines from the Babylonian Mystery Religion (easily proven). Jesus would prune their teachings to GET BACK TO THE BASICS and GET RID OF THE EXCESS BAGGAGE! This is true of Judaism and Christianity. May God grant us repentance, and a closer walk with Him, according to His commandments and expressed Word and Will, not misleading traditions of men! (Mk. 7:7).

Soon, the whole world will have a KNOWLEDGE EXPLOSION, the BIG BANG of the PLAIN TRUTH; the BOMBSHELL that will help level BABYLON, exposing the religious lies behind its religious veil, and set many people free by the TRUTH! (Isa. 25:7). This wonderful REEDUCATION PROGRAM starts in JERUSALEM, and its stream of living waters, LIFE, will go out to the whole world, carried by international representatives who make holy pilgrimage to Jerusalem! (Isa. 2:3, 12:3, 11:9, Jn. 4:22).

God will work, humanly, through Israel, specifically the tribe of Judah, to TEACH THE NATIONS, and spiritually, through spiritual Jews, His glorified Church (then God-Beings ruling with but under Christ - Rev. 20:6). We'll serve as reservoirs of God's Holy Spirit and truth, and others will draw it out of us, asking questions and receiving answers (Prov. 20:5, Zech. 8:22-23, Isa. 30:21).

**Article found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0044/a2008-044-07.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

**("That..." continued from page 24)**

throne! (Jer. 22:1-3). And that he serves as a "lawgiver" (Gen. 49:10), *dangerously jumping to faulty conclusions!*

God gave His oracles to the **PHYSICAL JEWS**, the Pharisees, to preserve until Christ receives these honors at His return and reign from Jerusalem. God is the *only* lawgiver and He preserves and gives that law to every generation through His **PHYSICAL** Jewish servants! **Mr. Flurry** should quit tooting his own horn and singing, "How great I am!" He is NOT God in the Temple! God's true representatives are just that and *nothing* more! God is able to cast down those who think too highly of themselves and forcibly remind them that they are but *men*.

**Mr. Flurry** would do well to practice what he preaches against Laodicea! He is the leader of Laodicea! The **Worldwide Church of God** is the **SYNAGOGUE OF SATAN** - it is *not* God's Church. Within this Laodicean era there exists a *remnant* from Philadelphia who will be accounted worthy to escape the horrors of the nuclear holocaust fascist Europe is about to unleash! The Beast will be out for blood and gut nations without mercy!

**Editors Note:**

Church era's are not found in the Bible, however a Laodicean attitude and/or spiritual condition is definitely prevalent in the world and church today. Mt. 24:12 And because iniquity (lawlessness) shall abound (increase), the love of many shall wax cold.

Also, please keep in mind that this is a book report and includes author opinion. It is up to the reader to check out whether these things are true or not. We do very little research on items which are printed in the "Ads & Info" section of this **newsletter**, because this section is more or less considered to be an ad section and does contain information which may or may not be true. Laura Lee

The wannabe divine emperor of Europe will claim to be Christ's vicar on Earth, God coming in the flesh. **Mr. Flurry** has said his office is really God's office. **GOD'S OFFICE IS IN HEAVEN** - human representatives are on *Earth!* God *doesn't* share His office. He reigns supreme! An ambassador or representative is authorized by God's office to represent Him but only to an *extent!* A very *limited* extent! Only God and HIS office is infallible: not **Gerald Flurry** or the **pope!**

**Mr. Flurry** needs to come to see that God's Work with the Church is about over and that the Two Witnesses will soon begin *their* Work from physical Jerusalem as a warning **BEFORE WWIII** - in the *spirit of Elijah* - and will continue as a WITNESS after a certain point, empowered from on High, to finish their last 3 and one half years' ministry. They will prepare **NATIONAL ISRAEL** to meet our God and herald the coming of our King! Jesus is both Lord and Savior, Priest and King, **NATIONAL DELIVERER** and **SPIRITUAL SAVIOR!**

**Item found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0044/i2008-044-05.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

**("Prayer Requests..." continued from page 21)**

DEvised A NAME TO OPERATE UNDER. We could not legally operate without registering some kind of name. And our God

commands us to abide by man's laws as long as they don't break His laws. The only name that really counts though, is Church of God And Its correct definition is: The House Of God, which is the Church of the Living God, the Pillar and Ground of the Truth. 1Tm:3:15 Membership is TOTALLY dependent upon: If the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his Rom 8:9. Yes, God's Church is a household, a family. But if we are sons in that family, then we need to be doing something with that Spirit of His to qualify as sons: For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. Rom. 8:14. Let me get back to our subject now. Please Help our brethren in East Africa. We are living in troublesome times brethren. Thank God that we are nearing Christ's return. Many people around this world are suffering. Many, especially our brethren need some of our help now. Remember our Creator says: Gal:6:10: As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. Some of these people are of our very

Household. Do not wait until these awful events arrive in your physical houses before you take any action. Anyway, I am only trying to pass this information on so that if you know of any COG groups in your area, who could possible take up a small collection (And only if they are in the position to help). It would be good. I do not think that they will need tons of money, because they live very modest (usually surviving with a small mattress to lie on to sleep. And what ever they grow in their gardens. (Cabbage, corn, bananas, etc.) is what they eat. Those living in the City have no gardens, but they had small jobs to earn their daily bread. They also normally live with the very basics like mattress, 2 or 3 pieces of furniture, and they eat much imported rice because it is what they can normally afford. But they need some help now because their Country is in total turmoil, and they have no money. Now please don't misunderstand my request. I know that many true COG members here in USA are also pressed for funds. Many are living on SS many are struggling to survive themselves with the high cost of living. I am not trying to make them feel guilty in any way. Besides the most valuable gift any of us can give them are our prayers. But they need to be made aware of the brethren's conditions so they know to pray for them. But for those who can help and want to help, this is their opportunity. Below is an E-mail that I received from one of our church brothers in Kisumu (3rd largest City in Kenya) His name is Jacob. He was a Catholic until a year ago when he began to learn the Truth. He dropped his former religion like a hot potato and began studying his Bible. He runs a small business trucking fish from the lake to

the City with a 5-ton truck that he owns. As he spends much time at the lake purchasing the fish, he preaches the Gospel to literally hundreds of people. Every message that we give, we send him and he reads them to those people. Here is his E-mail I received today: Hello, How are you doing, things here are so bad, very many people have been killed, homes burnt down, business premises looted and burnt down, even churches burnt down. thousands of people do not have shelters, tension still very high, the country needs the help of God than ever before, unless Almighty God talks to the rulers, the suffering will continue. The international world should do something and do it very urgently to save our country. We are really suffering, we have exhausted all that we had, it is only today that I have managed to get a computer to communicate. However, we have faith God will do some miracles. Kisumu town is not what you saw when you came here, it is a ghost town. I lost two people as a result of this. Has Josh come back? May people of good will pray for our country! Jacob. END OF QUOTE. Brethren, If there was ever a time for us, the members of the Church Of God to display some of God's love towards our brethren, it is now. If you want to help, we have a good network already set up for about a year now. Any and all funds donated go directly to our brethren there. No one here is on any church payroll. We have true overseers who have been risking their physical lives to care for our brethren there. We also understand quite well the story about Ananias, and his wife Sapphira Acts 5:1. If you want to help, please send your help to: Kenya Hands Of Hope, 120 Stage Rd., Tuckerton, NJ 08087. If you have any questions, I can be reached on my cell phone 609-713-5631 Thank You Bill Goff

