

Consider the Ant

by Doyle Carter (Tulsa, Oklahoma)

While I was at work one day, I started mediating on **Proverbs 6:6-8** which asks the sluggard or lazy person to ponder on the ways of the ant. When I got home, I researched the topic of ants from the internet and a few books from my personal library. There are many interesting facts about our little friend the ant which I would like to share with you in relation to this scripture.

In **Proverbs 6:6-8**, it states, "Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provides her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest." *(Continued on page 6)*

The "Serpent Seed" Heresy

by Robert W. Hoops (Healdsburg, California) & Steven M. Collins (Sioux Falls, South Dakota)

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It has recently come to the attention of the authors that there is a belief generally called "the serpent seed" doctrine which is being promulgated by various groups around the country, and which has even taken root among individuals who were assumed to be staunch, well-grounded members of God's Church. Perhaps this doctrine is attractive to some since it offers *(Continued on page 6)*

Ancient Power Network

by Jonathan Gray (New Zealand)

It was a shocking, devastating event, the Great Deluge. And it explains many mysteries that puzzle today's scientists.

Will you imagine the scene as the disaster was ending. I invite you to step back with me for a few minutes...

SHOCKING NEW WORLD

A chill blast whipped under her coat, as Rebecca stepped out.

It was a horrendous shock: the mud, the utter desolation, the floating bodies. But worse, an awful silence, the silence of universal death. *(Continued on page 8)*

Study of old 'Law' Proves good still Today

by Wayne Schatzle (Hamilton, Ohio)

The discussion has raged for millennia now on the application of God's law in the lives of believers. Most professed followers of Jesus as the Messiah seem to hold the view that the law is in force for Jewish people but "done away" for those Gentiles who accept Christ.

Nearly all scriptures used to prove the non-binding of the law comes from Paul's letters, and it should be understood that the Apostle Paul was battling Jewish *(Continued on page 10)*

Church Groups

by Michael R. Zaeske (Kalamazoo, Michigan)

When I first saw this question: **What is the difference between the following groups: Church of God Groups, Sacred Names Groups, Messianic Jewish Groups, and Hebrew Roots Groups?**, posted, I immediately thought, that's a pretty simple one to answer, at least for someone who has a background of being a Sabbath Keeping Believer as I am. But then, the question kept reappearing in my e-mail, so I thought, well, I'll see if maybe I can't answer it. It should be pretty straight-forward and simple. As it turns out, that was hardly the case.

Additionally, it was my original *(Continued on page 13)*

Joseph isn't Jewish!

by David Ben-Ariel (Toledo, Ohio)

My sojourn at *Kibbutz Ramat Yohanan*, where I served as a **kibbutz** volunteer for five months in 1982-1983, blessed me with memories to cherish a lifetime. One of those experiences occurred immediately after our volunteers' trip to the Golan Heights. While we were there, near the former Syrian bunker overlooking the Sea of Galilee, I spotted an eagle in the sky with a snake in its talons and pointed it out for all to stand in awe and ooh and aaah! I love God's good creation.

While having breakfast with around 10 other people, all **kibbutzniks** except for one volunteer *(Continued on page 14)*

Proselytism Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow (Part Two)

by Charles Whitaker (Bolivar, Missouri)

Last time, we explored the definition of *proselytism*. We also reviewed the theory and practice of proselytism during the Old and New Testament periods. We concluded by turning our attention to the modern era, noting that reasonable proselytism is protected by international law, as it has developed over the past half-century or so. In Part Two, we will look at the actual *practice* of proselytism (or evangelism) in today's world.

Maybe the old adage is true after all: *(Continued on page 11)*

People of the Passover

From Best to Worst

by Norman S. Edwards (Port Austin, Michigan)

(Continued from Issue #50)

10. Satanic Leaders Who Carefully Craft Plans to Destroy Good to Further Their Evil

The title of this section, may sound extreme, but it is utterly true. This writer believes it is worth the time to explain it in detail. The conflict between Jesus and those who put Him to death is not a conflict of "Christian vs. Jew", "New vs. Old Testament" or even "grace vs. law". Nicodemus and Paul were *(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.

Utica, Illinois Feast of Tabernacles (04-21-09)
by Jeff Ledy (Laingsburg, Michigan)

Dear Fellow Feastgoer,

I am writing on behalf of all those involved in putting together last year's Feast of Tabernacles in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Finally the wait is over! God has provided a place for us to worship together this fall for the Feast of Tabernacles 2009.

Ever since last year's Feast, we have been praying for two questions. Does God want us to sponsor another Feast? If so, where? He has answered both prayers through the continual requests for another Feast just like last year. We did not find them; they called us out of the blue and asked if we were the group looking for a spot for their church observance! Needless to say, many other things have transpired to show God has been directly involved in establishing this location for us as one of the places He has placed His name.

We have entered into an agreement with **Grizzly Jack's Grand Bear Resort and Conference Center** in Utica, Illinois. It is a four year old resort with exceptional lodging and meeting facilities. It is located a few miles south of Exit 81 off of Interstate 80 in Utica, Illinois. It is about an hour and a half southwest from downtown Chicago. It is near major airports (O'Hare & Midway), off a major Highway (I-80), within just a few miles of three Illinois State parks, and is a terrific self contained resort community in a rural setting. Please click on our website www.feast2009.org to research it further and look at the pictures from our site evaluation trip in late March.

We have been able to get very good prices for accommodations especially considering that it is the busy time of year for them. We have 1800 square foot condo style Villas that sleep 6-9 people with the base rate for 6 people being \$149.00 per night plus 11% Illinois tax. This works out to \$165.39 per night. However we have been financially blessed to be able to discount your room price by \$40.00 per night. These villas will only cost you \$125.39 per night. That is \$14.00 per night less than last year's equivalent rooms and they are newer, larger, and nicer.

While we have a large number of 1800 square foot villas we have also been able to reserve very nice king and double queen rooms in the main lodge (where all services will be held) for a rate of \$104.00 per night plus 11% Illinois tax. This comes out to be \$115.44 per night. We are also able to discount these rooms by \$40.00 per night to bring your discounted rate down **(Continued on page 14)**

The Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God

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("People of the..." continued from page 1)

good Pharisees, nearly all the disciples were Jews and the Bible says "the law is holy" (Rom 7:12). The conflict is Jesus vs. Satan and his agents.

If one studies the titles used for those who oppose Jesus in the scriptures, there is a great diversity: Pharisees, Sadducees, scribes, chief priests, lawyers, doctors of the law, Herodians, counsel members, etc. Not every person in each one of these groups was bad. But there were many Satan-inspired persons in every group, and they were effective in convincing the whole group that it was in their interests to fight against Jesus.

The Battle Is Against Satan.

Paul told us not to be ignorant of Satan's devices (2 Cor 2:11), but too many believers are. Jesus spent a lot of time explaining the magnitude of the evil of those who killed Him. We need to grasp it so we can understand the magnitude of the evil of our day.

While most Bible translations do not contain the words "Satanists" or "devil-worshippers", the Bible does say that some people actually worship Satan and/or his demons (Deut 32:17; Lev 17:7; Pslm 106:37; 1Co 10:20; 1Ti 4:1; Rev 9:20). While their worship nearly always does include idols, torture, human sacrifices, and other creepy weird stuff, these things are often done in secret (Deut 13; 6-9; 27:15; Ezk 8:7-12, Eph 5:11-12). It is common for Satanists to massively lie, pretend to be true worshippers of God, and to infiltrate true churches and their ministries. They are in churches and governments all around us.

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to **deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons** (1Tim 4:1).

2 Cor 11:13 For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, **transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.** ¹⁴ And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. ¹⁵ Therefore **it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness**, whose end will be according to their works.

