

Does America Have a Sacred Heritage?

Dr. King Thought So!

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March 11, 2023 --- Issue No. 110

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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

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Articles

Does America Have a Sacred Heritage? Dr. King Thought So! (Copyright) by Eddie Hyatt (Grapevine, Texas)



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. believed there was something holy and sacred about America’s founding. He obviously considered the Jim Crow south, where he lived and worked, to be a sharp departure from America’s founding vision. Writing in 1963 from the Birmingham city jail, Dr. King declared,

Our destiny is tied up with the destiny of America . . . We will win our freedom because the SACRED HERITAGE of our nation and the eternal will of God are embodied in our echoing demands.

Frederick Douglass (1816-1895), the former slave and passionate abolitionist, came to the same conclusion 100 years before Dr. King. In his early years, Douglass felt he had no part in America; but after years of investigation and research he completely changed his thinking. In a July 4th speech in 1852, Douglass called the U.S. Constitution “a glorious liberty document,” and declared,

Fellow Citizens, I am not wanting in respect for the fathers of this republic. The signers of the Declaration of

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Independence were brave men. They were great men too—great enough to give fame to a great age. It does not often happen to a nation to raise, at one time, such a number of truly great men.

Like King, Douglass discovered that at a time when slavery was accepted and practiced in most of the world, America's founders took a bold stand against it. As the eminent Black scholar, Dr. Thomas Sowell, has said,

Slavery was just not an issue, not even among intellectuals, much less among political leaders, until the 18th century—and then it was an issue only in Western civilization. Among those who turned against slavery in the 18th century were George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry and other American leaders. You could research all of 18th century Africa or Asia or the Middle East without finding any comparable rejection of slavery there (Hyatt, *1726: The Year that Defined America*, 90).

History shows that it was a great Christian Awakening (1726-1770) in Colonial America that breached racial and cultural barriers and unleashed anti-slavery outrage throughout the Colonies. This Awakening resulted in virtually every Founding Father, even those who owned slaves, taking a public stand against it.

By the time of the writing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and the Constitution in 1787, virtually every Founder agreed with John Adams, America's 2nd president, who declared,

Every measure of prudence ought to be assumed for the eventual total extirpation of slavery from the United States. I have throughout my whole life held the practice of slavery in abhorrence (Hyatt, *Abolitionist Founding Fathers*, 36).

As a result, America's founders formulated founding documents that contain no classifications based on race or skin color. The words “slave” and “slavery” are nowhere to be found. Instead, the Constitution speaks of “citizens,” “persons,” and “other persons.”

Indeed, America's founding generation understood America's founding documents to be anti-slavery documents. Douglass came to this realization and wrote, “Anyone of these provisions in the hands of abolition statesmen, and backed by a right moral sentiment, would put an end to slavery in America” (Hyatt, *Abolitionist Founding Fathers*, 54-55).

Dr. King understood this original American dream of faith and freedom, which is why, in his iconic “I Have a Dream Speech,” he could say, “I still have a dream; it is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.” He then declared,

When the architects of our Republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the “unalienable Rights” of “Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

Dr. King made it clear that the problem the nation faced was not with her founding documents, but with the fact that succeeding generations had not lived up to the vision of equality and liberty the Founders had enshrined in those documents. He went on to say,

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.”

In my book, *1726: The Year that Defined America*, I have shown how the Great Awakening (1726-70) revitalized Christian faith throughout the colonies, ignited an anti-slavery movement, and had a direct bearing on the founding of the nation and the formulation of her colorblind, anti-slavery founding documents.

Dr. King obviously knew this, which is why he did not rail against America's Founders but sought to build on their legacy and the “Sacred Heritage” that they left. Let's pray that this current “woke” generation will learn from him and follow his example.

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Leaders who see the Glory of Jesus (Copyright 2022) by Zac Poonen (Bangalore, India)

The true church can be built only by those who, like Jesus, are willing to give up everything for it.

"Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her" (Eph.5:25). Everyone who wants to build the church today must pay the same price - the total sacrifice of one's self-life every day. There is no easier way to build the Body of Christ. We see this principle from the beginning of man's history.

"God was thereby showing that His house can be built only by people who have this spirit of total sacrifice. They alone will build the Bride of Christ – Jerusalem."

Cain brought just **"an offering"** to God - and God rejected it. Abel however brought **"the very best of his flock"** - and God accepted it (*Gen.4:3-5*). Cain symbolizes religious Christians who bring offerings to God that cost them very little or nothing. Abel, however, symbolizes spiritual believers who bring offerings to God that cost them everything.

When Abraham offered Isaac on the altar on Mount Moriah, at God's call, it was the costliest sacrifice that he could ever have offered. He was following in Abel's footsteps (*Gen.22*).

A thousand years later, David offered a sacrifice at the very same spot on Mount Moriah (at the threshing floor of Araunah) and said these words of total commitment, *"I will never offer to God that which costs me nothing" (2 Sam.24:24).*

God saw the costly sacrifices that Abraham and David had offered and told Solomon to build His temple at the exact spot where these two men had offered their costly sacrifices - the threshing floor of Araunah on Mount Moriah (See *2 Chron.3:1*).

