A Newsletter for the People of God March 5, 2022 --- Issue No. 57

What Time Is It?

(Copyright) by Gary Miller (Pocahontas, Arkansas)

PAGE 2 Articles

Prayer Closet Dynamo!

(Copyright) by Dwight Fleming (Oroville, California)

PAGE 3 Articles

Facts on Tithing

by Wayne Schatzle (West Chester, Ohio)

PAGE 4 Articles

Evolution Is Dead! Take That, Nietzsche!

(Copyright) by David Rives (Tennessee)

PAGE 5 Articles

Overview of the Covenants

by B. L. Cocherell & Vernon O. Jones (Nevada)

PAGE 6 Articles

Wake Up to Reality

by John Jewell (London, England)

PAGE 10 Articles

To Unsubscribe from this newsletter:

Send a blank email to church-of-god-bismarck@hotmail.com with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

To Subscribe to this newsletter:

Send a blank email to church-of-god-bismarck@hotmail.com with "Subscribe" in the subject line.

To Submit Items for Print: Send to: **church-of-god-bismarck@hotmail.com** or Mail to Darwin & Laura Lee, PO Box 2333, Bismarck, ND 58502

The "New" Church of God Messenger is an independent publication. All newsletters may be copied and given to others if they are copied and sent in their entirety.

Publisher: Church of God, Bismarck, Darwin & Laura Lee, **Editor:** Laura Lee, **Assistant Editor:** Darwin Lee We do not necessarily agree with all contributors, or their works submitted and printed in this newsletter. It is up to you to get out your Bible and see whether these things are true. Iron sharpens Iron

Contributors: B. L. Cocherell, Dwight Fleming, John Jewell, Vernon O. Jones, Gary Miller, David Rives, Wayne Schatzle

Website: Church of God, Bismarck https://www.church-of-god-bismarck.org

A Newsletter for the People of God March 5, 2022 --- Issue No. 57

Articles

What Time Is It?

(Copyright) by Gary Miller (Pocahontas, Arkansas)

2022 Doomsday Clock is currently set at 160 seconds to Midnight.

Updated January 20, 2022, staying the same as 2021.



DOOMSDAY CLOCK TURNS 75 THIS MONTH

Created in 1947 at the University of Chicago the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists, dubbed it the "Doomsday Clock" as a symbolic clock whose setting is based on world events. It is an estimation by Bulletin scientists of the likelihood of a manmade global catastrophe. The clock's midnight hour spells doomsday for humanity. Realizing the bomb, they had created could be a global threat, the clock was developed by the Manhattan Project scientists who built the first nuclear bomb. What they had unleashed on the world had to be controlled somehow. The Doomsday Clock was to be the world's "alarm clock" that man's last days may be imminent.

WHAT DETERMINES THE SETTING:

The D-Day Clock's setting takes into account the likelihood of emerging threats like war breaking out and the impact of Covid as well as advances in biotechnology and artificial intelligence. Trackers also said they considered factors this year like the prolonged pandemic, proliferation of nuclear weapons in Iran, China and North Korea, state-sponsored disinformation campaigns, and disruptive technologies.

THE PAST:

In 1947: Initially set at 7 minutes, it has not been farther than 17 minutes from midnight. In 2011 the Doomsday Clock was set at 6 minutes to midnight. January 21, 2016, Rachel Bronson, executive director of the "Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists" [University of Chicago] reported the Science and Security Board moved the Doomsday Clock forward to three minutes to midnight, noting:

"The probability of global catastrophe is very high, and the actions needed to reduce the risks of disaster must be taken very soon. That probability has not been reduced. The Clock ticks. Global danger looms. Wise leaders should act—immediately."

In **January 2021** the Clock was moved to **2 minutes 40 seconds** (160 seconds) to that ominous midnight hour. In ten years, Bulletin Scientists clearly estimate humanity has lost ground in the race for survival.

PRESENT:

On January 20, 2022, the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists kept the symbolic clock at its 2021 setting of 160 seconds to midnight; world situation not improving with "...many disturbing signs."