"I [Christ] know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have **found them liars**;...I know the blasphemy of those who **say they are Jews and are not**, but *are* a **synagogue of Satan** (Rev 2:2,9).

"Indeed I will make *those* of the **synagogue of Satan**, who say they are Jews and are not, **but lie**..." (Rev 3:9).

In Matthew 13, Jesus gives two parables to explain the way that people will react to His word. The first parable is about a sower who sows seed 1) by the wayside, 2) on stony places, 3) among thorns and 4) on good ground (Matt 13:3-9). Jesus explains that these symbolize people: 1) who do not understand the word, 2) who do not endure persecution, 3) who are distracted by the deceitfulness of riches, and 4) who bear good fruit (Matt 13:18-23). The second parable is about tares that the enemy sows among the master's wheat, and the master decides to let both grow together (Matt 13:24-30). Jesus' explanation is this: "The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the **sons of the wicked one. The enemy who sowed them is the devil**, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. (Matt 13:38-39)

The first parable contains three categories of people who may be called Christians, but who do not bear fruit. In the second parable, the tares are those that are deliberately set in the church by Satan. From an agricultural perspective, tares look like wheat as they are growing—it is only when it is time to bear fruit that they are exposed. We should expect men and women sown by Satan to be among both the leaders of Jesus age and in our age today.

Leaders Who Killed Jesus Were Satanic.

When Jesus was addressing a group of Jewish leaders who wanted to kill Him, four times He referred to "your father" and explained that it was the devil. Some religious teachers claim that these Jewish leaders were somehow physically descended from the devil marrying a human woman, but that is not the case. Christ starts by acknowledging that these leaders are **physical** descendants of Abraham, but then goes into a **spiritual** discussion where He refutes their claims that Abraham and ultimately God was spiritually their father. Christ shows that God was His Father because He did His works, and that Satan was their father because they did Satan's works. Christ goes on to say that Satan is the father of lies—obviously a spiritual thing. (Satan does not father physical "little baby lies" and raise them to be "told" somewhere.)

I [Christ] know **you are Abraham's descendants**. Yet **you are ready to kill me**, because you have no room for my word. ³⁸ I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with **your father.**" ³⁹ They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. ⁴⁰ "But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did

not do this. ⁴¹ "You do the deeds of **your father.**" Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father—God." ⁴² Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. ⁴³ "Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. ⁴⁴ "**You are of your father the devil**, and the desires of **your father** you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and *does not* stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for **he is a liar and the father of it.** ⁴⁵ "But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. ⁴⁶ "Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? ⁴⁷ "He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God" (John 8:38-47).

How did these Satanist leaders respond to this surge of truth about themselves and Jesus? In the same way that Satanists would respond today: with more lies, discrediting Jesus and accusing Him of demonism, the very thing that they were doing: Then the Jews answered and said to Him, "Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?" (John 8:48).

These evil leaders frequently accused Jesus of the demonic evils that they practiced: Now when the Pharisees heard *it* they said, "This *fellow* does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons."... "And if I [Christ] cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast *them* out? Therefore they shall be your judges (Matt 12:24, 27).

Satanic Leaders Wore a Mask of Righteousness

With both the Pharisees and Jesus each calling the other demonic, how could the common people know who to listen to? Should they heed a young man who does miracles and seems to love everybody, or the older leaders who have been accepted for years? The Pharisees made quite an effort to appear righteous to the common people—just like our leaders do today:

Then the Lord said to him, "Now you Pharisees make the outside of the cup and dish clean, but your inward part is full of greed and wickedness (Luke 11:39).

And He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God (Luke 16:15).

"The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector"

(Luke 18:11).

"But all their works they do to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments" (Matt 23:5).

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead *men's* bones and all uncleanness.²⁸ Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness" (Matt 23:25-28).

Nevertheless, these evil leaders had the people so convinced of their own righteousness, that they used themselves as the standard of whether or not an individual should believe Jesus: Then the Pharisees answered them, "Are you also deceived? **Have any of the rulers or the Pharisees believed in Him?** But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed" (John 7:47-49).

Things have changed little since that day. Today, both state and church leaders frequently portray themselves as the wise ones whose opinions we should seek after. Indeed, most lawyers (which include nearly all judges and politicians) consider themselves the knowing elite and consider the masses, who do not know how to represent themselves at law, accursed.

Satanic Leaders Plotted to Make Christ Look Bad

These evil leaders went way beyond the normal human desire to be thought well of by everyone. They made a massive effort to invent schemes and lies to try to continue to make themselves look good and Jesus look bad in the eyes of the people. Note the following passages and maybe try to imagine modern day political leaders discussing how they will treat a righteous Christian leader.

Then they [the leaders] reviled him [the man born blind] and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples."²⁹ "We know that God spoke to Moses; **as for this fellow [Jesus], we do not know where He is from.**"³⁰ The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes!"³¹ Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him.³² Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind.³³ If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing."³⁴ They answered and said to him, "You were

completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out (John 9:28-34).

Now when He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people confronted Him as He was teaching, and said, "By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?"²⁴ But Jesus answered and said to them, "I also will ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I likewise will tell you by what authority I do these things:²⁵ "The baptism of John—where was it from? From heaven or from men?" And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?'"²⁶ "But if we say, 'From men,' we fear the multitude, for all count John as a prophet."²⁷ So they answered Jesus and said, "**We do not know.**" And He said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things (Matt 21:23-27).

Then the Pharisees went and **plotted how they might entangle Him** in His talk. And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, ... (Matt 22:15-16).

The Pharisees sent their disciples, who were for Jewish independence and against Roman Taxation with Herodians, who accepted Roman occupation and taxation. They figured that no matter what Jesus said, one of the parties would be highly offended by it. This was like sending **Democrats** and **Republicans**—or even patriots and revolutionaries—to work together. But that is not a problem for them—there were certainly Satanists in both organizations who were all too willing to work together against God. And so today, the true conflicts are often not between major political parties or church groups, but between good and evil people scattered throughout the various groups. We continue the account of this joint effort to trap Jesus in Luke's Gospel. Notice how they flatter Jesus in an effort to appear righteous:

Keeping a close watch on him [Jesus], they **sent spies, who pretended to be honest. They hoped to catch Jesus in something** he said so that they might hand him over to the power and authority of the governor.²¹ So the spies questioned him: "**Teacher, we know that you speak and teach what is right, and that you do not show partiality but teach the way of God in accordance with the truth.**"²² Is it right for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"²³ He saw through their duplicity and said to them,²⁴ "Show me a **denarius**. Whose portrait and inscription are on it?"²⁵ "Caesar's," they replied. He said to them, "Then give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's" (Luke 20:20-25, NIV).

Evil Leaders Actually Fear the People

Even though the evil leaders in the New Testament had great authority over the

people and even the power to have Jesus killed, they still feared the people. They were utterly dependent upon their continual efforts to deceive the people. If the multitudes ever lost their ill-founded faith in those leaders, the leaders knew that it would be all over for them. They were even afraid of what the people would think if they spoke against John the Baptist:

And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'From men' -- **they feared the people, for all counted John [the Baptist] to have been a prophet** indeed (Mark 11:31-32).

There are many other places where the Scripture talks about these evil leaders' fear of the people: And the scribes and chief priests heard it and sought how they might destroy Him; for they feared Him, because all the people were astonished at His teaching (Mark 11:18).

Luke 19:47 And He was teaching daily in the temple. But the chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people sought to destroy Him,⁴⁸ **and were unable to do anything; for all the people were very attentive to hear Him.**

Matt 21:45 Now when the chief priests and Pharisees heard His parables, they perceived that He was speaking of them. But when they sought to lay hands on Him, **they feared the multitudes, because they took Him for a prophet** (Matt 21:45-46).