God was thereby showing that His house can be built only by people who have this spirit of total sacrifice. They alone will build the Bride of Christ - Jerusalem (*Rev.21:2*). All other Christians will build Babylon the harlot (*Rev.17 and 18*).

Cain and Abel started these two streams - of religious people and spiritual people. These two streams were seen later in the false prophets and the true prophets in Israel's history; and in the Pharisees and Jesus; and will finally end in Babylon and Jerusalem (*Rev.17, 18 and 21*).

Many believers are eager to see visions of angels and of the physical Person of Jesus. Our passion, however, must be to see the glory of Jesus' life - in the way He lived on earth. This is the Example for us to follow.

Paul said: *"In my flesh dwells nothing good..... O wretched man that I am" (Rom.7:18, 24).* This is what gave him a burning passion to cleanse himself thoroughly. This revelation of the corruption of our flesh is what we need too. Only then will we seek to *"cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and perfect holiness in the fear of God" (2 Cor.7:1)*- and thus preserve the church in purity.

The pure doctrines we believe and preach can easily degenerate into a form of godliness, without the power, if we think of them merely as doctrines. They must be far more than mere doctrines to us. They must become revelation to us - a revelation that keeps increasing in our life. The more faithfully we face and fight against temptation in the different areas in our life, the more we shall receive the revelation of the Spirit on many areas of un-Christlikeness in our inner life - that we need to cleanse ourselves from.

Without such a continuing revelation, it will be impossible to build the church - the body of Christ. The 'holiness' that we acquire without this revelation of the corruption in our flesh, will only be like that of the Old Testament saints (at best) - the external righteousness of the Law. This may get us a reputation with our fellow-believers, but it will not be *"perfect in the sight of God" (Rev.3:1-2).*

If we are not 'seeing' Jesus as our Example in the moments of temptation, we must reckon that we are backsliders.

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Holy Day Articles

An Annual Confidence Trick? (Copyright 2011) by John Jewell (London, England)

It's been threatening everyone for a number of weeks, in fact ever since the school summer holidays ended and the monthly bank statements arrived and now, instead of the cry “what are we going to do this summer?” it becomes “what am I going to get for Christmas” or “what can we get for your mother, uncle, aunt, etc Are we going to have a tree again this year?

Then comes all the planning! Often encouraged by local councils putting up a large tree in the shopping area and intended to bring in as many as possible with its coloured lights and a local choir singing carols around it. The domestic planning is carried out mainly by wives and mothers, as they are inevitably the ones who carry the burden of providing the Christmas dinner and Christmas tea. They are the ones who hold the Christmas card list, buy the cards, and actually post the majority of them. The earlier cries of “I'll be glad when it's all over” or “I wish we didn't have to keep Christmas!” now change to “that's it for another 12 months”- then the nervous anticipation of the inevitable bank statement, or credit card account arriving and revealing some unpleasant truths.

Why do so many people in the western world keep Christmas! Gifts become more and more expensive and in the case of the young teenagers more and more electronically complex. In the end the reality is that the ones who benefit most from Christmas are the Chinese manufacturers who make almost all the toys, decorations, and gifts. Who else makes all the coloured lights hanging in the shopping precincts? Or packed in boxes in local shops for the domestic tree! The Chinese indeed certainly celebrate Christmas! One British author said of Christmas, that it had become a grotesque orgy of consumption. And nothing has changed.

You know, you don't have to keep Christmas! Everyone has been conned into believing it's a Christian holy day when it is no such thing. And in fact, has nothing to do with Jesus Christ in any way whatsoever! It has everything to do with pagan beliefs and practices. On Christmas Day and in the days leading up to it the usual Christmas carols will be sung, often by choirs in town centres, in church services, end of school terms or in a Christmas concert. The carols have catchy melodies and emotional words and are very effective in locking people into the practice of Christmas. But have you ever thought about those words. Most people can remember them and, as the saying goes, at the drop of a hat can render at least the first verse of Good King Wenceslas! How bad the night was when a poor man was out gathering scraps of wood in order to make a fire. Many can recall most of the words of the next two verses, but after that get completely lost.

Wenceslas was the king of Bohemia in the 10th century. He was a Catholic and was assassinated by his brother Boleslaw and supporters. He has been accorded a Saint's Day and is the Patron Saint of the Czech Republic. St. Stephen, mentioned in the first verse, is recognised by his feast day which is the 26th of December and so the song is sung as a Christmas carol. However, there are various reasons given for 25th December being chosen as Christmas Day. **It certainly is not the day that Jesus Christ was born.** It would appear that the decision to celebrate Christ's birthday on 25th December was made by Constantine, the Roman Emperor together with the Council of Nicea in 325 AD and declared to be on the same day the Persian Sun god Mithras was born.

However, the choice of 25th December would seem to go back to an event which took place some 300 years before the birth of Christ. This was the consecration of the ancient world's largest sun god statue, the Colossus of Rhodes. This stood some 100 feet high and weighed roughly 200 tons. The date was chosen because the winter solstice occurred at

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about sunrise on 25th December.