WARS AND RUMORS OF WARS:

"Many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and Shall deceive many. And you shall hear of Wars and Rumors of

A Newsletter for the People of God March 5, 2022 --- Issue No. 57

wars...for nation shall rise against Nation...and there shall be famine, and pestilences, and earthquakes...And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many." (Matt. 24:5-11)

THE ARMAGEDDON CLOCK:

There is a *real clock ticking* toward a global rendezvous with destiny. The hands on this are not symbolic, however. As the countdown continues, the "Mother of All Battles", the Battle of Armageddon, will be for world supremacy.

We might call it the "Armageddon Clock!"

"And I saw three unclean spirits.... For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles which go forth to the kings of the Earth and... the whole Earth, to gather them to the Battle of that great day of Yahweh Almighty. And he [the beast: v.13 with Rev. 19:19] gathered them...into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon." (Rev. 16:13-16)

Right on schedule, time is running out on world events leading up to this epic battle.

HOW CLOSE TO MIDNIGHT IS IT?

On a scale of about 6000 years of human history, and if this is the final Jubilee of this age, the Armageddon Clock reads about **ONE MINUTE TO MIDNIGHT.**

BUT THERE IS GOOD NEWS AHEAD

Despite the negative signs there is still good reason to look forward to a Brighter Future:

Be Not Troubled:

"For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ [the Messiah]; And shall deceive many. And you shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: **see** *that your heart be not troubled...the end is not yet.*" (Matt. 24:5,6) In other words, not be overly anxious. It is not going to end tomorrow, not even next year, *not* just any time.

Live your life as if there will be a tomorrow because there will ALWAYS BE ONE!

IT'S COMING:

"...And they shall beat their swords into plowshares...nation shall not lift up sword against nation neither shall they learn war anymore." (Isa.2:4)

Reprinted with permission from: International Congregation of Yahweh http://www.icyahweh.org/

Prayer Closet Dynamo!

(Copyright) by Dwight Fleming (Oroville, California)

When you pray, what is your spirit saying to God?

"O God, I'm a miserable wretch, not worthy of your mercy. I beg and plead with you to hear my cry and grant me this one petition to be delivered from my need [whatever it may be: healing, financial help, peace of mind, etc.]."

We are all familiar with the Psalms which are hymns set to music. Yet, they are also prayers. "Thus conclude the **prayers** of David son of Jesse" (Psalm 72:20). David was a musician. He knew the powerful effect that music has on our spirit.

David had erected a special tent or tabernacle where music was played to create a spirit of praise to the Eternal God. And it appears all were welcome at this tabernacle not just Jewish believers. At the Jerusalem meeting recorded in Acts 15, a reference is made of David's tabernacle (Acts 15:15-19) which aided in their decision concerning allowing

A Newsletter for the People of God March 5, 2022 --- Issue No. 57

uncircumcised Gentiles into the church. They recognized the spiritual element that was vital in seeking God which the Gentile believers certainly shared with devout Jews.

David knew that a right spirit before God was **KEY** for opening whatever doors that we may need God to open for us. "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a **sacrifice** of **praise**, the fruit of **lips** that confess His name. And do not neglect to do good and to share with others, for with such **sacrifices** God is **pleased**" (Hebrews 13:15-16).

Dealing with all the demands and pressures of our modern world, it can at times become very discouraging and pull our spirits down. Despite whatever problems that may be troubling us, we need to recognize that we can do "all things through Christ who strengthens" us (Philippians 4:13). It is easy to quote scripture but stirring up our spirit with just words may not always work. This is where music can sometimes help.

If we come to God in a spirit of doubt rather than of faith, what do you think will be God's response?

"But without faith it is impossible to please Him. For he that comes to God **must believe** that He exists, and that He is a **rewarder** of those who **diligently** seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6). So, when we go to God for whatever need that we may need help with, do we believe that God is for real? Do we acknowledge His existence with praise? The One who gives us every breath of life. The One who created the universe and the bountiful earth that sustains the miracle of life. The One who watches over us as a Shepherd does his sheep. This helps us to put things in a right perspective and fills us with faith rather than doubt.