**January 17, 2008---Larry Graff**

Please pray for Larry Graff's complete healing. He was admitted to St. Joseph's Hospital in Kirkwood, MO a couple of days ago. He is having a lot of trouble breathing. He struggles with emphysema/asthma. Information obtained from Larry via telephone, written by Laura Lee.

**January 17, 2008---Larry Graff**

IN MY PRAYERS TODAY IN MESSIAH'S NAME, GLADYS.

**February 14, 2008---Believers-in-Christ Church of God**

Dear Christian friends, Reproduced below is a note sent to the members of my congregation. I solicit your prayers for them and for me, that we may be able to conduct worship services that more faithfully serve the Lord Christ. As some of you know, an "interactive" worship service can be a very good thing. And even as some of you fear or

have experienced yourselves, an "interactive" worship service can be a disgraceful thing. To the glory of God I would like to banish disgracefulness from the worship services of my congregation. Our Pastor's own mother, a woman of around 80 years of age, is the worst offender. Another is one of the older men, a boisterous and out-going personality. They love to be heard, even when they have nothing worthwhile to say, and seem resistantly relatively clueless as to the aspirations and feelings of the congregation. But I believe it behooves all of us to be more circumspect! I solicit and appreciate your prayers that we will find more grace to "revere my sanctuary" as the holiness of God commands. Even if you do not record your congregational worship service for all the world to hear, and even if you do not hold "interactive" worship services, nevertheless, more or less everything I say below still applies. Your brother in Christ, Jeffrey ..... Please take to heart what I say here! I have been very upset because **we** -- by allowing disorderliness in our worship services -- have been prosecuting our ministry to the entire world in a disgraceful fashion! TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: a note from the assistant to the Webmaster of the Believers-in-Christ Church of God If we are, as at least some of us believe, a congregation of Christians, called to be **holy** (Ephesians 1:4 and many other passages) and to **serve** our Lord Jesus Christ and God the Father, then, from the Word of God, many a charge of responsibility has been laid upon us. In carrying out those responsibilities we are being **judged** by a Father "who judges each man's work impartially" (1 Peter 1:17) and by a Lord who judges and rewards or **punishes** each **congregation** as well (Revelation 2 and 3). Among the many charges given by Christ's apostles to those who are called to uphold and defend our most holy faith is this one given by Christ's apostle, Paul -- and given by Timothy, also, a pastor devoted to the teachings of Christ's apostles: "Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you" (Philippians 2:16). When Paul has his resurrection body, when Paul has eternal life and no limit to his energy or time, I daresay, Paul will be interested in hearing about everything that was ever done in the name of Christ. He will, I daresay, be concerned then about the works of *our* congregation, even as our Father and our Master are concerned **now**. In the same letter these faithful men also give us this charge for and of servants of Christ Jesus: "Do everything **without**

**complaining** or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe **AS YOU HOLD OUT THE WORD OF LIFE**--in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing" (Philippians 2:14-16). These faithful servants of Christ suffered much to bring us the precious Word of God; may we not, by failing to **cooperate with them, our true leaders**, make *their* suffering and labor for us "for nothing"! They were serving us, too; that is why we have the New Testament. As Peter says: "I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things" (2 Peter 1:15). I write because it seems that some, if not many, in our congregation, including, it seems, *even our elders*, seem to be under the **mistaken impression** that we are not even attempting to hold out the word of life **to the world**. We **are** making an effort to "hold out the word of life" **as God commands**, but many of you, ignorantly, have been **deducting** from that effort. Today there are hundreds of millions of people, in every nation of the world, with access to the Internet. Our congregation has a Web site on the Internet -- "open" as it were, to hundreds of millions of people at all times. Our Web site is a place where, at least potentially, those **searching for the living Word of God** may come in and find His words of life -- if they are there, at least! Some of the people out there have found our Web site -- there were over 93,000 hits on it between March 2004 and December 2006. As recently as several days ago we received a prayer request from South Africa. Something valuable on that Web site can serve a lot of people ... it is even a means for us to serve people who live in places where "the word of life" is difficult or even **dangerous** to come by. **If so be** the word of God in grace and power were there, our God through His mighty power could easily enough direct many people to it. On our congregational Web site **the primary and unique "product of value" produced by and of our congregation** that we are offering to the entire online world -- to hundreds of millions of people -- is a section of our Web site called "Online Sermons". We record every worship service in order to serve people who are not present with us -- whether members of our congregation, or visitors to it, and "Online Sermons" is a place where they, or complete strangers to us, might at least **potentially** go to **hear the word of life**. These recordings which we are producing and **make available to the entire world** are the **reason** why, if, in our worship service you are lifting your voice, ostensibly to share with us "words of life" -- you are requested to

speaking into the microphone. We make this request, not merely that we might hear you, but **that ALL might hear you. Ideally, that ALL might hear you as YOU "hold out the word of life"!** *If you do not have the word of life to hold out, then kindly keep your peace!* Anything and everything "**stupid**" spoken in our worship service **DETRACTS** from our efforts to **HOLD OUT THE WORD OF LIFE!** To the degree that what you have to say in our worship service has nothing of God's grace and is **not to His** glory, then it is **spoiling the primary work of this congregation in reaching the world!** Asking to speak in our worship service when in fact you have nothing worthwhile to say -- or speaking out of turn with something that is not worthwhile -- is tantamount to **SPOILING our service to God**. It is *disrespectful* to us and to Him. I, the assistant to the Webmaster, am but a man, a vapor. Though I happen to be the tallest man in the congregation, and one of the heaviest and perhaps the hottest-tempered man in the entire church of God. It is not a good idea to try my patience. Even more, **it is not a good idea to try God's patience! As assistant to the Webmaster, one of my chief concerns is the content of our Web site. What YOU say to the assembly in our worship service becomes the content of the most valuable "product" we offer on our Web site! Do not infuriate me by speaking inately and deducting from its value!! And now, I trust, that you have been warned, "DO NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST!"** If the word of the living God is to be heard *from* our Web site, it must first be heard **in our worship service!** So, let the word of the living God be heard in our worship service! And let the prattle of foolish people **NOT** be heard in our worship service! Just ask yourself: if you are risking your freedom or even your life, searching for an opportunity to hear the word of the living God, what inane comments, what stale jokes, what wisecracks or what irrelevant comments or complaints of fools are you going to be happy to hear?? If you raise your voice to speak in *our* worship service, then **let it be the word of life** that you speak! As Paul says, "Let everything be done to the glory of God!" May **reverence** for the living Word of God be the **hallmark** of our worship services! Sent by Jeffrey Caldwell