The Bible is very clear in showing that the stated goal of these Satanic leaders was to preserve their position of power. They cared absolutely nothing about what God really wanted or what would be good for the people.

Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, "What shall we do? For this Man works many signs. If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation" (John 11:47-48).

Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas,⁴ and they plotted to **arrest Jesus in some sly way** and kill him.⁵ "But not during the Feast," they said, "or there may be a riot among the people" (Matt 26:3-5).

For he [Pilate] knew that they [the Jewish leaders] had handed Him over because of envy (Matt 27:18).

Only Solution for Satanic Men: Kill Jesus

Sometimes, the Jewish leaders are viewed as rather passive men who simply grumbled about Jesus doctrine for three years of his ministry, and then on the spur of the moment decided to kill Him when they had a chance. The truth is, they were trying

to kill Him from the beginning. In addition to Herod's attempt to kill Jesus when He was a baby and the final successful plot to kill Him the Bible records at least 11 separate attempts to kill Jesus. For space, we will not print all of the scripture, but they make an excellent study: Matthew 12:14/Mark 3:6/Luke 6:11 (same incident), Luke 13:31 (where the Pharisees claim Herod wants to kill Him. Are they telling the truth or just trying to threaten Him?), Mark 11:18; Luke 19:47 (same incident); John 5:16, 18; 7:1, 19, 25; 8:37, 40, 59; 10:31; 11:53.

It would be good for followers of Jesus to meditate on these scriptures. Would you continue your ministry if your life—or the life of its leader was threatened? Would you trust God to preserve you, or to give you the courage to die faithfully as those in Hebrews 11? What if the charges against you or your leader were not "being a Christian", but treason, blasphemy, tax evasion or some other false charge? Would you simply stay away from a ministry with a bad reputation like that?

Even today, the world is full of well-financed governments and organizations of all kinds, that manage to buy good press and make themselves look good. These people often praise the men of the Bible and founding fathers of our nation, but they do not do what they did. Jesus addressed that issue head on:

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous,³⁰ and say, 'If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.'³¹ Therefore you are witnesses against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.³² Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers' *guilt*.³³ Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell?³⁴ Therefore, indeed, I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes: *some* of them you will kill and crucify, and *some* of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city,³⁵ **that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth,** from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.³⁶ "Assuredly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation (Matt 23:29-36).

The Most Important Passover

With all of the above background about the evil Jewish leaders, we can clearly understand what happened at Jesus' crucifixion. Whether you have never read Luke's account, or read it a hundred times, we hope you will read at least these excerpts again.

Luke 22:1 Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called Passover.² And the chief priests and the scribes **sought how they might kill Him, for they feared the people.**

Luke 22:66 As soon as it was day, the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, came together and led Him into their council, saying,⁶⁷ "If You are the Christ, tell us." But He said to them, "If I tell you, you will by no means believe.⁶⁸ "And if I also ask *you*, you will by no means answer Me or let *Me* go.

² And they began to accuse Him, saying, "We found this *fellow* perverting the nation, and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a King..."⁵ But they were the more fierce, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee to this place..."¹⁰ And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused Him....¹³ Then Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people,¹⁴ said to them, "You have brought this Man to me, as one who misleads the people. And indeed, having examined *Him* in your presence, I have found no fault in this Man concerning those things of which you accuse Him;¹⁵ "no, neither did Herod, for I sent you back to him; and indeed nothing deserving of death has been done by Him.¹⁶ "I will therefore chastise Him and release *Him*"¹⁷ (for it was necessary for him to release one to them at the feast).¹⁸ And they all cried out at once, saying, "Away with this *Man*, and release to us Barabbas" --¹⁹ who had been thrown into prison for a certain rebellion made in the city, and for murder.²⁰ Pilate, therefore, wishing to release Jesus, again called out to them.²¹ But they shouted, saying, "Crucify *Him*, crucify Him!"²² Then he said to them the third time, "Why, what evil has He done? I have found no reason for death in Him. I will therefore chastise Him and let *Him* go."²³ But they were insistent, demanding with loud voices that He be crucified. And the voices of these men and of the chief priests prevailed.²⁴ So Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they requested (Luke 23:2,5,10,13-24).

The purpose of human justice systems is to 1) apprehend people who appear to do evil, 2) to charge them with a crime, 3) to give them a fair trial, and 4) to punish them if they are convicted. These evil Satanic leaders ran the process exactly backwards: they started by knowing that they 4) wanted to kill (punish) Jesus, so they 3) brought Him to trial illegally at night, then they 2) look for something to charge Him with that they could "make stick", and 1) forgot about the fact He had never done any evil that would have justified His apprehension to begin with. And so the leaders of our day, when they find someone opposing them, sometimes reach into their database of millions of laws, and

find something upon which they can "get a conviction"—whether the victim has done anything wrong or not.

But notice Jesus. Even while He was struggling, He stopped to talk to some who believed on Him and tell them of things to happen in the future: And a great multitude of the people followed Him, and women who also mourned and lamented Him.²⁸ But Jesus, turning to them, said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.²⁹ "For indeed the days are coming in which they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, wombs that never bore, and breasts which never nursed!'³⁰ "Then they will begin 'to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!' " ³¹ "For if they do these things in the green wood, what will be done in the dry?"³² There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death (Luke 23:27-32).

The same language about people asking the mountains to fall on them is used when Christ returns in power in Revelation 6:16.

And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left... Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit' " (Luke 23:33,45-46)

He Is Risen!

But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay" (Matt 28:5-6).

So what do Satanic leaders do when their plots fail and their efforts to kill their enemies turn into a great blessing for all mankind? The same thing that they do today. Make a new plan, tell some lies, bribe some key people, and keep on going!

When they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers,¹³ saying, "Tell them, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.'¹⁴ "And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will appease him and make you secure."¹⁵ So they took the money and did as they were instructed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day (Matt 28:12-15).

It exceeds the scope of this article to try to identify all or even any of the people today who are Satanic leaders masquerading as righteous leaders. The point is to help every Christian realize that Satan is alive and well and working in the same manner in which he worked back at that time.

It is amazing how many people will insist that their government or their church

denomination, though a little wasteful and sinful, is basically fair and that in general very few people are punished unjustly. But when you ask them to take a lawful Christian stand against anything wrong in their government or church, they will decline—because they would not want anything bad to happen to themselves. This is, in itself, an admission that their government or church is unacceptably corrupt, if they know that it will punish those who seek to lawfully correct its excesses.

Satan loves to take the unquestioning loyalty and respect that God commands for himself, and transfer it to human governments and churches. God never set up any human office, secular or spiritual, that stands between Him and mankind. We should never let them stand as idols in His place.

Victory in Christ

From Jesus Christ Himself to struggling people to evil Satanic leaders, we have studied the types of the people of the Passover. We need to push to the top of the list—letting our Lord and Savior do His work in us. It is all too easy to drop down into #4, the Believers Needing to Be Filled with the Spirit or even #6, the Unthinking Masses. This writer believes that is where the majority of professing Christians are today.

While few people reading this article would be "type #10" Satanic Leaders, we as Christians will certainly encounter them—either in our governments and churches or in our personal ministries. The more we do for God, the more Satan would like to stop us (Luke 12:31-32). Even though Satan goes about as a roaring lion (1Pet 5:8), he has to run when he is resisted (Jms 4:7-8).

And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen (Rom 16:20).