Do we also believe that God will reward us for trusting in Him? Do we see the reward that we seek, or do we constantly question God's love and mercy for us? As Christ would often say, "Be it according to your faith." "You knew [believed] that I was an unjust wage giver, so you kept your talent hid in a napkin? You unprofitable servant." Let's not allow that to happen to us.

Create your own tabernacle of David with inspiring music to help put you in a positive spirit while in your prayer closet. See if this makes a difference in the quality of your prayer life. It is our spiritual lifeline that we need for spiritual growth. Become a Prayer Closet Dynamo! Enjoy this music sample:

https://youtu.be/x1bd3wgrhfc

Facts on Tithing

by Wayne Schatzle (West Chester, Ohio)

I am bewildered by the tactics seen on television in fund raising efforts. If you watch much of "Christian" broadcasting there is a common teaching: (a) the law of God is done away; (b) no amount of good works will get you a place in heaven; (c) believers are to Tithe, which is to pay 10% of their income to the Christian effort. Any thinking person will find some confusion in the things preached. If the Law is done away- why does a person have to tithe? And if no good works earn you anything- what's the difference what they give?

We are told to rightly divide the word of truth. A short study on tithe will show that there were actually 3 tithes mentioned in the Law. The third tithe was collected only in two years out of a set of seven, mainly for the poor and the widows much like social security of today. The second tithe was ten percent of increase to be used by the family earning it as a festival fund for when they traveled to keep the appointed feasts similar to a vacation fund some employers will save for their employees. The first tithe, which is what preachers today are trying to get their hands on, was intended for the lively hood of the Levites who had no inheritance in the promised land. Notice that this tithe was only on animals and agricultural produce and never on any money. Now let's look back at the law and see what is "done away"- well one point is the Levitical priesthood, the temple and sacrifices therefore there is no one around to be eligible to receive the biblical tenth as documented in scripture.

The usual cry is that ministers today take the role of Levitical priests. Not quite. That's the missing link that's hard to find. Even the magna opus on the subject, "Tithe In Scripture" by Dr Henry Lansdell fails to provide the biblical authority to grant ministers God's tenth. As most churches even to this day follow the Catholic church in their doctrinal framework,

A Newsletter for the People of God March 5, 2022 --- Issue No. 57

some will be amazed that collecting tithes was not formalized for over 500 years after the first century church passed away! In fact, in all the New Testament you will find neither mention of anyone paying tithes to a church nor any person receiving tithes, except relating to the temple service. Modern preachers in no way resemble Levites in the work they do, plus they can own property and have jobs apart from the work they perform, much like Paul working his trade as a tentmaker. There are examples of brethren giving offerings and in extreme giving we see them moved to give ALL they had and hold all things in common, which I don't see preached except in a commune type situation. A case worth noting is the story of Ananias and Sapphira that said they gave all but held back a portion, and they paid with their lives for it. That should be a warning to anyone not to act like they are giving more than they really are. Other examples are the widow's mite and how Christ declared that she gave ALL she had; when the rich young man desired to be saved, Jesus told him to give ALL he had to the poor and follow Him; and how Zacchaeus gave HALF of all he possessed. Notice in all these incidents the contribution was voluntary. Often, I have seen printed on offering envelopes the plea from Paul to "lay in store for collection..." many have said this is an example of early believers paying tithes. A careful reading will show that it was actually a food drive for the believers in Rome during a famine and Paul was delivering food to them. This was possibly a one-time event.

Scripture shows that at times God has demanded a tenth from His followers and dictated who shall receive it in His stead. It is tempting to assume those in the ministry today can collect God's tithe for doing work in His name. We are also warned there are false ministers that masquerade as His ministers to deceive and in our recent faith we have seen how the lure of that sacred tenth will cause many unsavory individuals to seek it for themselves. We could get legalistic as Pharisees and exact that tenth, but it will not earn you anything in God's eyes. Believers are not bound by numbers in support of their churches or helping people in need. Ten per cent on giving is indeed a biblical figure for giving but as one person I talked with from another country that was taxed so high, "I am lucky to have 10% of my income left to live on".