The facts, however, are, as usual to be found in the bible. In the gospel of Luke, chapter 2 It mentions how the Roman Emperor, Caesar Augustus decreed that the world should be taxed. It adds that this was when Cyrenius was governor of Syria. This then indicates that it was in early autumn just after the harvest. This would be the best time of the year for the taxing. The bible then says that all the citizens had to go back to the city they came from in order to be taxed. Joseph went with Mary his wife to the city he came from which was Bethlehem which was also known as the city of David. The bible says that Joseph was of the lineage of King David. It wouldn't have been long after they arrived that Mary entered into labour and gave birth to Jesus. At the same time in the area shepherds were camped out in a field looking after their flock of sheep overnight.

This is further evidence that the time of year was certainly not winter. Indeed, animals would not have been in the fields unless the weather was good and was settled. It was to those shepherds that the angels appeared to tell them of the birth of Christ and where he was. From the middle of October until the middle of March, the sheep would be kept inside stables or barns. There was otherwise too much rain and wind for the animals to be outside. There could even be frost and snow. A fact which is still true today.

Why do we keep birthdays? They are not that important, we had nothing to do with our own birth! We had no choice over the matter, no input as to our parents. We have achieved nothing at the time of our birth. We do, however, get it right when it comes to death. We will recognise the anniversary of the death of someone who has died. The bible puts it very well when it says in Ecclesiastes that the day of death is better than the day of one's birth. At the death of a person there is a personality which has developed over the years, there is a lifetime lived with its triumphs, its successes, achievements, and all too often some disasters, there is a real person who was loving and loved. Sometimes, however, a person would die prematurely and, of course, there will always be exceptions to the rule. The bible is speaking in general terms. It makes it clear that at the time of an individual's birth he or she has done nothing other than be born and they had no part in that.

This was true even of Jesus Christ although in his case he did have an existence before he was born as a human being. **A fact which is made abundantly clear in the New Testament and is, so it would appear, studiously ignored by almost everyone in theological circles today.** The gospel of John in your New Testament tells us clearly in the very first verses that Christ was the Word and that he was with God and that the work of creation was carried out by him. He was, to use a modern term, the executive arm of the Godhead. He it was who made it possible for mankind to have a future. In the first chapter of John, it clearly says that he was made flesh and dwelt among us. He lived the human experience and showed us that one can live according to God's word and law, can come to know the true God, can have a future life following death and resurrection.

Jesus Christ knew what it was to be a young boy, but additionally he knew of his life before being born as a human being. In the gospel of Luke in chapter 2 at the age of 12 he was in the company of the doctors of law, the religious law, and it says they were amazed at his understanding and his answers. Little did they know they were in the company of their creator! In the same passage he says to his mother, Mary, that he had to be about his Father's business. She kept these things to herself however, she knew he was different, that he was special. In chapter 1 of Luke, we can read how Mary was told what was going to happen and that of his kingdom there would be no end.

It would be a very unusual young boy today who could join in deep conversation with such people. Christ however, as a 12 year old, had wisdom and didn't pursue the issue until the time was right for the gospel to be preached. And for it to be made possible, by his death and the manner of his death, for human beings to enter into that spirit life which is part of the great reality of human life on earth. That we are here by way of a preparation for the future. We have been given a period of time for us to learn the basic lessons, lessons as to how incapable we human beings are of living the happy, positive, productive life without God. **How even our apparently highly intelligent, leaders know so little of the truth.**

The Daily Telegraph some years ago quoted the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams as he dismissed chapter 2 of the gospel of Matthew as legend! This writes of how three wise men had seen a particular star in the east and so became aware of the birth of one who was to be King of the Jews and would rule over Israel. He said "It works quite well as legend." He added "Christmas was when it was because it fitted well with the winter festival." That Christ was born nowhere near December is ignored. With such leadership and instruction, it is no wonder that today the western world

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gives lip service to God and Jesus Christ and ignores the great realities and the truth concerning who Jesus Christ really was, when he lived, what he said and what the future and purpose is for this world and for Mankind as a whole.

However, is there any harm in having a celebration in the middle of winter. It's cold and overcast and it's nice to have a celebration, whatever it is, to brighten things up a bit. **But we must realise that virtually everything surrounding the celebration of Christmas is of pagan origin.** Let me quote from the bible once again. Jeremiah chapter 10:2 "Thus says the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. For the customs of the people are vain: for one cuts a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe. They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not...." So who are we going to take notice of? An archbishop who understands little of true Christianity. And would not appear to know his bible Or do we want to conform to the rest of society? Or is it more important that we obey the true God, our Creator? You answer the question!

The Sign of Jonah

(Copyright 2023) by Darwin Lee (Bismarck, North Dakota)

What is the truth about the sign of Jonah being in the whale's belly that Jesus referenced to? He said He was going to be in the heart of the earth in the same span of time as Jonah was in the belly of the whale for three days and three nights.

Jon 1:17 Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Mt 12:40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so, shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

Controversy abounds of the phrase's meaning of "three days and three nights". Why would there even be some question of what is meant by the term? When someone tells me they are going to be out of town for three days and three nights, I understand what they just said. They are going to be out of town three days and three nights. One + one = two + one more = three days (day light time). One + one = two + one more = three (nighttime, dark time).