The fact that there are millions of very evil, slightly evil or simply weak people in this world is no threat to the promises and power of God. What would you do if you were trying to reach someone with the gospel, maybe a "type #5" secular leader with some conscience, but that leader had an assistant who is a Satanic "type #10". This is what the Apostle Paul did:

Now when they had gone through the island to Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose name was Bar-Jesus, ⁷ who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. ⁸ But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. ⁹ Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him ¹⁰ and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of

the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? ¹¹ "And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time." And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand. ¹² Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had been done, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord (Acts 13:6-12).

Our initial reaction might be: God might have done that for the Apostle Paul, but I'm not sure He would do that for me. But we should also ask ourselves, "Have I ever been in a situation where I was doing the work of God and it was so dangerous that I had to rely upon Him for protection?" It is not our own strength that does the protecting.

And we have such trust through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient of ourselves, but **our sufficiency is from God** (2Cor 3:4-5).

I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. **I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me** (Php 4:12-13).

Our hope is in God and we should grow in our reliance upon Him. It will not be our church group, our doctrines, our friends or religious rituals that make us right with God. We must turn every aspect over to Him—from our daily routine to our long-range life plans.

But thanks be to God, **who gives us the victory** through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord (1Cor 15:57-58).

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Read the entire article at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0048/a2008-048-04.htm>

THE END**

(“Consider the...” continued from page 1)

First, a colony of ants works as a team to protect and provide for the group. The individual ant works hard for the overall colony in providing for its needs whether it is the nurturing of ant larvae or maintaining the nest or even gathering food.

Second, they work efficiently in many ways. For example, they always go a straight line from anthill to food source. Marching in a

straight line, which is usually the shortest route, seems like an obvious solution to the problem of efficient food transportation, and we might pass it off as uninteresting.

But suppose that an ant colony starts out with no information about the location of food in the environment. The human strategy in this case would be to send out a "search party" to comb the surrounding area—the scouts who find food can bring some back to the home-base and inform the others about where the food is. Ants do search for food by walking randomly, which is similar to the human "combing" approach, using pheromones as the proverbial bread crumbs to leave a trail.

In providing food for the nest, many ant species do harvest and store food for future use just as humans do, which is very efficient when foods are lacking in the area. For example, the harvester ant stores grass, seed, or berries in their nest.

Like farmers, some ants grow their own food such as the ants of the *genus trachymyrmex* of South America which eat fungi, which they cultivate in the nest, and the Tes Leaf-Cutting ant which strips the leaves from plants to provide nourishment for the fungi garden that they have in their nest.

Third, ants can be skilled builders as well. Many ant nests are very wonderfully built with rooms, corridors, and vaulted roofs supported by pillars.

Paul expresses a similar idea in **Ephesians 4:28** which states, "Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, *that he may have to give to him that needeth.*"

The basic lesson that I learned from this Proverb is that we should not act as if life owes us a living, but we should be self starters whether in work or play. Plus, we should work to provide for our needs so that we can be self sufficient and to have some excess from our labours, if possible, to assist others who may be in general need. We, humans, are like family that should be willing to assist each other as best as possible.

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THE END**

(“The “Serpent Seed” ...” continued from page 1)

its adherents a soothing basis for justifying attitudes of racial hatred. Whatever the reason for people adopting this doctrine, it is a dangerous heresy about which Christians need to be forewarned.

Briefly stated, the "serpent seed" doctrine revolves around an interpretation of **Genesis 3:15** which states that there are

ances of mankind on earth which are directly descended from Satan himself. This doctrine maintains that Satan (the "serpent") cohabited with mother Eve and engendered a race of men, which are not descended from the direct union of Adam and Eve. It also maintains that this "serpent seed" race is yet present on the earth, and the Blacks and/or the Jews are generally alleged to be the products of this Satanic union with Eve. There are variations on this belief, at least one of which is that the serpent seed race now on earth descended from men of a pre-Adamic race; that they came from the "Satanic" world which preceded the Adamic age, and are not descended from Adam at all. Another is that Cain was the son of Satan and Eve, not the son of Adam and Eve (this variation is utterly ridiculous since **Genesis 4:1** states "Adam knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain").

If these doctrines were true, it would justify racial hatred toward the Blacks, Jews or any other race which one wished to ascribe to Satan's origination. However, these ideas are not true, and are easily proven false by Biblical scriptures.

Let us first examine who is glorified by the adherents of the "serpent seed" doctrine. Even though the believers of this doctrine may not realize it, they are actually exalting Satan to God-rank by attributing to him the power of a creator or lifegiver. The Bible states clearly and emphatically that Jesus Christ made all things. John 1:3 states: "**All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made.**" Hebrews 1:10-11 also reserves to God alone the role of creator and lifegiver. Satan himself, personified as the King of Tyre, is referred to in **Ezekiel 28:12-16** as an "anointed cherub that covereth" (apparently he had wings) who was "in Eden the garden of God." **Verses 13 and 16** refer to Satan as having been created by God at a finite point in the ancient past. Satan is one of many millions of angels which were created by God. Christ tells us in **Matthew 22:30** that the angels in heaven "neither marry nor are given in marriage." Angels were created out of spirit essence, and do not have fleshly bodies. As such they do not reproduce themselves, and have no physical sperm in their bodies with which to engender a child via a human woman. The truth is that the serpent seed doctrine gives Satan exactly what he wants. Satan "blew his stack" when he found out God was going to make man in the image of God. Ever since, Satan has been angry and has promulgated a variety of "doctrines of demons" which reverse the truth of God. The serpent seed doctrine is perhaps the most vile of his deceptive doctrines since it relegates various races of men to the status of animals rather than recognizes all

men as being made in the image of God.

Also, since there is an immutable principle given in **Genesis 1** that all forms of life reproduce "after their kind," any seed of Satan would bear Satan's hereditary traits. Since Satan is referred to as "a serpent," a "dragon," and a "covering cherub," any progeny of his would bear reptilian features. When was the last time you saw a Black or Jew (the groups usually alleged to be "serpent seed") with scales or wings? See how absurd the serpent seed idea is when it is examined critically?

The Bible also states in **I Corinthians 15:45**, "**The first man Adam** was made a living soul." If we accept God's word as our source of truth, we can easily see that Adam is called "**the first man.**" That excludes the possibility of serpent seed men existing prior to Adam. Since **Genesis 3:20** also states Eve "was the mother of all living," there is no room in the Biblical accounts for some men to have been survivors of the pre-Adamic era either, as any such beings would not have come via Eve's lineage. **Genesis 1:26-27** clearly states that God decided to make man "**in His own image**" and this applies to both males and females. In discussing the tongue, **James 3:9** states: "therewith we bless God, even the Father; and therewith we curse men, which are made after the similitude of God." The Bible is most consistent in including all men as being made in God's image.

Those who teach or believe the serpent seed doctrine ought to take sober warning from God's word in **Mark 3:28-29**. This passage states that all blasphemies will be forgiven except blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. To declare that the work of God's Holy Spirit is the work of Satan is perilously close to (if it is not indeed) blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. Since **Genesis 1:26-27**, **I Corinthians 15:45**, and **James 3:9** all attribute all men to be created by God in God's image, to teach or believe that some men are created or engendered by Satan is blasphemous, heretical and tantamount to calling God a liar. Let all Christians be warned against this heresy which actually glorifies Satan to a kind of co-creator with God powers to give life and recreate in his own image. **Ezekiel 28** states Satan is a created being, and as such, he can do nothing which God did not create within him to do. Since **Matthew 22:30** shows angelic beings are not made to live in any kind of marital union, there is no basis for any belief that Satan or any other angel can mate with a human woman and produce a child.