**February 21, 2008---Isaya Ouma Owak (Kenya)**

A letter from Kenya, You will no doubt have been reading/hearing/seeing about Kenya, and the aftermath of the recently held elections. What you have read and seen is likely true. However, news that is reported tends to be of the catchy, sensational, and



often hopeless variety. That is what keeps us glued to the news. Let me share with you some of the things you will not necessarily see on CNN or CBC. People worshipped with each at the Uhuru Park, where the ODM supporters have been trying to hold a mass rally for the past week, but have not been able to do so, due to the government ban on such a rally. The church service gave us hope for the future of Kenya. Here are a few of the highlights from the service: The priest talked very openly about tribalism, and how we should not be controlled by tribalism. One of the leaders made a public confession of how the church needs to take responsibility for what has happened by being remiss in teaching about love, and not doing enough to bring about peace, justice and reconciliation between peoples. Instead of shaking hands and wishing each other peace, congregants were encouraged to hug those around you, while expressing the following words, "As long as I live, I promise to love you." It was encouraging to note there was no attempt to somehow spiritualize the madness of the past week, in some unrealistic way. What was said was honest, raw and current. Mention was made that the church has been fractured along tribal lines, and public commitment to work for unity was expressed. Mention was made that although there are 42 tribes in Kenya, at present it would appear that 40 of them could do no more than vote, while two are struggling for power. The congregation was exhorted that we all have a stake in the future, and it belongs to all of us. We are all responsible. None of us should shirk our responsibility. Men were killed by first slashing their private parts and given to their wives to eat, refusing to eat you are killed right there in front of your children, they the arsonist strip you naked burn you and burn everybody in your house, the total number of people killed in Naivasha 1000, Nakuru 140. Yesterday a woman was able to carry only her husband's head back home for burial. We urge you over there church of God members to remember us in prayer and if possible send relief over here to help us, there is no food medical etc. This morning, staff held their usual Monday morning devotion. However, today's devotion was not normal. A staff person led in a devotion, and another led us in a prayer to focus on healing, reconciliation and forgiveness. A number of staff people were asked to pray, as representatives of their particular tribe. This was both a painful, and a vulnerable experience, but it had a powerful effect on everyone present. One staff member prayed that we are taught to believe that the Kikuyu are thieves. "We are taught this from a young age. But I know that Ann (not her real name) is not a thief. I know that pastor Bill (not his real name) is not a thief. We need to have our eyes opened to the destructive forces of

racism." And further; "Until a week ago I was proud to be an African. I was proud to be a member of my tribe. I was proud to be a Kenyan. Now I am ashamed, embarrassed and deeply saddened. Forgive us for our sins of commission and omission". We were reminded that just before Christmas break we sat together on the grounds outside our office and celebrated our oneness. We laughed together. We celebrated our unity, but also our uniqueness as representing different tribes. One of the staff mentioned that the past week he had been feeling very low, and saddened. "Kenya was one of the gems of Africa till this past week. How does the world see us now? We led the way to bring about peace in neighboring countries. How has our credibility suffered now?" he expressed. We were reminded of the fact that the 'grass gets trampled when elephants fight.' The elephants are Kibaki and Raila Odinga and their respective parties. The grass are the poor, the dispossessed, and in particular the Kikuyu. Not because of any evil done by the particular individuals being targeted, but because of whom they are by birth, which is often discovered by their family names, and by their accent. The enmity between races, and in particular the feelings toward the Kikuyu has a long and deep seated history in this country, which has mostly been beneath the surface all these years. Now it has surfaced in an ugly way. How do we move forward? This time of unrest has given 'license' to commit acts that would normally not be condoned. The people doing the marching, wielding the machetes, burning and looting in the name of a 'struggle for democracy' are primarily young unemployed men, mainly from poor high density areas in Nairobi and cities around the country. I don't see this as a mass movement supported by the populace. I do see this as a very unfortunate way for the political elite to use disgruntled youth to bring pressure to bear on a government, who they say have 'stolen' the election. In the meantime it has brought pain and grief to many families, and it is affecting a nation and a region in a very profound way. There are those who are quick to make comparisons with what happened in Rwanda. One can excuse those who lived through the trauma of those days, as they may be re-visited by that trauma. But for the rest of us, I feel that it is unfair to draw that comparison. When looking at the Kenyan media, one reads mostly words of admonishment, urging the population to work for peace, and speaking words of comfort, solace and restraint. One does not hear public expressions of hatred on radio, TV or in the papers. Here are some of the voices for peace in Kenya: Citizens for peace taking out full page ads in the paper, with a public letter to Kibaki and to Raila Odinga, urging them to speak to each other, to lead by

example in the way towards peace (by agreeing to a recount or another election or a coalition government). Church leaders meeting with both parties, calling on them to address the failure of the election process in such a way that people will feel listened to in the election process. The papers are primarily filled with editorials and lead articles calling for all Kenyans to solve their differences peacefully, and for the leaders to take the lead. Churches and businesses are mobilizing to respond to the needs of the displaced by organizing food, water, shelter and clothing for those who have sought shelter in police stations, schools and churches. The displaced are primarily people who have very little, and who have fled their homes for fear of losing their lives. High level individuals have been/are in the country in an effort to bring about mediation/reconciliation between the two main contenders in the recently completed presidential election (including Bishop Desmond Tutu, Kabah, the former president of Sierra Leone, the chairman of the EU, and many other high ranking representatives of various governments from other African states as well and as from N. America and Europe. The ODM called for people to make their way to Uhuru (Peace) Park in downtown Nairobi. The last few times this was done, the marches were put down by force, and resulted in destruction, dislocation of people, and unsettled lives in the path of the protestors. At the time of writing, this remains on hold. We pray for calm. I don't know where all this will end up. I am not so naive as to think that there are not significant issues that need to be dealt with in Kenya. This is not about waiting a bit for the problem to disappear. It is clear that there are serious issues surrounding the election that need to be addressed. There are issues of ethnic identity that beg to be addressed. In the midst of all of this, I thought it might be somehow helpful to share a bit of what the public media does not pick up, in Kenya. Pray with us for Kenya. Pray for the multitudes in this land who are working to extend God's kingdom of love and peace. Our leaders are blind that they can not see beyond their nose, what they want is money. Hope God speed up His kingdom. Yours, Isaya Owak