There, is that so hard? There are twenty-four hours in a day. Astronomical facts back that up. Some of those twenty-four hours are of sunlight hours and the rest of twenty-four hours are dark hours because the sun no longer shines at night. There, was that so hard?

That is, oh I don't know, maybe kindergarden-1st grade Education. There, controversy solved, Jesus was three days and three nights in the heart of the earth as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly. Simple, is it not? Well, not for many it seems there are those that haven't gotten their 1st grade "diploma".

Just check out the internet and see how many "Bible scholars", supposedly well-educated that can't seem to understand what three days and three nights mean. Perhaps they just skipped kindergarden-1st grade and went straight to 2nd grade having missed out on some basic knowledge thinking the term three days and three nights mean parts of days and parts of nights. Are you one of those scholars?

So, why the controversy? It all comes down to the "good Friday- Sunday morning so called resurrection.

One can't possibly fit three days Jesus being put in the tomb Friday before sunset (still part of a daylight span of hours) and calculate three full day light days and three full night times with a Sunday morning resurrection.

You are convinced that Good Friday is the day of Jesus's death, and He was resurrected on Sunday morning about sunup. Jesus had already risen so forget about there being three parts of a daylight hour or hours as well as there being three nights or even parts of nights. But none of that matters because you have a doctrine, and you must make your doctrine fit your narrative with scripture that clearly disproves your point. But no matter you will figure a way around that!

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So, lo and behold someone conjured up this doozy. The phrase three days and three nights must be an “idiom”.

idiom
(ˈɪdiəm)
n

(Linguistics) a group of words whose meaning cannot be predicted from the meanings of the constituent words, as for example (*It was raining*) *cats and dogs*. (from “free dictionary”-internet)

We know it never rains, literally cats and dogs. But you can literally know what three means, (if you know basic math). You can also know what day and night mean. So, when I tell you I’m going to be out of town for the next three days and three nights, you know what I mean. The last thing to come to your mind, “oh, he must mean parts of days and parts of nights”. Are you with me yet, or did I lose you after I graduated from a first grade Education?

Let’s get to “**the real heart of the matter**”. Did you spot the idiom? You know what a heart is but what is “matter”? It could almost mean anything, nothing concrete. But just like raining “cats and dogs” you know it is raining lots, so to, you know by the use of an idiom, you know I’m about to dispel the false doctrine of parts of days and parts of nights and if you are one to believe in “parts”, you won’t like what I have to say, if perhaps you already don’t like what I have said up to this point.

Let’s go back in time (figuratively). If you lived in the days of Jesus’s ministry, and you heard Him say, “For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale’s belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth”, would you have then concluded right then and there and say to yourself, “He must mean parts of days and parts of nights, as He was referring to the book of Jonah”?

The New Testament hadn’t been written yet, so His words were not yet in a book for you to read. All you had is what He just said and having read the book of Jonah yourself in Greek back then, you would know what He was referring to. Parts of three days and three nights would never have been in your pea-pick- in brain, and you know it. (That is, for those who believe this lie.)

Furthermore, if you read the book of Jonah right now, you would not conclude that the book of Jonah in the very wording of the text even implies parts of days and parts of nights. Just for one minute, forget there even is a New Testament with such a reference to the book of Jonah, you wouldn’t even consider that the text in Jonah 1:17 is meaning parts of days-nights, and you know it!

But wait, there’s more, back to the time of God’s flood (not Noah’s-it is a misnomer), Noah didn’t flood anything). **Ge 7:7** “And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons’ wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood. **Ge 7:4** For yet seven days, **and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights;** and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.” **Ge 7:12** “And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights”. Look here now, who in their right mind would think, this must be an idiom, “God must have meant “parts” of forty days and “parts” of forty nights? Oh, so you don’t believe it could possibly have rained twenty four day-night hours straight for a full forty days. Doesn’t almost any reader just except the plain wording that God meant just what He said. Forty days is forty days no more no less and that forty nights is just that forty nights no more no less? So why not take God (Jesus) at His word when it comes to what He says about Jonah being in the whales belly (the same wording as in the “flood”) for three days and three nights? You tell me, why not? I will say it one more time for those who have not “ears to hear and eyes to see”, the phrase three days and three nights as also forty days and forty nights are quite specific. No need to guess something other, except of course you have an agenda of a false doctrine to fit your web of lies and make it look like you and others that you teach, look sound. The problem though, there is no soundness in illogical reasoning!

One more thing, if I said it rained cats and dogs for three days and three nights, would you be looking for cats and dogs on the ground and conclude since there weren’t really to many cats and dogs all over the ground, it must have only rained parts of three days and parts of three nights?

If Jesus really meant parts of days and nights, He would have said just that. It seems that people will fall for almost any

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lie rather than believe the simple truth. **2Th 2:11** And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie. **2Co 11:3** But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should **be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ**". Yes, simple, three as also forty is just that. If I give you three apples, do you conclude I only gave you parts of three apples, one being only a quarter of an apple, one being only half of an apple and one being only three quarters of an apple? Or are you ok with looking at the apples and seeing that all three are indeed whole apples?