There is additional strong evidence why no "serpent seed" doctrine need be taken seriously in today's era. Let us assume, merely for the sake of discussion, that the serpent seed teachers were able to

overcome all the Biblical evidence so far listed against them, and some serpent seed race of men were present on earth after Adam and Eve and up to the time of the flood. Since the Bible unquestionably teaches the reality of a **worldwide** flood during the days of Noah, any such theoretical serpent seed people simply died in the flood, and have no descendants on earth today. While this is simple when you take God at His word, the serpent seeders generally try to maintain the flood was only **regional** in nature; therefore, permitting serpent seed people to live into the modern era. Again, let us examine God's word to see the clear teachings of the Bible on this subject.

Genesis 6:7 states: "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them." It is pretty final for God to state He will destroy man and beast from the face of the earth, but the evidence gets even stronger so no serpent seed teacher can gainsay it.

Use the brain which God has given you. If the flood was merely a regional phenomenon, there would have been no need for Noah to build a huge Ark, nor would there have been a need to place the animals in a huge vessel to preserve them. God could simply have told Noah to relocate to a different part of the earth, and animal life on earth would have faced no threat of extinction.

The Bible states in **Genesis 7:19** that: "the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and **all the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered.**" **Verse 20** adds: "**the mountains were covered.**" **Verses 21-23** are so explicit on this subject that they will be quoted in their entirety. This passage reads as follows.

"**And all flesh died that moved upon the face of the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man: All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died. And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.**"

Could anything be clearer? There is absolutely no Biblical basis for a regional flood. We can only assume that those who still maintain the serpent seed doctrine, in spite of massive Biblical evidence to the contrary, are determined to call God a liar and refuse to believe his word. This kind of attitude should not surprise us since God foretold in **II Timothy 4:3** that: "the time will

come when they will not accept 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 (or fiction)." The desire to hate another race is the "lust" which causes some to depart from sound Biblical doctrine, and listen to the serpent seed fiction. Those who follow the serpent seed fiction are taking a giant step away from God, make no mistake about it.

What then does **Genesis 3:15** mean when it refers to "thy seed and her seed" when talking to the serpent. Since the Bible cannot contradict itself, the answer is easily seen in John 8:31-59 where Jesus had a discourse with "Jews which believed on Him." These Jews basically could not see their need for a saviour since they were "Abraham's seed." Jesus even acknowledges in **verse 37**: "**I know that you are Abraham's seed,**" and repeats his conviction that these Jews were Abraham's seed in **verse 56**. Yet Jesus also tells these Jews in **verse 44** that: "ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do." Serpent seed teachers sometimes seize on **verse 44** to try to show that Jews are a "serpent seed race" because Christ said: "you are of your father the devil." They lift this verse woefully out of context as **verses 37 and 56** show Christ acknowledged these Jews were from the **physical** lineage of Abraham (obviously, no serpent seed lineage here).

The apparent contradiction is resolved as follows. Jesus, when referring to the **physical** lineage of these people, acknowledges that their physical parentage is of Abraham. When speaking of their **deeds and attitudes** (lusts, murders, and lies as mentioned in **verse 44**), Jesus refers to them as being of "your father the devil." Clearly, Jesus was referring to their **spiritual** condition (their attitudes, their unconverted hearts, etc.) when referring to them as being of Satan, and their **physical** condition when referring to them as Abraham's progeny. The point which Jesus Christ was trying to make was that simply being a physical descendent of Abraham is not enough to qualify a person for salvation. One must also become converted and have a life characterized by the works of obedience and faith which Abraham's life manifested. By this above illustration, all persons on earth who sin are acting like "their father the devil." **Genesis 3:15** merely foretells that there will be a conflict between the converted and the unconverted, not one between men fathered by God and men fathered by Satan!

Who then is the physical seed of the serpent? **Genesis 3:14** tells us. The serpent was "cursed above all cattle, and above every beast (creature or animal) of the field"

and was told **upon thy belly thou shalt go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life.**" The serpent's seed would then have to bear the hereditary traits of the serpent. Are there any animals today known as serpents who slither on their bellies in the dust all their lives? Yes, we call them snakes, and each time you meet a garter snake in your lawn or see pythons, boas and rattlers at zoos, you have met the serpent seed of **Genesis 3:15**.

There is another point to consider when evaluating the whole subject of racial prejudice and the serpent seed doctrine which is generally overlooked. The Bible teaches in **I Corinthians 6:3** that Christians shall eventually judge even angels when we inherit the salvation God has prepared for us. The Book of Revelation shows us that while man is made in God's image, many angelic creatures are not made in God's image. **Revelation 4:6-8** tells us of heavenly beings which are "full of eyes before and behind," and whose appearances are "like a lion, and a calf, and like a flying eagle." Indeed, it is quite possible there are angels (like Satan) who look serpentine as the animals' have been patterned after the angels even as man is patterned after God. **Verse 7** speaks of a heavenly creature who "had a face as a man," but **verse 8** mentions this being had "six wings" (as did the other heavenly beings which John stated had the appearances of animals). Obviously, Christians must be freed of every tendency toward racial prejudice in order to ever have fellowship and even rule over creatures with likenesses such as these. If we humans were now granted full awareness of the invisible creatures of the spiritual kingdom, many people would die of heart failure thinking they were in some kind of science fiction world.

The Bible does teach the principle of guardian angels (see **Matthew 18:10**), but it does not promise us these angels are in the image of God like we are. How do guardian angels (and God the Father and Jesus Christ) feel when they see Christians hating their fellow human beings which vary from themselves only in skin pigmentation, and a few minor physical characteristics? How can such people ever be placed in a position to judge angels with much different appearances if they cannot tolerate fellow human beings with only insignificant differences in appearance? If humans with racial bigotry problems were placed in a situation like the Apostle John where they were forced to see and talk with heavenly beings who had eyes in all directions, faces like animals and multiple wings, they would likely come out of such a vision and embrace the first person they saw of a different race and say: "Boy am I glad to see you, you're like me!"

The real purpose of the Satan-inspired

serpent seed doctrine is to deceive men and fill potential sons of God with racial hatred in order to disqualify them from membership in the coming Kingdom of God where they will have regular fellowship with many forms of beings. The serpent seed idea also worships Satan as it exalts him to a co-creator status with God (**Isaiah 14:14** states one of Satan's sins was wanting to "be like the most High"). If someone ever begins to promulgate the serpent seed doctrine to you, don't listen to their Satanic lie. Remind them that **Genesis 1:27** says: "God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him: male and female created He them"! Don't let anyone ever tell you otherwise!

Article found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/a2009-051-02.htm>

THE END**

("Ancient Power ..." continued from page 1)

She turned with a heart-rending sob to her father-in-law. Here they were, eight people, the only living human beings in all the world.

How indescribably lonely they must have felt and what a dread and fear must have come upon them!

As Noah Lamechson and his family stepped down from their survival vessel, they gazed upon a world totally foreign to them.

Gone was the enchanting, subtropic environment they knew. All the familiar landmarks had been swept away.

Instead, barren wastes, bleak and sterile hills and unbearable extremes of cold and heat confronted them.

Great mountain ranges — high, forbidding, rocky walls — had been thrust up, destined to isolate areas into harsh climatic pockets.

The first generations were born and grew up in the foothills of Ararat. But in time their curiosity was to draw them out to stake new territories and to search for valuable resources.

They soon found a world reduced considerably in land area. The fertility of the soil and the natural resources necessary to human progress were now unequally distributed.

One resource was of particular concern. Pre-Flood scientists had unlocked a secret. They had discovered our spinning planet to be a giant generator, its land masses crisscrossed with energy lines.

These magnetic currents they had harnessed. But now all trace of the power network was gone.

OBJECT OF THE GLOBAL SURVEY

Within centuries the rapidly increasing population sent out exploratory expeditions. Soon almost every corner of the world was visited by a group of men who came with a particular task to accomplish.