**February 21, 2008---Isaya Ouma Owak (Kenya)**

Rosie; May I add something to this message? Prayer is wonderful, and I have seen prayers answered right here on the prayer line. But for anyone that can help, I think we are able to answer this desperate prayer more by direct action. Anyone that can afford monetary help, no matter how small, should send whatever one can to help those starving people in Kenya. Gene---

**Editor's Note: This is not Rosy Halley's Prayer Lines, but your note is good and I hope some will be able to help the Kenyan Brethren. Laura Lee**

**February 21, 2008---Aubrey**

Prayers are requested for Aubrey, who fell from the 4th floor of a building. She broke several bones including her ribs and skull. She is breathing through a tube connected to a breathing machine. -submitted by Willy Elder

**Prayer Request Archives**

**Item found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0044/p2008-044-01.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

**LETTERS CONTINUED  
FROM PAGE 2**

teach against God.

- Lev. 11:12. Whatsoever hath **no fins nor scales** in the waters, that shall be an **abomination** unto you.
- Lev. 20:13. If a **man also lie with mankind**, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an **abomination**: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.
- 1 Kings 11:5. For Solomon **went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians**, and after **Milcom the abomination** of the Ammonites.

**Letter found on line at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0044/l2008-044-01.htm>

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

***In Defense of Arlan Weight***

***(8-17-07)***

***by Dawn Bornemann***

***(Kintyre, North Dakota)***

**This letter is in response to a letter "Disruption of Sabbath Services", which was published in Issue #40.**

**Dawn Bornemann writes:**

I am VERY strongly opposed to this type of behavior.

**Laura Lee writes:**

What type of behavior? The type that is stated in the Bible? Please read Matthew 18:15-17 and explain what you believe it means or doesn't that particular set of verses apply to you either as so many others believe

that it doesn't apply to them?

**Dawn Bornemann writes:**

I know Arlan as well as I know you and Darwin--not very well.

**Laura Lee writes:**

We tried very hard to be friends with you coming to various events you invited us to, but you accused me of believing in a rapture, which I never told you I believed in and which I really tried hard to tell you I did not believe in, but you did not want to listen to me, you only wanted to believe what you wanted to believe about me. After you decided that you knew what I believed and that what I believed was in a rapture, you would hardly ever speak to me from that point on. The point is, that I don't believe in a rapture, you only accused me of believing in a rapture and that is what you wanted to believe about me. I believe in a resurrection, not a rapture.

You are the one who didn't want to get to know us better, perhaps you can change that some day.

**Dawn Bornemann writes:**

However, he seemed like a kind-hearted man, but that's the problem isn't it?

**Laura Lee writes:**

To my knowledge you met Arlan Weight one time at our house for Sabbath Services. Arlan came to our house for four and a half years worth of Sabbath Services. We always thought he was a kind-hearted man also, until we found out he was lying to us about a whole bunch of things and that he was even lying to cover up for his previous lies. Last time I heard, lying is a sin and it should not be allowed to continue. And it certainly should not be allowed to continue during Sabbath Services.

**Dawn Bornemann writes:**

HE'S A MAN. Did you know that GOD made men too, Laura?

**Laura Lee writes:**

Yes, I know that God made men also, remember, I am married to a man and the one I am married to helped me write the letter that you read called "**Disruption of Sabbath Services**" or did you overlook that particular point?

**Dawn Bornemann writes:**

Your hatred for men is the cause of this type of slander.

**Laura Lee writes:**

Please look up the word "slander" in a dictionary. You can only slander someone if you are making false accusations of them, such as when you say that I believe in a

rapture when in fact I do not. Slander is something you make up in your own mind and then publicly repeat. In Arlan's case we have the proof that he lied to us over and over again, in his own hand writing and on tape in his own voice.

Also for the record, I wouldn't put up with lying if it was a woman doing it either, and I can prove that one also.

**Dawn Bornemann writes:**

If I were Arlan, I would sue you for printing this garbage.

**Laura Lee writes:**

And what exactly would he sue us for when we can prove every word of what we printed in that letter and the others which were printed in regard to this matter?

**Dawn Bornemann writes:**

Please remove our name from your list of "Eager-to-hear-your-hatred-spewing-out" victims.

**Laura Lee writes:**

Are you really sure that I am the one who is filled with hatred? It looks to me like you have quite a bit of your own hatred when you can defend a person who lies. Would you also defend a person who murders and ends up on the local news?

Our "**Outreach**" email does have an unsubscribe link on it, so you can evict yourself.

**Dawn Bornemann writes:**

If I am ever forced to hear that my children have read your hate mail again, I shall have to consider filing a complaint for harassment for this is not the first time that I have asked you not to contact me again.

**Laura Lee writes:**

I did not send anything to your children. I sent an outreach email to your email address. In order for any of your children to read any of our articles or letters as printed in our newsletter, they would have to actually go to our Web Site and read them. It is not my fault that you do not monitor what your children read on the Internet. I am also not the one who gives them access to your email, that would be you.

To my knowledge, you have not in the past requested that I not contact you anymore, but as long as we are on that subject. If you do not want to end up on our "Outreach" list, then do not send any email over here at all. And one more thing, is this how God wants you to treat other people? Especially people who have never done anything to you, at least to my knowledge. Perhaps you should consider doing a Matthew 18:15-17 with us to clear the air before you make more false accusations

against me and I report you for harassment. With Much Love, Laura Lee

**Dawn Bornemann writes:**  
MOST SINCERELY,  
Mrs. Dawn Bornemann

**Letter found on line at:**  
<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmesseng er0044/12008-044-02.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**Go To Your Brother... (4-6-07)**  
**by Howard Bruce (Glendale, Arizona)**

**Howard Bruce writes:**

Do some of us fail to understand our God and the Holy Bible and how we should repent when we have sinned against our fellow man? In Matthew 18 is the way God wants us to repent. Starting in verse 15, 16, and 17, God tells us His way to handle our problems, but some ministers and brethren think if they just pray to God to forgive them, that's all that is needed. **"Not So"**, we must go to the person we have sinned against or that person will never know we have repented and the person or church will still hold a grudge against the one that sinned.

If this were done, we would all know how and why our Seattle Church was destroyed. Also, unless this is done that person or persons is still a sinner and will never see God or be in God's Kingdom. Please repent and be sure of your salvation. Amen.