Giving is a prerequisite of a follower of Christ. It may be as little as a glass of cold water, or it just may be everything you own. As always it is a personal matter between a person and their God free of the pressures of any man or organization.

Evolution Is Dead! Take That, Nietzsche!

(Copyright) by David Rives (Tennessee)



We have never been able to create life from non-life in the lab, despite millions upon millions of tests in the most favorable conditions possible.

We have never observed one basic kind of animal turn into another kind, much less a human. Animals adapt...they change... this is observable.

A Newsletter for the People of God March 5, 2022 --- Issue No. 57

But a dinosaur has never turned into a bird any more than a giraffe could ever turn into a hippopotamus! That is a belief based purely on faith — not on the fossil record.

Charles Darwin was not a scientist. He was an explorer and author with a vivid imagination and no formal scientific credentials. He lived in the 1800's during a time when cholera was thought to be caused by polluted air and doctors took pride in performing surgery with filthy operating gowns. A time long before the genome was mapped, or the complexity of the cell was discovered.

Why is it that the inane ramblings of a 19th century author have continued to be so pervasive in today's culture?

Science has made thousands of new discoveries since that time, and the majority of new discoveries reveal increased complexity and design.

While God's glory is being revealed through modern science, philosophers like Nietzsche, Hume, and Darwin are all...dead. With discoveries in contemporary science consistently pointing to the Creator of the Bible, there's only one thing left to say:

Evolution is dead!

I'm David Rives, Truly, the Heavens Declare the Glory of God!

Reprinted with permission from: David Rives Ministries To learn more, visit: https://davidrivesministries.org/

Overview of the Covenants

by B. L. Cocherell & Vernon O. Jones (Nevada)

The following pages contain the basic outlines of the old and new agreements with national Israel and the Sovereign Father's agreement with the elect during the Gospel age of salvation.

THE FIRST AGREEMENT WITH NATIONAL ISRAEL

TYPE OF AGREEMENT

The first agreement was an exclusive agreement between God and the individuals who comprised national Israel. Moreover, this agreement was open-ended and included the ten commandments, obedience to whatever God asked of them, and the practice of the sacrificial system. Deut.29:1.

Exclusive

The agreement was made exclusively with the nation of Israel, but other people could participate in the agreement if they met its terms and conditions.

National and Individual

The agreement was made with the nation of Israel and each individual Israelite. See the Books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy for details of the national and individual terms and conditions of the agreement.

Open-ended

The agreement could be added to or subtracted from by God, but not by the Israelites (Ex.19:5-6).

MAJOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The Israelites to obey God (Ex.19:5-6; chps.20-23).

A Newsletter for the People of God March 5, 2022 --- Issue No. 57

- The Israelites to worship only the Creator God (Ex.20:1-7, 25).
- God was to bless and protect the Israelites.

Benefits For Israel

God provided physical benefits and the opportunity to participate in the first resurrection.

Benefits For God

The Israelites would be his treasure as a kingdom of priests and an example of the benefits that would come from obedience to his way of life (Ex.19:5-6).

DURATION

The agreement was a perpetual agreement that would last as long as national Israel kept their part of the agreement (Ex.31:16; Lev.23:14, 21, 31,41; 24:5-8; Deut.28:15).

RATIFICATION

The agreement was written in stone and in a book; then, it was attested to orally and sealed with the blood of a sacrificial animal (Ex.24: 3; 24:12; 34:1-5; 24:8).

THE AGREEMENT WITH RE-GATHERED ISRAEL

At the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, two major things happened that concern the old and new agreement with national Israel:

- 1. The old agreement was canceled.
- 2. The new agreement was ratified with the sacrificial blood of Jesus Christ. This new agreement is now awaiting the re-gathering and reestablishment of Israel as a sovereign nation after the return of Jesus Christ. It is at this time that the new agreement with national Israel will come into force.