Conclusion, a Friday crucifixion, and Easter Sunday morning resurrection is not Biblical by the very words of Jesus. So, all who teach this lie, now is the time to stop lying!

Questionable Article

Tell us why you believe this is a true or false doctrine and why?

Learn to Give an Answer!

The Number 40

(Copyright 2022) by Gary Miller (Pocahontas, Arkansas)

The 50 years from 1977-78 to 2027-28...CHECKMATE JUBILEE?



1977-78 to 2027-28 is the **40th Jubilee** since Yahshua began preaching the Gospel in the Jubilee year of 27-28 A.D. (Lk. 4:19; Isa. 61:1-2)

That Gospel is still preached: the Jubilee year: 2027-2028.
Notice next how three tests occur over periods of "40".

NUMBER 40 SIGNIFICANCE: A Period of TRIAL, PROBATION, CHASTISEMENT EXAMPLES:

TRIAL:

Ark of the covenant taken by Philistines, removing Israel's glory in the 40th year of Eli's judging Israel. (1 Sam.4:10-11,18,21)

Yahshua tempted 40 days by Satan while fasting (Matt. 4:2)

Moses fasted 40 days and 40 nights twice. First to receive the Law (Ex. 24:18), then for Israel's sin. (Deut. 9:18,25)

PROBATION:

Moses lived in Egypt 40 years (Acts 7:23)

Moses escaped to Midian for 40 years (Acts 7:30)

Jonah warned Nineveh 40 days (Jon. 3:4)

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Yahshua testified for 40 days after His resurrection (Acts 1:3)

CHASTISEMENT:

Rained 40 days and 40 nights covering the highest mountains, destroying all living things outside the Ark (Gen. 7:12,20)

Israel was subjected to the Philistines 40 years (Judg. 13:1)

Israel wandered in the wilderness 40 years for complaining (Deut. 8::2-5; Psa. 106:24-26; Acts 13:18)

October 27, 2020 to October 27, 2028: FINAL EIGHT YEARS OF THE AGE?

NOAH: Gave a final 7-day Warning (Gen. 7:4)

"But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For...before the flood they were eating...drinking...marrying, giving in marriage...until the day Noe entered...the ark...And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." (Matt. 24:37-39)

LOT:

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed." (Lk. 17:28-30)

CARES OF THIS LIFE CHOKE THE WORD:

"And the seed which fell among the thorns, these are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked with worries and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to maturity." (Lk. 8:14)

"...because you are lukewarm...neither hot nor cold, I will spue you out of My mouth, because you say, "I am rich, and increased with goods and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing...be zealous therefore, and repent." (Rev. 3:15-17)

"Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivers from death." (Prv. 11:4)

JUDGMENT:

"For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of Yahweh: and If it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of Yahweh? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and sinner appear?" (1 Pet. 4:17-18)

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Letters

Letter from T. Alex Tennent (February 25, 2023)

Hi Laura!

Thank you for publishing the chapter on **Between the Evenings!** I hope your readers like it too!

I enjoy reading through your newsletter and seeing the different points raised.

Lord bless you!

Alex

Hi Alex, this letter made my day. Thank you so much. Laura

Iron Sharpening Iron

(Agree or Disagree with Something Printed)
New American Standard Bible (Proverbs 27:17)
As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

In regard to: The Number 40

Article by Gary Miller
Comments by Laura Lee (Bismarck, North Dakota)

Gary Miller's Article:

The 50 years from 1977-78 to 2027-28...CHECKMATE JUBILEE?

FINAL JUBILEE PERIOD OF THE AGE?

1977-78 to 2027-28 is the **40th Jubilee** since Yahshua began preaching the Gospel in the Jubilee year of 27-28 A.D. (Lk. 4:19; Isa. 61:1-2)

Laura writes:

Luk 4:19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Isa 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are* bound; Isa 61:2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

There is nothing in those three verses that talks about a 40th Jubilee or the date of the 40th Jubilee.

Gary Miller's Article:

That Gospel is still preached: the Jubilee year: 2027-2028.

Notice next how three tests occur over periods of "40".

NUMBER 40 SIGNIFICANCE: A Period of TRIAL, PROBATION, CHASTISEMENT EXAMPLES:

TRIAL:

Ark of the covenant taken by Philistines, removing Israel's glory in the 40th year of Eli's judging Israel. (1 Sam.4:10-11,18,21)

Laura writes:

1Sa 4:10 And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every man into his tent: and there was a very great slaughter; for there fell of Israel thirty thousand footmen. 1Sa 4:11 And the ark of God was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain.

1Sa 4:18 And it came to pass, when he made mention of the ark of God, that he fell from off the seat backward by the side of the gate, and his neck brake, and he died: for he was an old man, and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.

1Sa 4:21 And she named the child Ichabod, saying, The glory is departed from Israel: because the ark of God was taken, and because of her father in law and her husband.

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The Philistines took the ark and Eli judged for 40 years.

Gary Miller’s Article:

Yahshua tempted 40 days by Satan while fasting (Matt. 4:2)

Laura writes:

[Mat 4:2](#) And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.