**Laura Lee writes:**

Yours is a very good letter and I will add to what you have already said. -- Do people fully understand what repentance means to everyone in the body of Christ? Many people sit there and wonder why there are so many splinter groups and no one seems to get along. Well here is the reason: "Most people never want to talk about the problem and those who do are told it is not necessary to discuss anything." Another major, major problem within the body of Christ is that most people have the attitude that: "If you do not believe as I believe then it is the highway for you buddy."

Because we print a **newsletter**, we have found ourselves in the middle of many problems, many of which we print so all might learn something from what is actually going on here among God's people. Let's use David Ben-Ariel as an example, because anyone reading this **newsletter** should know what that is all about. David Ben-Ariel has been an email friend and brother to us for many years and has sent us many items to consider for print. We certainly never agreed with him in regard to all that he ever sent to us for consideration to print, but we also

never told him to leave us alone because we don't see things as he sees things. I Laura have always been the editor of this **newsletter** with Darwin's approval and urging and the great amount of help that he also puts toward this effort. I have printed **articles** by Dianne McDonnell since 2001 and I have even written a few **articles** with similar topics to hers over the years. Any woman who writes or speaks of the law of God is teaching or preaching, which ever way you want to look at it. When David Ben-Ariel finally got around to reading some of the **articles** we printed in regard to women speaking, David had an absolute fit over the whole thing and told us in no uncertain terms that he no longer wanted anything at all to do with us. There is no following of Christ in that kind of an attitude. God's people are to grow in grace and knowledge. That means that we don't know everything right now, so we best be working together on whatever level we are able to work with each other. The David Ben-Ariel problem does not have to happen, but it does happen over and over again. This attitude is clearly laid out in Isaiah 65:5 "(people with the attitude as displayed by David Ben-Ariel say) Which say, stand by thyself, come not near to me; for ***I am holier than thou.*** (God says) These are a smoke in my nose, a fire that burneth all the day." If you are a person who has this attitude, do not hold on to it, get rid of it, because God does not think much of it and if God doesn't like it, it is not going to be in His Kingdom.

I am sure some thought, oh why did they print what they did in regard to Arlan Weight? Well, we didn't want to print it, we would much rather have had Arlan come to us and try to work it out privately, but he didn't want to and he still does not want to. Arlan has the attitude that we should just forget that he has lied to us on numerous occasions, that he sided with a woman who called us names and admitted to using cuss words during Sabbath Services while he sat right there and heard it all directly from her. We told her it was wrong for her to call us names and use cuss words during Sabbath Services and Arlan in writing told us we should never have said anything to her about the matter. Arlan after hearing the woman call us names and admit to using cuss words during services never said a word, but got up that Sabbath and went to start his own Sabbath Services so that the woman who called us names and used cuss words during services would have a place to attend Sabbath Services starting the very next week. Do you yet see the problem? What Arlan got printed for was in no way a Christian practice that should be covered up and never spoken of, although I am sure he would see that differently than we do. We did try on numerous occasions to talk to Arlan about this and straighten it out even going to his house as in Matthew 18:15-17.

Arlan still didn't want to discuss the matter with us and we were told that very night at Perkin's Restaurant that we are no longer welcome on Arlan's property, so we won't be going there again. Arlan's wife for some reason believes that we did something to Arlan when in fact Arlan is the one that sinned against us. As far as I can see, it is one big mess, because only some of the people (I and Darwin) want to talk about and work out the problem and the other person (Arlan) does not want to talk about any of it. I am sure that many of you have hit these road blocks. Here is what God has to say about these kinds of matters: Mt. 5:23-24 "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, **and there remembers that thy brother hath ought against thee;** Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; **first be reconciled to thy brother,** and then come and offer thy gift."

The word "reconciled" in verse 24 is Strong's #1259 and means to renew a friendship. I do not see how any friendship will ever be renewed with out conversation or conversations. So for anyone who is reading this and has contact with Arlan Weight, it would be great if you could convince him that the right thing to do would be to put forth the effort that is needed to renew a friendship with us and that that will take conversation or conversations to do that. Under the present circumstances that exists because he (Arlan) does not want to work out these problems, we cannot allow him back in here for Sabbath Services at this time. According to scripture Arlan does have a responsibility to come and reconcile with his brethren when he knows we have ought with him.

The funny part of this is that the woman who called us names and used cuss words during services is welcome to attend here yet, as she understands that calling us names and using cuss words during Sabbath Services is wrong and will not be allowed here.

The Bible is clear that one should not allow people who sin during the course of Sabbath Services to come in. If a person does not repent to you and God for the sins they have committed against you then they should not be allowed back until such time that they do. With that all said, it is not a sin, if you don't like a persons grammar, if you don't like what they give for an opinion on any given subject, if they don't agree with you (after all, you might be wrong), and for cause is not a sin, along with various other things. When you see controversial doctrinal issues which have complexly confusing sides

**Entire letter found on line at:**  
<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmesseng er0044/12008-044-03.htm>

\*\*\*to be continued in Issue #45\*\*

QUESTIONS SECTION ---

the-cog-messenger@earthlink.net

QUESTION #65

This is the beginning of the teaching of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 1:2-19) Isaiah here called on the people of his time by saying this and this in (v - 12) who ask you to bring me animal sacrifice and here he condemned Sabbath keeping here too but in verse 18 the lord says come now lets settle the matter. The apostle Paul offered a sacrifice in this place Acts 21:26 G. N. B. He even performed ceremony of purification and every body quotes him when they wish it to go the other way around. (1 Timothy 1:1) It's the same Paul speaking here and please explain this Acts 24:17-18 G. N. B. Verse 17 of Acts 21 this is where I would love to understand because here the ones I will call the living witness say to brother Paul verse 21 G. N. B., HERE PAUL OFFERED SACRIFICE OR WHAT IS THIS appeal?

The first issue to clarify in answering your question is the scripture referred to in Isa. 1 where you say that God condemned Sabbath-keeping. *You need to realize that He did not condemn Sabbath-keeping -- He condemned the attitude of the people. Sabbath-keeping is a commandment-- it should be observed -- but in the proper attitude or spirit.*

Now, we will look at the scriptures that you mentioned which are found in Acts 24:17-18 and Acts 21:17, 21. Acts 24:10-21 gives the account of Paul's defense before Felix in 58 A. D. who was Procurator of Judea while Paul was on his fifth trip to Jerusalem. Paul is speaking in vs. 17-18: 17. "Now after many years I came to bring alms and offerings to my nation, 18. "in the midst of which some Jews from Asia found me purified in the temple, neither with a mob nor with tumult." (NKJV unless otherwise noted).