They were charged with relocating those energy springs and constructing a grid pattern to harness them. Today we might have called it – one imagines – Operation Spider Web, or some such thing.

To facilitate this, they employed units of measurement based on simple fractions of the earth's dimensions. They measured distances, as we have noticed, in degrees, minutes and seconds of latitude and longitude, just as we do today.

Soon a "prehistoric" network of dead-straight alignments appeared. It seems to have sprung up everywhere at once. Planning took place on an almost unimaginably large scale.

Along these lines, (situated at terrestrial power points) arose temples, pillars, rocking stones, circles, crosses, mounds, pyramids, tunnels and platforms.

Traces of these are dotted still throughout the world. You see them on every continent and even on remote islands.

Sites had an exact geometric relationship to each other within a master worldwide pattern.

For example, all ancient temples in Greece arose in relation to each other. Those in Greece were geometrically interlocked with those in Egypt.

HUGE SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENT

Planetwide, the system constituted ONE GIANT SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENT.

Today we all live within the ruins of this single vast ancient structure, whose sheer size has so far rendered it invisible. A great scientific instrument lies sprawled over the entire surface of the globe.

It is marked by these **megaliths** of all types, all aligned in a single geometric pattern—the remains of an ancient power network.

In order for it to operate, many sites were aligned to favor certain astronomical phenomena. The planners were conversant with the introduction of solar or atmospheric energy into the terrestrial energy streams.

They developed a technology to detect earth currents, and then to manipulate them to a predictable result.

Thus, all over the world, thousands upon thousands of pillars (called **menhirs**) arose in symmetrical formation, their purpose to realign earth magnetism from its natural meandering paths to straight artificial lines.

At each pillar, the electric current of the atmosphere was attracted to combine with the terrestrial current to produce a fusion of power. (A secret we have not yet utilized.)

Interestingly, the standing stones were

all rich in quartz, a crystal similar to that used with the cat's whiskers in early radio receivers.

It has been suggested that **megaliths** were connected below ground by metal strips, although there is no conclusive proof for this position.

Because the standing stones worked as cathodes, the corrosive current over the millennia would have most certainly dissolved the metal, leaving the grooves into which they were set.

Such grooves are found below ground level in, for example, **the Breton menhirs of France**. That these grooves had some such functional purpose is a distinct possibility.

ENERGY RISING

And something else. Researchers have detected an energy rising in spiral form from standing stones, gathering magnetic strength toward the top of the stone.

Interestingly, photographs of the stones are sometimes marred by a mist of light surrounding their lower extremities.

The crucial factor was that from natural energy springs in the earth, the currents were ultimately directed to mounds—which focalized the energy fields.

There is overwhelming evidence for the reality of these forces, only rediscovered in modern times by **Wilhelm Reich**.

He described how this energy could be trapped or accumulated by constructing a chamber lined with inorganic material and covered on the outside with alternate layers of organic and inorganic matter.

Is it not startling, then, to find that almost every ancient site has at least one such buried chamber — purposely lined with the same alternating layers! Often foreign stones and clay were used, selected for various magnetic properties.

These submerged chambers were energy accumulators.

Finally, from these mounds, the currents were dissipated to the surrounding countryside.

Not only did standing stones, mounds and pyramids focus energy fields.

Across the whole world, the structures formed a gigantic power network. This provided the population with a source of energy and inspiration to which their whole civilization was tuned.

EARLY USES OF THE POWER NETWORK

It appears that a major effect of the energy lines was to increase soil fertility and plant growth.

Fertility stones are no myth. (The phallic symbolism which later developed was a degenerative response to an earlier scientific truth.)

Modern experiments have shown that cosmic influences do affect magnetic

currents at the earth's surface and that at certain seasons rocks become charged with energy which they release into the soil, stimulating seed germination and vegetable growth.

Lightning flashes also are known to affect the nitrates of the earth, ensuring fertility.

Green tomatoes placed within a magnetic field have been shown to ripen four to six times faster; seeds placed in a current grew many times faster. Something new here?

The energy lines were also harnessed for propulsion and transport, if we are to believe Druid reports.

When a line became animated by a sunrise directly down a path, the currents were purposely directed so as to charge an object to such a degree that it could be levitated and made to travel.

British flying vehicles so energized are said to have flown to Greece.

Of course, an eclipse intervening could lead to disaster, by causing a sudden drop in the power of magnetic activity.

This would shut down all of the society's machinery, an event comparable to modern-day electrical blackouts.

Thus, only by a constant computation of solar, lunar and planetary movements could the waxing and waning of the currents be measured and anticipated.

OBSESSION WITH ECLIPSES

Here lies the answer to a riddle. We've long wondered why ancient astronomers seemed so obsessed—almost insanely so—by the need to predict eclipses with absolute certainty. Now you know.

Another use of the network was power production and communication.

A word here on pyramids. The pyramid shape is known to accumulate and may even generate energy—provided that specific proportions and exact alignments are followed.

TOMBS? NOT AT ALL!

So somebody's told you that pyramids were tombs! In general, pyramids were not built as tombs.

Significantly, they were part of the worldwide network.

For starters, eighty-five survive in Egypt; at least four in France (one radioactive); hundreds along coastal Peru; thousands in Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras; while still more survive in China, Tibet, Southern Russia, the Sudan, Brazil, Hawaii, Tahiti, the Marianas, Caroline Islands, Marquesas islands and Bermuda (submerged); as well as stone step-pyramids in Florida and pyramid-like temples in Southern India. Now, that's some list.

And there is evidence, quite

considerable evidence, that the pyramids focused energy fields; that is, they produced power.

Additionally, healing probably resulted from this energy system. It has been observed that animals born over "springs" of favorable energy are always healthier than those born elsewhere.

CANCER CLUE

A connection has been noticed between the incidence of ailments such as cancer and the location of dwellings over lines of earth current that have become sour.

Such "black streams" have been purified successfully by driving metal stakes into the earth above the cause. The effect, it seems, is to allow atmospheric forces to enter the flow of the earths current.

LATER USES

We know that the Chinese sited every building, stone, and planted tree to conform to the "dragon currents" that flowed along the lines.

The Incas utilized similar spirit lines with the Sun Temple at Cuzco as their hub.

The Romans built their famous straight roads along these already existing lines.

North African Bedouins use the line system marked out by standing stones and cairns to aid their crossing of today's desert wastes.

The Australian aborigines still use the "prehistoric" line system. At certain times of the year these "turingas" (lines) become revitalized, they say, by energies flowing through them, giving new life to the adjacent countryside.

The natives paint the story on rocks, but claim it is not the pictures but the rocks themselves that release energy to fertilize plants and animals.

The aborigines actually receive messages over vast distances and are forewarned of the approach of strangers—all through their system of magic lines. It's a residual legacy, you see, from a former global science.

THE BABEL CONNECTION

By its very nature, this network required that all terrestrial surface currents be accounted for, if it were to operate to its full potential.

Thus the stone monuments were strewn across the world, located on the crossings of the "ley lines."

This implies that a single authority was directing a united world effort.

Perhaps the biblical Tower of Babel was the receiving station for earth's ley line currents. At any rate, it was constructed as the result of a concerted effort on the part of the outspreading nations to remain together "lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of

the whole earth."

The tower was a center of world communications, as well as of energy accumulation. The city of Babel later to become Babylon, was a political center for world government.

By possessing such a global energy center, Babel effectively controlled the world.

Old chronicles record that Nimrod, the egotistic founder of Babylon, "grew more and more wicked and mad until he thought in his heart that he was himself God." The arrogance of Babel became a scandal.