Mat 4:2 says nothing about Satan. You should have also used:

[Mat 4:1](#) Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

Gary Miller’s Article:

Moses fasted 40 days and 40 nights twice. First to receive the Law (Ex. 24:18), then for Israel’s sin. (Deut. 9:18,25)

Laura writes:

[Exo 24:18](#) and Moses goeth into the midst of the cloud, and goeth up unto the mount, and Moses is on the mount forty days and forty nights.

[Deu 9:18](#) and I throw myself before Jehovah, as at first, forty days and forty nights; bread I have not eaten, and water I have not drunk, because of all your sins which ye have sinned, by doing the evil thing in the eyes of Jehovah, to make Him angry.

[Deu 9:25](#) ‘And I throw myself before Jehovah, the forty days and the forty nights, as I had thrown myself, for Jehovah hath said—to destroy you;

I am not sure why you used the above three verses to prove that Moses fasted for forty days and forty nights twice. It is more easily proven with just these two verses below: Exo 24:18 and Deu. 9:25 do not really prove your point of fasting twice for forty days and forty nights.

[Deu 9:9](#) ‘In my going up into the mount to receive the tables of stone (tables of the covenant which Jehovah hath made with you), and I abide in the mount forty days and forty nights; bread I have not eaten, and water I have not drunk;

[Deu 9:18](#) and I throw myself before Jehovah, **as at first**, forty days and forty nights; bread I have not eaten, and water I have not drunk, because of all your sins which ye have sinned, by doing the evil thing in the eyes of Jehovah, to make Him angry.

In Deu. 9:9 it is talking about the first time Moses went up to receive the commandments. When he came down the first time, they had made a molten calf to worship (which was sin). And Moses broke the stones in anger. Deu. 9:18 is talking about the second forty days and forty nights and fasting for their sins (the molten calf especially).

Gary Miller’s Article:

PROBATION:

Moses lived in Egypt 40 years (Acts 7:23)

Laura writes:

[Act 7:23](#) And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel.

This verse does not say he was in Egypt for forty years, it does not even mention Egypt.

Gary Miller’s Article:

Moses escaped to Midian for 40 years (Acts 7:30)

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Laura writes:

[Act 7:30](#) And when forty years were expired, there appeared to him in the wilderness of mount Sina an angel of the Lord in a flame of fire in a bush.

This verse does not mention Midian at all. To make the point that Moses was in Midian for 40 years the author should have said Acts 7:29-30 instead of just Acts 7:30 which does not mention Midian at all.

[Act 7:29](#) 'And Moses fled at this word, and became a sojourner in the land of Midian, where he begat two sons,
[Act 7:30](#) and forty years having been fulfilled, there appeared to him in the wilderness of mount Sinai a messenger of the Lord, in a flame of fire of a bush, (Young's Literal Translation)

Gary Miller's Article:

Jonah warned Nineveh 40 days (Jon. 3:4)

Laura writes:

[Jon 3:4](#) And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.

This verse does not say that Jonah warned anyone for forty days. It says that Jonah began to enter into the city, a day's journey and he immediately told them that in forty days Nineveh would be overthrown. There is a difference between warning someone of something for forty days and telling someone they will be overthrown in forty days.

Gary Miller's Article:

Yahshua testified for 40 days after His resurrection (Acts 1:3)

Laura writes:

[Act 1:3](#) To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

This one pretty much says what you claim it says here.

Gary Miller's Article:

CHASTISEMENT:

Rained 40 days and 40 nights covering the highest mountains, destroying all living things outside the Ark (Gen. 7:12,20)

Laura writes:

[Gen 7:12](#) And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

[Gen 7:20](#) Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.

This one also pretty much says what you claim it says.

Gary Miller's Article:

Israel was subjected to the Philistines 40 years (Judg. 13:1)

Laura writes:

[Jdg 13:1](#) And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines forty years.

This one says what you claim it says.

Gary Miller's Article:

Israel wandered in the wilderness 40 years for complaining (Deut. 8::2-5; Psa. 106:24-26; Acts 13:18)

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Laura writes:

Deu 8:2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, *and* to prove thee, to know what *was* in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. **Deu 8:3** And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every *word* that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live. **Deu 8:4** Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years. **Deu 8:5** Thou shalt also consider in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, *so* the LORD thy God chasteneth thee.

Psa 106:24 Yea, they despised the pleasant land, they believed not his word: **Psa 106:25** But murmured in their tents, *and* hearkened not unto the voice of the LORD. **Psa 106:26** Therefore he lifted up his hand against them, to overthrow them in the wilderness:

Act 13:18 And about the time of forty years suffered he their manners in the wilderness.

Act 13:18 adds to your point but you probably would not have needed it as the other verses here prove your point.

Gary Miller's Article:

October 27, 2020 to October 27, 2028: FINAL EIGHT YEARS OF THE AGE?

NOAH: Gave a final 7-day Warning (Gen. 7:4)

“But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For...before the flood they were eating...drinking...marrying, giving in marriage...until the day Noe entered...the ark...And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.” (Matt. 24:37-39)

Laura writes:

Gen 7:4 For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

Mat 24:37 But as the days of Noe *were*, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. **Mat 24:38** For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, **Mat 24:39** **And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.**

There was no seven day warning given. In Gen 7:4 in context God is telling Noah what is about to happen. Noah already knew a flood was coming as he built the ark. There was no warning given to anyone else in regard to the flood. See Mat. 24:39. No one knew until the flood came and took them all away.