Note: *These were the offerings mentioned in Rom. 15:25-26, 1 Cor. 16:1-4, and 2 Cor. 8:1-4 which Paul was very careful to collect from the churches in Macedonia and Greece for the poor Jewish brethren (and unbelieving Jews) in Jerusalem as well as those offerings associated with his own Jewish vow.*

To further clarify, let's look at Acts 24:17-18 as they appear in *The Amplified Bible*: 17. Now after several years I came up [to Jerusalem] to bring to my people contributions of charity and offerings. 18. While I was engaged in presenting these, they found me [occupied in the rites of purification] in the temple, without any

crowd or uproar. But some Jews from [the province of] Asia [were there].

Note: Paul had been accused of sedition by some Asian Jews who were not even there to present their side of the case.

The other scriptures that you had asked about are Acts 21:17, 21. Luke writes:

17. And when we had come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly. For clarity, let's look at the context.

18. On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present.

19. When he had greeted them, he told in detail those things which God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.

20. And when they heard it, they glorified the Lord. And they said to him, "You see, brother, how many myriads of Jews there are who have believed, and they are all zealous for the law;

21. "but they have been informed about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to the customs."

From *The Amplified Bible*:

17. When we arrived in Jerusalem, the brethren received and welcomed us gladly.

18. On the next day Paul went in with us to [see] James, and all the elders of the church were present [also].

19. After saluting them, Paul gave a detailed account of the things God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.

20. And upon hearing it, they adored and exalted and praised and thanked God. And they said to [Paul], You see, brother, how many thousands of believers there are among the Jews, and all of them are enthusiastic upholders of the [Mosaic] Law.

21. Now they have been informed about you that you continually teach all the Jews who live among the Gentiles to turn back from and forsake Moses, advising them not to circumcise their children or pay any attention to the observance of the [Mosaic] customs.

Note: A rumor had circulated that Paul had discouraged or forbidden Jewish

converts who were living among Gentiles not to observe the Torah (the law of Moses). James and the elders had realized that this was not true since earlier in 51 A. D.(?) at the renowned Jerusalem Council on Paul's third visit to Jerusalem, James, the church leader in Jerusalem, with the consent of the church leaders had decided that Gentile believers were obligated to observe four conditions: to abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality. (Acts 15:29). If they observed these restrictions, they were considered to be brethren. Jewish believers, on the other hand, were not forbidden to keep the Law of Moses. Paul was a life-long Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee (Acts 23:6), "concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless." (Phil. 3:6). Paul kept the Mosaic Law perfectly. Acts 21:21 is/was that Jews and Gentiles who believed in Jesus were not commanded to observe Jewish customs that had been instituted by the Jewish fathers and had been attached to the law of Moses. Our present and future focus should be to emulate Christ in our hearts and minds -- to seek mercy and not sacrifice.

Answered by: Tommy West (Wake Forest, North Carolina)

Darwin Lee writes:

If our focus is to emulate Christ in our hearts and minds, we then will actually perform in our actions according to the laws of God. (Deut. 5:29, Ezek. 36:26-27) Christ in us will lead us to want to "do them" to the fullest extent of His Law, there by truly emulating Christ in our actions or conduct. We will live as Christ lived, which was to keep and do the commandments because that was His focus in His heart and mind. "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love." (John 15:10)

Item found on line at: <http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0044/q2008-044-01.htm>

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

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<http://darwinlauralee.com>

**KIDS KORNER ---**

[the-cog-messenger@earthlink.net](mailto:the-cog-messenger@earthlink.net)

**PRAYER REQUESTS & UPDATES ---**

[PrayerRequestsAndUpdates@darwinlauralee.com](mailto:PrayerRequestsAndUpdates@darwinlauralee.com)

**December 27, 2008--Larry Graff**

From House Springs, Missouri, Larry Graff is asking for you to pray for his on going health problems and to pray to God for breath and clearer lungs for him. Sent by Larry Graff, request written by Laura Lee

**January 3, 2008--Johnathon Goldman**

Good News update: The 18 year old son of Robert Joseph Goldman has been located and is now back in touch with his family. Johnathon was missing after hurricane Katrina. Robert thanks all who prayed for them.

**January 3, 2008--Johnathon Goldman**

EVEN THOUGH I HAD NOT HEARD OF THIS HAPPENSTANCE, BUT PRAISE THE ETERNAL GOD OF HEAVEN WHO WAS IN CARE OF THIS YOUNG MAN DURING ALL THIS TIME! WHAT A WONDERFUL MIRACLE WAS WORKED OUT ON THIS FAMILY'S BEHALF THROUGH THE FAITHFUL PRAYERS OF THE SAINTS! SHARING IN YOUR JOY, GLADYS ACOSTA

**January 6, 2008--Julius Lenkume (Kenya)**

Dear brethren, Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ from Kenya! Praise God, we are fine despite a recent political unrest and chaos hit our country after general election rigged result announced last Sunday. More than three hundred lives claimed by this political emotion and 100,000 displaced; the most affected are women and children. The problem was experienced country wide. Million worth property destroyed and people's lives in fear and starvation is affecting many people as result of lack means of transportation of various commodities to market. Means of communication is also a problem, I was not able to communicate with my co-pastors in various localities but I assume they are safe. As believers no doubt this is the work of devil and sign of the end of ages. The news reported more than 30 people burned into ashes in church on western Kenya. Despite reconciliation process called by international communities many conflicts still reported and see all over the country as two rival political groups fight and many innocent people died. We are not sure about the future here. I kindly appeal for intercession prayer, for our country, families and brethren. Any material help for starving families are welcome. The Banking institutions are working with tight security, you may wish to help us via western union

money transfer to Julius N. Lenkume – Kenya. Thanks very much for those of you who have written to know about us, it may take you some time to hear from us due to insecurity but I hope to update you some times as the lord provides the opportunity. Be blessed! Yours pastor Julius Lenkume (COG Maasai mission)