TYPE OF AGREEMENT

The new agreement will be made exclusively with the re-gathered tribes of Israel as a whole; it will be an exclusive agreement between God and the individuals who will comprise national Israel. Moreover, it will be a closed agreement.

Exclusive

The agreement will be made exclusively with re-gathered Israel (Ezk.20:33-38; 36:24-28), but other people will be allowed to participate in the agreement if they meet its terms and conditions.

National and Individual

The agreement allows both Israelites and non-Israelites to worship God and have the opportunity for eternal life (Zech.14:16-19; Acts 10: 34-35; Rev.21:1-7, 24-27). Moreover, each person who comes under this agreement will be dealt with on a personal level (Jn.6:44,65; Ezk.20:35).

Closed

The agreement cannot be added to or subtracted from by either party (Heb.8:8-10; 10:16).

MAJOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Individuals must repent of past sins (Ezk.20:35; Acts 2:38).
- Individuals must worship the true God.
- Individuals must keep the terms and conditions of the agreement.
- God will give individuals called to salvation during this age of salvation spiritual tools to help them perform their part of the agreement (Jer.31:31-33; Heb.8:8-10).

BENEFITS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

God will provide physical benefits and the opportunity to have eternal life in the Kingdom of God.

A Newsletter for the People of God March 5, 2022 --- Issue No. 57

BENEFITS FOR GOD

The Israelites will be priests of God and an example to all nations of the benefits that come from obedience to God's way of life.

AGREEMENT DURATION

The physical aspects of this agreement will last until the end of the harvest of humanity into the Kingdom and Family of God, but its spiritual aspects will last for eternity (Heb.13:20; Jer.31:34,37; 32:40; Rev.21:3-7).

DIFFERENCES

The following are some major differences between the first and second agreements with national Israel:

• Under the first agreement, only Israel was required to practice God's laws, precepts, and principles and go to the place where God placed his name to worship him and offer sacrifices.

Sacrifices

 Under the new agreement, Israel, as well as all other nations are required to practice God's laws, precepts, and principles, and come to Jerusalem to worship God and offer sacrifices.

THE SCHOOLMASTER

In his letter to the elect at Galatia, the apostle Paul gives much insight into God's law which includes the sacrificial system. Paul writes that the law was the schoolmaster (i.e., the instructor/method) through which Christ and justification through him can be understood:

"Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith is come, we are no longer under the schoolmaster. For you are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus" (Gal.3:24-26 KJV).

Paul shows that there was nothing wrong with the law and the covenant, which included the sacrificial system, because it was a tool by which one could learn the ways of God and come to an understanding of how to obtain salvation through Jesus Christ.

The School Master Returns

Animal sacrifices will be performed as a part of the new temple worship system after Christ returns but will not be used for the atonement for sin. Because it is only through the sacrifice of Christ that a person can obtain forgiveness of sin. The sacrificial system after the return of Christ will have a similar function to the one under the agreements with the Patriarchs and ancient Israel, in that sacrifices will be offered to make it possible for people to access, worship, and be taught by God at the temple.

Ezekiel's prophecies clearly reveal that a temple for the worship of God will exist after Christ's return and that various observances and sacrifices will be performed there. Moreover, Paul and others of the early church offered sacrifices at the temple in Jerusalem. Therefore, it can be safely assumed that there is nothing wrong with the sacrificial system of worship and that it will again be used as a tool to teach people the way of God and bring them to an understanding of how to obtain salvation through Jesus Christ.

The following are the primary lessons taught through offering a blood sacrifice for the atonement of spiritual and moral violations of God's law:

- The violation of the law of God separates a person from God and all of the benefits of this relationship.
- The penalty for the violation of the law of God is the death of the law breaker (Rom.6:23).
- Because the violation of the law requires the death of the law breaker, the only way to heal the breach between a person and God without that person dying for their sin is for a superior sacrifice to be made in their place.

People who live after the return of Christ will live under a sacrificial system of worship for the following reasons:

A Newsletter for the People of God March 5, 2022 --- Issue No. 57

- It is the way God has always led people to salvation and his way of life.
- It will be used to teach the way to eternal life through the meaning of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.
- It will be used to teach God's laws and way of life.
- It will allow people to practice and learn God's way of life through experience.
- It will allow people to come into the presence of Jesus Christ in his glorified form.