Just like when Christ returns, no one knows the day or the hour. You have only a blanket warning that Christ will be returning to earth, but no one knows when and many no longer believe that Christ will return. If they had any kind of a warning in regard to the flood, it would have been a blanket warning and it is obvious they had no idea when the flood was coming or that they knew or believed that it would actually happen.

Gary Miller's Article:

LOT:

“Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.” (Lk. 17:28-30)

Laura writes:

Luk 17:28 Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; **Luk 17:29** But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed *them* all. **Luk 17:30** Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

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No one was warned ahead of time in Sodom and the angel was even having a hard time getting Lot and his family out of Sodom in time.

Gary Miller's Article:

CARES OF THIS LIFE CHOKE THE WORD:

"And the seed which fell among the thorns, these are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked with worries and riches and pleasures of this life and bring no fruit to maturity." (Lk. 8:14)

"...because you are lukewarm...neither hot nor cold, I will spue you out of My mouth, because you say, "I am rich, and increased with goods and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing...be zealous therefore, and repent." (Rev. 3:15-17)

"Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivers from death." (Prv. 11:4)

JUDGMENT:

"For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of Yahweh: and If it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of Yahweh? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and sinner appear?" (I Pet. 4:17-18)

Laura writes:

The last four scriptures Gary gives seem to be just random scriptures, so I won't comment on those.

What I want to say here is I find that when people actually show the scripture they are referring to in an article, then the article is most of the time more accurate. Generally, but not always when you just reference the scripture and people have to look it up the author is trying to hide something in order to make a point that they have no scripture for. This article is a mix of both.

Some of the scriptures the author gives here are accurate in that they do say what the author is saying. But other scriptures do not say what the author wants people to believe they say.

There were scriptures at the beginning of this article which did not match the point the author was trying to make, which is the reason I went over the whole article. I hope this in some way helps both Gary and those reading this article.

The author omits scripture that would have backed up what he said, and he says things which are not in the scriptures he quotes, things which may or may not be found any place else in scripture. These things can be misleading to anyone looking at this article.

As far as the Jubilee is concerned, the author acts as though he knows when the Jubilee is and even gives scripture which does not prove anything he said in regard to the Jubilee. If you want to learn more about the Jubilee, go here:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jubilee_\(biblical\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jubilee_(biblical))

Laura is using the King James Version unless otherwise stated.

Announcements

Announcement from William P. Goff (February 25, 2023)

Kenya Update

Greetings Brethren and Happy Sabbath.

February 25, 2023, Kenya update is now posted at:

khofh.org

Thank You

Bill Goff

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Announcement from Rich Traver (February 25, 2023)

Astounding Depth of Corruption

Check this out. The future of our nation is at stake. If they'll sell out to local politicians, what would stop them from selling out to the Globalists?

<https://twitter.com/shadygrooove/status/1629003175511605249>

Announcement from James Steinle (February 27, 2023)

STATE OF FOOD - CALIFORNIA

Something to be aware of. Stay close to the One above.

REAL WORLD REALITY CHECK ON EXPLODING LOSS OF VEGETABLES, NUTS AND PRODUCE FROM THE WEST COAST, SQ ALL THE FAULT OF GEO-ENGINEERING AND WEATHER WARS -WEAPONIZED FAMINE EXPLODING BEFORE OUR EYES

Church Bookstore

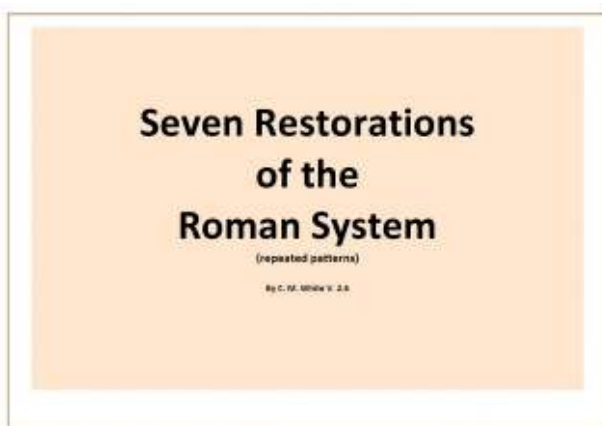
We have not read these books, and so do not know what is in them.

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5. If you are selling the book or booklet we need a link to the page where people can buy the book or booklet.
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Seven Restorations of the Roman System

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What will the future Beast system be like? Does history hold any clues? The author contends that there are repeated patterns for the revival of the Roman system over the centuries – the trajectory indicates that the

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coming US of Europe will be more fascist than Woke or neo-Marxist. (7 pages)

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The Doctrinal Heritage of the Church of God in the Nineteenth Century

(Copyright) by Craig White (Australia)

**The Doctrinal Heritage
of the Church of God**

**in the
Nineteenth Century**

(How God works in mysterious ways)

This work, based on the work of the author and others, and the work of the work, should not be used for any other purpose than the advancement of the work.