**January 9, 2008---Bill Goff (Kenya)**

Dear Brethren, Kenya streets have quieted slightly today as many of our brethren who have been locked up in their houses for over a week now due to the deadly violence, begin to venture out (And not a minute too soon because their food supply was almost empty). Some brethren had been forced out of their homes over a week ago due to the turmoil and ran for their lives across the City, taking refuge in other brethrens homes and now are finding out that they have no houses to go back to. The reports are now coming in from our brethren over there in Kenya. There are a few small church families who were living in the Mathara slums. Mary and her husband (Whose name I cannot spell or pronounce) have been COG members for a long time. They both HAD jobs and now their jobs are gone, and even their houses are gone. They have 2 children Oliver 3 yrs old and a 9-Month-old baby. They own some land in a remote part of Kenya and hope to try and travel there to flee the turmoil and also to avoid starvation, but are in need of some help to get there. Another COG member who lived in Kibara shantytown is Judy. The little she had is completely gone also, so she is also in a dilemma. There also is a young man from Uganda named Mike who traveled to Nairobi in the recent past to try and find his parents. He found out that they were both deceased. He was able to find a job and was living in that same shantytown. He became friends with some of our COG members there a while back, and has been receptive to God's teachings. Now he is not only an orphan, but like the rest, has lost his job and also has no place left to go back to. Mike is not looking to leave the City of Nairobi (he has no place to go to) and feels that he can find some way of still earning his daily bread there in the City. But we need to try and help him with some basic items like a small mattress so he won't have to sleep on the bare ground at night. And maybe a little funds to hold him over till he can find some way of earning his daily bread. Please understand that these brethren of

ours are in dire need of our help at this time. Also please understand that they are NOT lazy, they are NOT sluggards. The unemployment rate in Kenya is around 90%. Very few Kenyans have jobs, but many of our brethren have been blessed with ways of making their daily bread. But this is situation that is totally beyond their control. The political unrest there has brought the Country into total kayos. Now I have seen first hand the normal life style that our brethren in both Kenya and Tanzania are living in, and have been trying to make other brethren here in U.S.A. aware of their condition. But so far, very few seem to have any care or concern for them. Now this is nothing new to the brethren there. We found the brethren in all of E. Africa to be lacking some of the most basic necessities, like owning there own personal copy of the Bible, or having mosquito netting to help prevent them from contracting three different life threatening diseases that are spread by the mosquitoes there. We even still have some brethren in Tanzania who are still sleeping on the dirt floor in their mud huts because they have no mattress. Most of these brethren have been COG members for many years. Some go as far back as Radio church of God. But they have been neglected, not necessarily because of the brethren in God's church. I know that many many faithful brethren have given much funds to the church government over the years (Actually I should say quote unquote church government) because if they were truly God's government here on earth, then why did we find around half of all these brethren lacking these basic needs? Our God is a loving God. And He makes it quite clear who His true disciples are: Jn:13:35: By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. Anyway, I am not here to be bashing on the past. I am here to try and make the fate of our brethren who live in that part of this troubled earth known. If you have access to our Website, please click on Kenya where you can read some short stories about our brethren there. Also see some of them at their homes, in the pictures we have taken. (Before the current turmoil) <http://voiceinthewildernesschurchofgod.org/index.html> We originally started our Website to try and bring some exposure to the conditions that many of our brethren abroad are living in. PLEASE DO NOT BE TURNED OFF BECAUSE WE HAVE **\*\*\*CONTINUED ON PAGE 15\*\*\***

THE MESSAGE BOARD (ADS & INFO) ---

the-cog-messenger@earthlink.net

SABBATH SCHEDULE--BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

- February 16, 2008----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
February 23, 2008----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #212 & Lesson #213
March 1, 2008----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
March 8, 2008----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #214 & Lesson #215
March 15, 2008----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
March 21, 2008----Bible Study
March 22, 2008----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #216 & Lesson #217
March 29, 2008----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
April 5, 2008----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #218 & Lesson #219
April 12, 2008----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
April 19, 2008----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #220 & Lesson #221
April 20, 2008----Passover/ First Day of Unleavened Bread (See Ad)
April 26, 2008----Last Day of Unleavened Bread (See Ad)
May 2, 2008----Bible Study
May 3, 2008----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #222 & Lesson #223
May 10, 2008----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up

If you want to host Sabbath Services and need 2 Sabbaths in a row for your presentation and/or would like to have your presentation listed on our Sabbath Schedule in our newsletter which is sent out to the public, the next deadline for that would be: April 15, 2008. On those Sabbaths of Open Hosting where no one signs up, we will just play a cassette tape by any of various speakers. All Sabbath Services are Hosted by Darwin & Laura Lee unless otherwise stated.

SABBATH SERVICES

Every Saturday at 2:00 PM at 320 N. Griffin St., Bismarck, North Dakota (701) 258-7172
Front Door Open at 1:00 PM for Fellowship

BIBLE STUDY

Every 6 weeks on Friday at 8:00 PM at 320 N. Griffin St., Bismarck, North Dakota (701) 258-7172
Front Door Open at 6:30 PM for Fellowship and Pot Luck Meal (Bring Food)

Who are Out to Assist the Needy? by Isaya Ouma Owak (Kenya)

We in the church are given truth by our God but most of us have got head knowledge more than the truth. There are some areas we ignore more than any.

We know the kingdom is going to be set up here on earth, that is nice we know that. We are to keep the feast days that is right but come to where God says, HELP THE FATHERLESS AND WIDOWS, this now becomes a hard nut to crack.

The Bible says, PURE RELIGION AND UNFILED BEFORE GOD THE FATHER IS TO VISIT THE FATHERLESS AND WIDOWS IN THEIR NEED AND TO KEEP YOURSELF UNSPOTTED FROM THE WORLD. Where are those in the church of God who are visiting orphans and widows to help them. God told the Israelites not to forget their poor brethren. If we are the new testament Israelites, why do we forget our

poor brethren?

Item found on line at:
http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0044/i2008-044-01.htm
\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*

The Life and Epistles of St. Paul by Alan Ruth (Farmington Hills, Michigan)

Rare, classic Bible study book added to BibleStudy.org!

The Life and Epistles of St. Paul by Conybeare and Howson
http://www.biblestudy.org/apostlepaul/life-epistles-of-apostle-paul/contents.html

Used by Bible students for more than a century, this comprehensive work discusses not only Apostle Paul's life and ministry but also contains commentary on ALL of his New Testament books! Our specially-created version of this excellent study reference

includes:

- Links to and from the book's 4,500+ footnotes.
• Links to maps, pictures and other study materials related to Paul and his ministry.
• Ability to increase the size of screen text for ease of readability.