THEN SOMETHING BROKE IT

Then something happened—something significant enough to mark a break in world conditions and to bring the line system to an end.

Today we are left with but shadows and remnants of the former universal system.

Thanks to archaeological discoveries, much of what was classed as myth in the biblical account of the rise of nations is now being found true.

It is becoming increasingly tenable to regard its "stories" as not religious fantasy but rather apt reporting of phenomena that actually occurred. The story of a former global unity which was broken into factions is now seen as real.

It might be said that the sudden breakup of the totalitarian world government was the catalyst.

In the events which followed, most continents and island groups were to become so isolated, they would all but forget each other's existence.

Thus began the next stage of man's decline.

To buy books by Jonathan Gray, go to: <http://www.beforeus.com>

Article found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/a2009-051-03.htm>

*****THE END*******

("Study of old..." continued from page 1)

influences that taught only strict keeping of the law could earn salvation. The truth is, no law keeping could ever earn salvation.

Old testament people were saved by faith just as now (Acts 15:11). It is important to know the purpose of the law - "that it may be well with them and their children" (Deuteronomy 5:29). In fact God never promised eternal life by law keeping. Nevertheless, the wisdom of the knowledge of God's holy righteous law was dramatically expressed by King David, "Oh how I love your law, it is my meditation all the day!" (Psalms 119:97).

Once, I was asked why I do not eat swine's flesh. I was tempted to respond because it is unhealthy and cite numerous studies which I have collected over the years, but I relayed the real reason is because God's word is clear that his people are not to eat it. I did quote Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14 which says, "and the swine ... is unclean to you, their flesh you shall not eat, and their carcasses you shall not touch." Interestingly he does not say why we are not to eat it, but like nearly all the other laws, he wants us to use faith and trust that he is giving us good instructions.

There once was a nationally known "minister" that taught forcefully that all God's laws were void and done away. One program was about the "dietary restrictions" given to Israel. He did show the benefits from eating healthy and avoiding the meats listed in the law, and even how those laws were forever binding on Israel, then he painted himself into a corner and condemned law keeping for Gentile believers and the food laws in particular. I easily found the scriptures that proved him wrong, "to the law and testimony - if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" and "a rebellious people ... who provoke me continually to my face ... who eat swine's flesh" and "the wicked priests have put no difference between the clean and the unclean" (Isaiah 8; Isaiah 65; Ezekie 12:2).

The television preacher I spoke of read from Acts 11 about the vision Peter was given with the unclean animals and was told to kill and eat ... at this point the preacher closed his Bible and said, "that is when Peter had his first ham sandwich." But I read on and discovered Peter said "not so Lord, I have never eaten unclean meat" and later "God has shown me not to call any man common or unclean." He quoted many of Paul's letters to back up his conclusions, yet Peter wrote that some of Paul's writings are hard to understand and many twist them to their own destruction. (2 Peter 3:16).

This subject as well as most others should be studied thoroughly to determine God's will. Be careful of deception. Over and over we are warned that Satan is transformed into an angel of light, yet he is as a roaring lion roaming about seeking to devour those searching for the truth, and that he also has ministers that will seem to speak truth - but are liars (1 Peter 5; 2 Corinthians 11). Satan has pulled off the greatest deception imaginable: to actually get men and women to break God's holy law and think they are being pleasing to him. It is a master stroke of evil genius. Remember Christ's words of the completion of the deception, "the time is coming that whomever kills you will think that he offers God service (John 16).

Remember the way to death is a broad

highway that most everyone is on and God's way is a narrow winding path that few will even find (Matthew 7). Jesus commands his disciples to become perfect, just as the father in heaven is perfect. Perfect is an unattainable goal in this life but a worthy pursuit that will make you, not only a better person, but show God you are serious about your faith and earnestly want to be a part of his coming kingdom.

Article found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmesseng er0051/a2009-051-04.htm>

*****THE END*******

("Proselytism Yesterday, Today,..." continued from page 1)

Laws are made to be broken. At least, man's laws! No better example of man's flagrant violation of the letter and spirit of his own law exists than in the area of proselytism. There exists an enormous disconnect between human rights *law* and *practice* when it comes to religious proselytism.

Proselytism in Practice Today

Three forces have come to work against proselytism in today's world.

1. Non-Western, non-Christian religious leaders often view Western religions, whether Protestant, Catholic, or cultish (Mormon, Jehovah Witness, etc.) as a threat to local and traditional religion. This nativist, even nationalist, response to Western missionary efforts mirrors the anti-globalization, anti-Western attitudes of many leaders in developing and Third World nations. These (often fundamentalist) leaders view Western religion in the same way they respond to Western-style clothing, entertainment, and music, all of which they perceive as destructive and corrupting influences on local, indigenous culture. So, the Taliban outlawed all types of proselytism, as has the Sudanese leadership. It is the "boil the missionary in the big black pot" mentality.

Lawrence Uzzell ("Don't Call It Proselytism," *First Things*, October 2004, p. 14) mentions a number of examples of this sort of anti-proselytism stance. The 1911 Turkish Constitution, for instance, outlaws proselytism, without even going to the trouble of defining it.

A more recent example is the case of the Jehovah's Witnesses in Russia. In April 2004, a Moscow court banned all religious activities of this confession. The prosecutor alleged that Witnesses "incite inter-religious conflict," pointing out that "their publications claim that their religion is true and that others are false." (What would he expect their

literature to say?) Further, he argued that their devotion to evangelism leaves them "no time . . . for fulfilling family obligations, useful labor, family communication, recreation together and self-improvement." The ban effectively stops them from any form of worship, even in private homes.

Here is an instance of religious persecution supposedly stemming from a group's perceived overemphasis on evangelism. Notice, incidentally, the state's insincere concern for the peoples' family life and "self-improvement"—as if we are gullible enough to believe any Russian court cared about such things! The real issue is the insecurity the hide-bound Russian Orthodox Patriarchate feels over the fast-paced growth of a Western sect.

This kind of fear of outsiders has led some religionists to claim "canonical territory," which is but an extension of the notion of territorial imperative. Canonical territory theory holds that religions can come to *own* a particular geographical area because it is inhabited by people whose "faith has deep roots and historical legitimacy." The logical conclusion of the theory is that such territory should be "off-limits" to missionary activity by other religions. In reality, such "land grabs" typically have ethnic boundaries rather than geographic ones. If a person is Polish, *anywhere*, he should be Roman Catholic; if Egyptian, then Muslim; if Tibetan, then Buddhist; and so on.

Canonical territory theory is just another attempt of self-serving leaders to grant themselves protection in the marketplace of ideas. After all, if university professors enjoy the security of tenure, why should the established religious leadership not have its protected bailiwick? Old-line religious leaders do not like angst, and nothing is more angst-generating in them than successful proselytism by outside—and more vigorous—religious organizations, like the Jehovah's Witnesses in Russia.

As protectionism, canonical territory is as dangerous as it is transparent. It would effectively lock a person into the religion of his parents, no matter how distasteful it might come to be to that individual. It is a bald-faced attempt to nullify Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

2. Uzzell cites another force that arrays itself against proselytism: the leaders of failed (or failing) Protestant churches in the Western world. Many of these "mainstream," and "old-line" groups have lost membership (measured in double-digit percentage points) to more vigorous Pentecostal faiths in the last two or three decades. It is no wonder that the World Council of Churches, a highly liberal organization that speaks for these dying denominations, has come to call proselytism a "corruption of Christian

witness" that uses "cajolery, bribery, undue pressure, or intimidation, subtly or openly, to boring about seeming conversion." These people view proselytism as "sheep stealing."