Individuals who fulfill their part of the new agreement will have the indwelling of the holy spirit (Acts 1:4-8; 2:38; Heb.8:10) and will receive eternal life as sons of God (Rev.21:1-7; 22:14).

THE GOSPEL AGE AGREEMENT

Those who are called to salvation during the gospel age have an agreement with God the Father that is different from the first and second agreement with national Israel in many ways, because they have been given different promises, benefits, terms, and conditions that are a part of their special calling.

TYPE OF AGREEMENT

Individual Agreement

The agreement with the elect of God during the gospel age is made between God the Father and each individual (whether he or she is an Israelite or non-Israelite) that he specifically calls to salvation (Jn.6:44,65; Acts 2:39,47).

Closed Agreement

The agreement cannot be added to or subtracted from by either party (Heb.8:10; 10:16-18).

MAJOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Individuals must repent of past sins, be baptized, and receive God's holy spirit (Acts 2:38).
- Individuals must worship and keep the terms and conditions of the agreement (Heb.6:4-8).
- God gives those called to salvation during this age the tools to help them perform their part of the agreement (Jer.31:31-33; Lk.24:49; Heb.8:8-10).

BENEFITS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

Each receives physical benefits, the opportunity to participate in the first resurrection, be kings and priests in the Kingdom and Family of God, and be given immortal life as a son of God.

BENEFITS FOR GOD

God shares eternity with his immortal spirit sons.

AGREEMENT DURATION

The agreement will last for eternity once the individual fulfills his part of the bargain (Heb.13:20).

AGREEMENT RATIFICATION

The agreement is overtly committed to by the individual upon being baptized in water. God then seals the agreement by placing his spirit into the individual's mind and spirit, and thereby, he infuses his laws, precepts, and principles into that person's thought process (Jer.31:31-33; Acts 2:38).

DIFFERENCES

The following are some major differences between the first and second agreements with national Israel and the agreement made with those in the gospel age:

- A change has been made from the physical Aaronic/Levitical priesthood to the spiritual Melchizedek-Christ priesthood (Heb.4: 15; 5:1-10; 6:20; 7:1-17).
- Animal sacrifice for the atonement of spiritual sin and physical defilement is no longer necessary under this agreement because of the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ (Heb.10:4-18).
- The temple worship system is not necessary for people under this agreement because the spirit of God dwells within them and they are a temple of God (Acts 1:1-8; 2:38; 2:1-4; 1 Cor.3:16-17; 6:19; Heb.8:10).

A Newsletter for the People of God March 5, 2022 --- Issue No. 57

- Individuals other than Israelites are also called to participate in this agreement (Gal.3:26-29; Eph.2:11,13,19).
- Individuals called during the gospel age have direct access to God the Father through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ (Eph.2:18; Heb.4: 15-16).

Rewards for Service

Individuals who fulfill their part of the agreement will receive the following rewards for fulfilling their calling and diligent service to God the Father and Jesus Christ:

- They will be eternal and immortal spirit-beings (1 Thes.4:13-17; 1 Cor.15:1-58; Rev.20:4-6; 22:14).
- They will be co-heirs of all things with Jesus Christ (Rom.8:17; Eph.3:6).
- They will be Kings and Priests in the Kingdom of God (Rev.2: 26; 3:21; 5:10; 20:4-6).
- They will be immortal sons of God in the Family of God (Rom.8: 14,16-17; 1 Cor.15:39-54; 1 Jn.3:1-2).