The Life and Epistles of St. Paul can also be accessed from the site's Apostle Paul section at:
http://www.biblestudy.org/apostlepaul/main.html

Item found on line at:
http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0044/i2008-044-02.htm
\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*

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**TRIBULATION & DAY OF THE LORD COMPARISONS AND TYPOLOGY TABLE**

By Craig White  
2002

BIBLICAL EVENT	ISRAEL IN ANCIENT EGYPT	PERIOD OF CHRIST	FIRST CENTURY CHURCH OF GOD	LAST DAYS	THE SPIRITUAL JOURNEY
Calling	Israel called by God	Christ used to undertake a Work	God raises up early Church to undertake a Work	Church called to do an end-time Work	People called to become Christians (spiritual awakening (epiphany) when God calls)
Place of Safety	Some clans flee to Europe; and wilderness wanderings	For Christ it was refuge in His spiritual Father	Pella or Petra	Wilderness (Rev 12:6-7,16)	The womb of our spiritual Mother and protection of the Father
Tribulation	Period under the heel of the Egyptians	For Christ it was the Pharisees and also Romans	Fall of Jerusalem and sacking of the Temple.	3 ½ years (Rev 12:6)	Our trials in this life
Day of the Lord	Moses & Aaron = 2 witnesses	For Christ it was events at His crucifixion (Matt 27:45, 50-54)	Unknown events after the fall of Jerusalem	1 year	God's judgment upon us (1Pet 4:17)
Tests prior to Kingdom entry	Pursuit by the Pharaoh and wilderness wanderings	The life of Christ	The life of the disciples and apostles	Ezekiel 38 & 39?	Christian's spiritual journey from baptism to resurrection
Resurrection	Crossing of Jordan	Christ's resurrection	Resurrection to temporary physical life (Matt 28:1-7)	First Resurrection (Rev 20:4-6)	At the return of Christ
Entry into the Kingdom	Entry into the Promised Land (Jos 9-4)	Pioneered by Christ at His resurrection	Pioneered by Christ	Rev 20	Christians to be with Christ
Conquests	(Jos 5-6)	n/a	n/a	Conquering worldly powers through physical Israel	Casting down of spiritual strongholds (2Cor 10:4-5)
Enemies arising during the Kingdom period	(Jos 7-11)	n/a	n/a	Gog & Magog and no doubt others that would have to be put down (Ezek 38 & 39)	

PASSOVER --- DAYS OF UNLEAVENED BREAD IN BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

We will observe Passover here at 320 N. Griffin St., on the evening of Saturday April 19, 2008, at Sunset. We will serve a meal. Because we are serving a meal, we do need to know ahead of time whether you are coming or not, because we will need for anyone who attends to also supply some of the food which is served and we need to know so we can have enough tables and chairs set up for those in attendance. Please bring your own tub and towel if you plan to participate in the foot washing observance. The next day, Sunday April 20, 2008, on the First Day of Unleavened Bread, we will have services at 2:00 PM. The front door will be open at 1:00 PM for fellowship. At 5:00 PM for anyone who would like to join us, we will meet for a meal and fellowship at the "Bonanza Buffet Restaurant" in Mandan. On Saturday, April 26, 2008, the Last Day of Unleavened Bread, we will have services at 2:00 PM. The front door will be open at 1:00 PM for fellowship. At 5:00 PM for anyone who would like to join us, we will meet for a meal and fellowship at the "Golden Coral Buffet Restaurant" in Bismarck.

Subscription Update For Those Who Are Unable to Pay a Subscription Price for "The Church of God Messenger":

Gift Donations Received: Previous Balance: \$208.16

01-22-08 -- RL -- \$10.00 Total = \$10.00 THANK YOU!

Total Gift Donations: \$218.16

Subscriptions Requested: 01-15-08 -- Leslie Petho 01-17-08 -- Marcos Gomez

1 Year Subscriptions Paid: Leslie Petho -- \$13.86 Marcos Gomez -- \$12.84

Amount Left: \$191.46

Subscription Requests Pending at this Time: None

Jury Duty Scam

Sent by Gladys Acosta (North Miami, Florida)

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Employees FROM: Paul V. Ryan, Director, Corporate Security DATE: August 20, 2007 SUBJECT: Security Awareness - Jury Duty Scam

Corporate Security has become aware of a new "phishing" scam that is gaining momentum. This one is designed to solicit your Social Security number and Date of Birth by posing as a summons for Jury

Duty. The caller claims to be a jury coordinator. If you protest that you never received a summons for jury duty, the scammer then asks for your Social Security number and date of birth in order to "verify the information" and "cancel an arrest warrant." The moment you divulge such information your identity has been stolen.

The scam has been reported in 11 states so far. What makes this scam particularly insidious is that they use intimidation over the phone to try to bully people into giving information by pretending they're with the court system. The FBI and the federal court system have issued nationwide alerts on their web sites to warn citizens about the fraud. We've provided an FBI link for more information:

http://www.fbi.gov/page2/june06/jury\_scam060206.htm

Please be highly cautious about ever giving out your personal information to anyone over the phone or Intranet. Sadly, identity theft has become a continuing part of our information age.

Scam cover stories will change from time to time. But they usually employ the following tactics:

- Pose as a reputable company or government agency looking for information, such as serial numbers on our business machines.
• Claim a sense of urgency, insisting that immediate action is required or your account or business operation will be negatively affected.
• Assume a very persuasive or even intimidating tone.
• Call from a number that is blocked, so the call cannot be traced back.

Remember, the scam only works if they get the information. Your best protection is your own heightened awareness. If you ever get a suspicious phone call asking for personal information, be sure to take note of the phone number that is calling. Scammers usually block their number. So ask for their name and contact number and say you'll return their phone call once they've been verified. Most scammers will not release this information and will in all likelihood hang up.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact your local security office

and/or myself. Thank you.

Item found on line at:

http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0044/i2008-044-04.htm

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*

"That Prophet"

by David Ben-Ariel (Toledo, Ohio)

I've just finished reading "That Prophet" - Gerald Flurry's 120 page booklet.

Editor's Note:

The full title of this booklet is: "Who is that Prophet". Laura Lee

Mr. Flurry is correct "that prophet" is distinct from one in Elijah's spirit and Jesus and appears after the Elijah has been on the scene (Jn. 1:19-21). I believe Mr. Flurry does serve as "that prophet" to the CHURCH. However, he fails to realize he's only a type of "that prophet" whom God will send to literal JERUSALEM to address the NATIONS of Israel! (Isa. 41:27; Zech. 12:8). He's BLIND to this fact because he vainly attempts to spiritualize everything away!

Such a prophet - the chief spokesman between the Two Witnesses, hailing from the House of David - will make world news and headlines as he sounds the alarm from physical Zion and ROARS FROM JERUSALEM! We must note the principle of duality here. One warns God's spiritual Church, another warns God's PHYSICAL NATION! (Joel 2:1,3:16).

Mr. Flurry fails to show the humility John the Baptist and Herbert W. Armstrong exemplified when they referred to themselves merely as "one crying out in the wilderness," and by revealing their special calling and mission from God by asking rhetorical questions without saying, "ME, ME, ME!"

Mr. Flurry jumps the track with his insistence that God's special covenant with Levi to serve as His ministers translates into a support ministry for Gerald Flurry who rules in God's Church from his spiritual

\*\*\*CONTINUED ON PAGE 14\*\*\*