By Craig M White,
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This writer has had a long-term interest in the history of the Church of God and Sabbatarian movement. Of particular interest has been the period around 1820-1880; the supposed 'missing link' in Sabbatarian history; how the doctrines of the Church were assembled; how they were sourced; and the mysterious ways God works to bring this about.

When I was still investigating the Truth in the mid-1970s, I did notice some similarities between the Churches of God to other groups such as the Jehovah Witnesses, Seventh-day Adventists, Second Adventists, British-Israelites etc. Further investigation proved enlightening. As time progressed, I began to find out the doctrines and influences of men such as George Storrs and George Stetson which I found fascinating, and they will be discussed in this article. Storrs, for me, stood out as one whose teachings should be further investigated.

Though not Sabbatarians, these and others were connected with or influenced by a grouping known as the Christian Connexion or Christian Church. But where did that Church discover some of its doctrines outside of their own sphere? This article seeks to explore these connections. It was certainly no shame to them to seek and find truth from various sources, to cleanse it and absorb such into their doctrinal superstructure. This took time, effort and humility. Herbert W Armstrong operated in a similar sifting fashion. For God works in mysterious ways and all we have to do is accept the means doctrinal discovery may be facilitated via the instruments He chooses to use (I am sure we will find out more about how and why at the resurrection!). Finally, this research demonstrates that the Church of God's long-held position that it was only in America that the Work could go out

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in power due to its economic might, technology, media output and religious freedoms, has been proven correct by the means of religious freedom and thus doctrinal advancement. (76 Pages)

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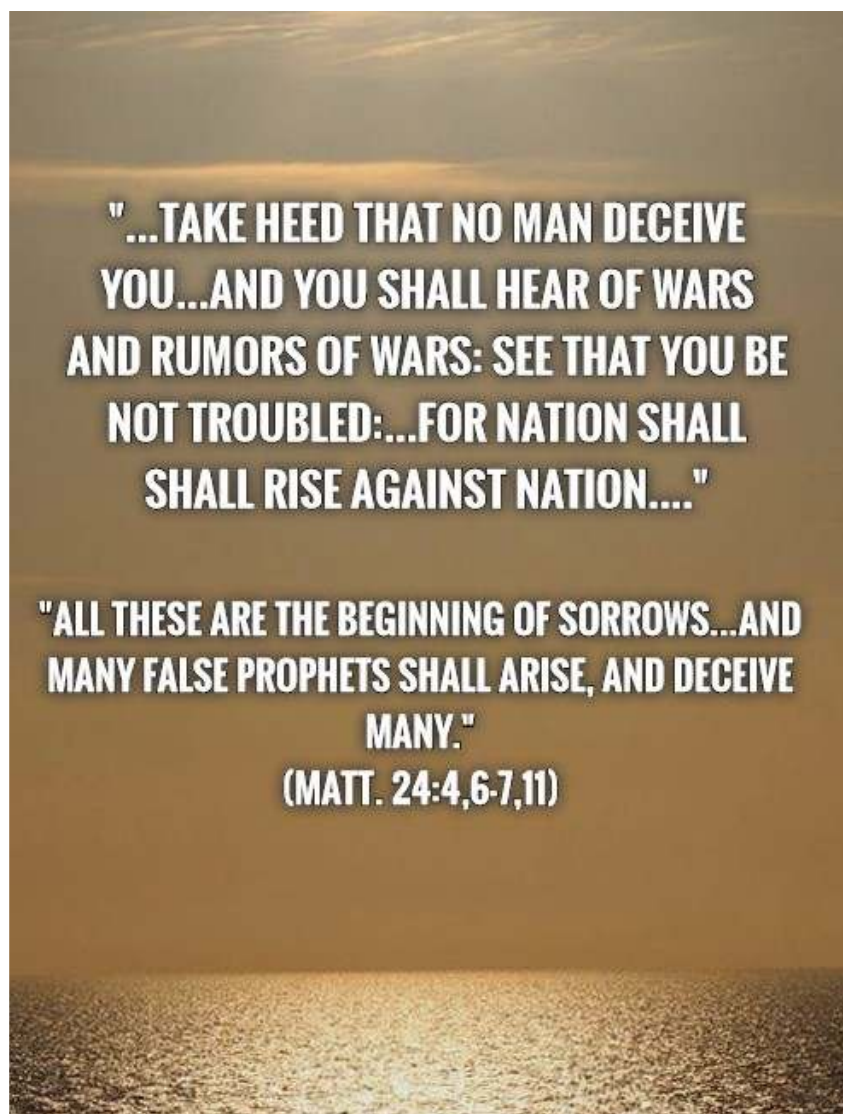
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Other Items

(Poems, Jokes, Questions etc.)

Nation Against Nation

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Holy Days 2023

Passover – April 6, 2023 (Observed at Sunset the Evening Before)

Passover/Unleavened Bread – April 6-12, 2023

Pentecost – May 26, 2023

Trumpets - September 16, 2023

Atonement – September 25, 2023

Tabernacles –September 30, 2023 to October 6, 2023

Last Great Day – October 7, 2023

Notes

Notes