Reprinted with permission from: Bible Research

https://www.bibleresearch.org

Wake Up to Reality

by John Jewell (London, England)

In the Letter from London a couple of weeks ago we wrote of the next major financial disaster to hit the western world following the credit crunch and the fallout from that. This was the incredible scam perpetrated by Bernard Madoff which resulted in a large number of people losing around \$50 billion in total. A newspaper survey of the major losses showed that quite a number of people, who had many millions of dollars and pounds and wanted a safe, but profitable, haven for these funds had entrusted Mr. Madoff with the entire amount. A number have lost everything, apparently never having heard the maxim "spread your risks"! Or the bible verses which tell us not to trust people. There has, of course, to be a certain confidence otherwise nothing would ever get done, but to put a trust in others, which if abused or fails would have untoward consequences, then the bible warns us to be careful. It is only God in whom we can have absolute trust. Now the newspapers are reporting what is virtually an attack by China upon the United States. War can take a form which is not necessarily military. In this case we are seeing the opening shots of war, a financial war to begin with, but it may take a more catastrophic form in the not-too-distant future.

We have written before about the danger of China accumulating huge amounts of dollars. We have said how China was virtually financing a continuation in the U.S. of the good life. Now it is out in the open. The Herald Tribune reported that "the Chinese had piled up so much in excess savings that they lent money to the United States at low rates, underwriting American consumption."...."Today, the dependence of the United States on Chinese money looks less benign." Another comment was this: "China and the United States have been locked in a tight financial and trade embrace that seemed beneficial for both sides but has proved to be perilous." It resulted in bringing down American interest rates and fueled a ".... historic consumption binge and housing bubble." What is more it continues to do so. Once again, the clear word of God is ignored. One verse says "... the borrower is servant to the lender..." Do we think for a moment that China didn't know what it was doing? The Tribune said this: "Americans did not use the lower-cost money afforded by Chinese investment to build a 21st century equivalent of the railroads. Instead, the government engaged in a costly war in Iraq, and consumers used loose credit to buy sport utility vehicles and big houses. Banks and investors, eagerly seeking higher interest rates in this easy-money environment, created risky new securities ...!" "Nobody wanted to get off this drug." said Senator Lindsey Graham, Republican of South Carolina. Senator Graham wants to take it out on China by imposing heavy tariffs. One thing is certain and that is that China would not take that lying down.

Britain has chosen a slightly different route. Ignoring the fact that it was borrowing huge amounts of money with no realistic hope of paying it back that caused our problems in the first place, the British government has chosen to borrow stratospheric amounts of money to bail out banks, finance companies, industry, people. The reality is that when you

A Newsletter for the People of God March 5, 2022 --- Issue No. 57

borrow money you have to pay it back! How is the government to pay back the enormous sums it borrowed? It has no money of its own so the only way it can is by raising taxes. Raising taxes takes money from people. They are then unable to spend that money. A result is huge unemployment, bankrupt businesses, and a depression. At best it would take years to recover. Although there is a worldwide problem it would seem that two nations are at risk more than any others, and that is the United States and Great Britain. This indeed is the time of Jacob's trouble. A trouble we have brought upon ourselves through our own foolishness, our greed, and our rejection of God's laws. We may think that other nations are suffering the same problems as we are. This is not true! Just take a look at the exchange rates for the pound sterling. For the British currency. Against the European Euro the pound has crashed! Not very many weeks ago the pound was valued at EU1.54 it is now down to around 1.26! A drop in value of around 28% and it is continuing to slide. We could well see the collapse of the currency in the not-too-distant future.

A broadcast on BBC radio the other day brought together several pundits. People who purport to be experts in finances, domestic and international. They were asked various questions on the subject of the present distress and what was the way out for Britain. One of them said that Britain's only hope was to get back to manufacturing. To making things. Just how much out of touch with reality can a person be! We no longer want to get our hands dirty! We prefer sitting at desks, looking good, and pretend that we can make a national living offering financial services to the world. Those particular chickens have come home to roost! We haven't been very successful have we! The time has long gone when we made things. When things are made, real value is added and has a price. Many, if not most, of our significant companies are now owned by other nations. Most of our energy production is owned by France or Germany. Shipbuilding has gone. We can no longer build railway trains. We now have to buy them from France, Italy, or Japan. We first invented the Maglev train. The very first trials were conducted, as I recall, at Manchester University. Did we develop it, put it into production and build a first-class network nationwide which we sorely needed? No! We closed the experimental plant down. The Chinese now have a superb system connecting Shanghai with its airport. Further construction is planned.

Most of British industry has been sold to foreign nations. Industries, vital to our survival as a nation have been sold to other nations. We will have to go to France for new nuclear power stations. In any crisis other nations will put themselves, their citizens, and their industry first. When oil really hits a crisis do you think for a moment that any other nation will be concerned that Britain should have a fair supply? Natural gas supplies are more and more coming from Russia via Europe. The supply line ends in Britain. No prizes for guessing how much gas we will receive in an emergency. Why have these things happened? It comes right back to government. In Britain the most important thing for any political party which forms the government is to keep itself in office. Not to serve the people. The only way to achieve this aim is to virtually bribe what it perceives to be its supporters. Money is required to do this. So, government, and especially British governments, will sell off whatever they possibly can to supply money that the government can then use how it wants. It is the possession of that money, or the availability and use of it that gives power to individuals and organizations to control others. The present government at this moment wants to sell off the British postal system. A German company, DHL, is the favored purchaser. What the citizen wants is quite irrelevant.

The direction Britain is following at present is one that is going to end in complete disaster. It isn't just the currency, industry or the lack of it, it is also the very fabric of our society which is being targeted. The family structure has already been seriously undermined in a way which is totally against the law of God. The Pope upset many in Britain and America the other day when he pointed out that homosexuality would inevitably result in the end of mankind on earth. He was right. It would! It's presented today as an "alternative lifestyle" - and today is being pushed as hard as possible in our schools as such. No wonder so many today do not want to allow any religious teaching in our schools. In fact, it is a wonder that any teaching at all can be achieved in our schools. It was just reported that in Kent alone, a conservative area of England, 8,000 pupils were suspended from school in just the last year. However, the "alternative lifestyle" is against God's law. God created the family structure, and it is within that God-given relationship that children are to be born and brought up. The bible clearly says that God created mankind to be male and female for a reason. In the first chapter of the bible the reason is given. It was in order to replenish the earth and to then maintain it. He instructed mankind as male and female to be fruitful and multiply. Verse 24 tells us that in marriage between a man and a woman they become one flesh.

In any other relationship it is not possible to obey God. It is not possible for the purpose for Man on earth to be fulfilled. In chapter 2, verse 18 God says, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a help meet (meaning suitable) for him." He did not create two men or two women. Many years ago, my wife and I kept chickens. We reared some day old hens, or female chicks for eggs which they duly produced but not one egg hatched out! Why? Because

A Newsletter for the People of God March 5, 2022 --- Issue No. 57

they weren't fertilized by a cockerel, by a male bird. We did keep some cockerels. But not one egg was laid by them. Right throughout nature the male/female principle holds good. Yet within the professing Christian community there are even priests and ministers who hold they know better than the God they profess to serve and whose word they profess to teach. The apostle Paul in the epistle to the Galatians says: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap. For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that sows to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." To those who teach God's word he says in the epistle to the Romans they should be keeping that same word.

Many more Letters from London could be written and broadcast, if the time was there, so dangerous are the times into which we have now entered. Britain and America are going to learn that there is a God who is not to be mocked. A number of significant and dangerous situations have opened up in the world. The Middle East is going to erupt, and it will be the European Union which will step in. Tensions have arisen between Pakistan and India - both nuclear powers. A report from Washington says that "today, the dependence of the United States on Chinese money looks less benign." "China, some economists say, lulled American consumers, and their leaders, into complacency about their spendthrift ways." Be warned! We have entered into the last days.

Holy Days 2022

Passover – April 16, 2022 (Observed at Sunset the Evening Before)
Unleavened Bread – April 16-22, 2022
Pentecost – June 5, 2022
Trumpets - September 26, 2022
Atonement – October 5, 2022
Tabernacles – October 10-16, 2022
Last Great Day – October 17, 2022

Have a Really Great Sabbath!

Thank You!

We want to give a special thank you to all those who contribute to this newsletter, even if we do not agree with you.

Darwin & Laura Lee