3. The third force organized against proselytism is the secular (and atheist) elite in postmodern America and Europe. These dyed-in-the-wool relativists cannot admit that one value or belief system is superior to another. Uzzell notes their "need . . . for psychological defenses and social barriers against those who would vigorously advocate eternal truths." These elites, he continues, are uncomfortable with ultimate questions and with theological answers to those questions. They wish to avoid not only answering such questions but even hearing them asked. If possible, they would like to do with the whole of society what they have already done to the public school systems: turn it into a "religion-free-zone" undisturbed by prophets and saints or even by the memory of them. Along with other new rules, this means a new etiquette, in which religious believers must scrupulously refrain from "offending" unbelievers.

One can at least appreciate—although certainly not defend—the motives of non-Western traditionalists on one end of the political spectrum and old-line Protestant liberals on its other end. Both groups, opposites in so many ways, really share the same motive: the defense of their turf. They are understandably insecure at losing ground economically and socially to more energetic, more motivated confessions.

None, however, can sympathize even slightly with the motives and doctrine of the secular elite in America today. *These are the ultimate hypocrites of our time.* While they claim to be "defenders of robust intellectual freedom," they in fact seek "selective protectionism in the market place of ideas." Hypocrites!

They do not care what religious individual they may offend with their blasphemous ideas, but they would deny to that same person the right to speak for absolute standards. Among these are those in Canada who criminalized as "hate speech" the use of Scripture condemning sexual perversion. Hypocrites!

They do not hesitate to proselytize others to "buy abortion" or "buy evolution," while at the same time ridiculing as superstitious and irrational those who would advocate that others "buy abstinence" (rather than condoms) in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Hypocrites!

They use their position as controllers of the media to organize the marketplace of ideas such that, to use the illustration from Part One, Jaguars® get big press, but Buicks® remain far from the traffic-generating popcorn machine, marginalized.

Who in God's church can have any

involvement with their sort?

In sum, a gigantic gap exists between the international protections of proselytism and its current practice. This is true in postmodern cultures (limited to Japan, Germany, and the nations of Israel), modern cultures (as Brazil, South Korea, and Saudi Arabia), developing cultures (as China, India, and Mexico), and backwater/failing cultures (as Afghanistan, Zimbabwe, and the Sudan).

In all fairness, however, this failure to live up to the standards of international law is not only the fault of actors who have something to lose to proselytism. *Those who practice proselytism today bear part of the blame.* Many are not too scrupulous! Not a few are just plain charlatans. Some, for instance, offer food to the poor only after potential converts sit through a religious service. Some groups offer educational benefits only to those who convert, or to the children of those who convert. Others "bribe" folk into converting by promising better jobs or protection from government officials. In a few egregious cases, prospective converts are actually kidnapped and psychologically "programmed" to accept a new religion.

Conclusion: The Future of Proselytism

More than most, readers of the King James Version of God's Word know that language changes. How different is the meaning of the verb *prevent* today from its meaning in I Thessalonians 4:15! How the definition of the noun *conversation* has changed from its early seventeenth-century usage, as in I Peter 1:15!

Such is the case with the word *proselytism*. Originally, proselytism was a non-verbal—and almost automatic—activity. It was the natural spin-off of Joe Israelite's adherence to the principles of God's law. Proselytism was a result of living God's way of life, of being a good example. One became a light in a dark world. Gentiles would surely see the good fruits of obedience and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths" (Isaiah 2:3).

Isaiah speaks prophetically of "the latter days [when] the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains" (verse 2). Proselytism by example will be the norm in the Millennium, just as it was when God ruled the children of Israel. Non-verbal, example-driven proselytism will be a good thing then, just as it was in Moses' day.

Today, it is not seen as a good thing. Many in the world perceive proselytism as a murky activity connected with religious fraud, deception, and cultural corruption. Uzzell is surely correct in contending that "no missionary organization today" would self-describe its activities with the term

"proselytism." For example, the Catholic Church officially describes *proselytism* as "the use of unworthy means to attract members of other churches or even unchurched persons to their fold." No wonder Uzzell concludes: "Its connotation is almost always negative, even sinister."

However, the Millennium will bring change again. The time is coming when the Gentiles will see the good works produced in Israel and will praise God. Cultural and moral relativism will become passé, as Gentiles observe the example of Israel, repent, and turn to the superior lifestyle of Israel's God.

It will take time. Yet, even with all the time in the Millennium, not all will repent, for *proselytism does have its limits*, as the prophet points out in Ezekiel 38. There, Gog and her allies see Israel's Millennial "unwalled villages," her "peaceful people, who dwell safely" (verse 11). However, they do not come to God's mountain with the intention of learning how to walk in His paths. Rather, they come against God's people "like a cloud, to cover the land" (verse 16), coveting with intention to plunder.

Israel's example, as outstanding as it will then be, will not faze Gog and his confederates. Seeing Israel will only make these people more insatiably lustful of her wealth. Ezekiel relates God's response in verses 22-23: And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the Lord.

Editor's Note:

It is true that Gog will go against Israel at the end of the Millennium, however compare Revelation 20:7-10 "And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever."

In Ezekiel 38 and 39 when it talks about Gog and Magog, it is before the millennium starts. Many believe that Ezekiel 38 and 39 is talking about at the end of the millennium, but compare these groups of scripture. In Ezekiel 39:9 it clearly shows that it takes them seven years to get rid of all the

weapons that they had. At the end of the millennium there will be no weapons as described in Ezekiel 39:9.

Ezekiel 39:12 "And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying of them, that they may cleanse the land." One of the points of the millennium is to cleanse the land. By the end of the millennium the land will be cleansed and the dead shall be resurrected.

In Ezekiel it takes them seven months to bury the dead where as in Revelation, God immediately devours them with fire and they are instantly burned up. In Ezekiel 38:11 where it speaks of "unwalled villages", please understand that the tribes of Israel are a people and not a country. The tribes of Israel dwell in lands such as the USA, Great Britain, New Zealand, Australia, etc. and the people in these lands dwell not only in "unwalled villages" but also in relative peace as compared to many other countries in this world. Laura Lee

Yes, even God's form of proselytism, the non-verbal proselytism of example, has its limits. When the example of His people fails, when men become so stubborn, so incorrigible, that they will not allow themselves to be swayed by the witness of His lifestyle, He Himself will intervene in judgment.

But that will happen only "after many days" (verse 8). For now, ours is the responsibility to follow the command of Christ as recorded in Matthew 5:16. Proselytize by example. This is an active proselytism that involves letting our light ever shine. Christ affirms that people *will* see our good works. And eventually, many will come to glorify God.

Inset: Proselytism's Code of Ethics

In today's world, where God's Word is no longer taken as *the* standard for proper behavior, man formulates his own rules of conduct. Codes of ethics are turning up everywhere—a byproduct of mankind's taking of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Thus, it should not surprise us when we run across a code of ethics for missionary groups. Indeed, B. B. Beach, (see his articles at www.irla.org) has devised such a code.

The basic rule: When evangelizing, remain sensitive to "cultural customs" of the target audience. Does that mean "putting your best foot forward" when the target audience is made up of cannibals?

Specifically Beach warns missionaries that they should not:

- Exploit or take advantage of poor, vulnerable segments of the population
- Use pejorative terminology (such as "image worshippers," "the harlot of Babylon," "apostate religion," "sect," "cult")

- Knowingly make false or questionable claims of miraculous healings or interventions
- Pressure people unduly to abandon the religion of their fathers, risking injury to their religious feelings
- Knowingly spread false information regarding the teachings of other religions or ridiculing their beliefs, practices, and/or origins
- Offer financial or other material inducements or educational benefits in order to "convert" people
- Accuse large majority churches of having no spiritual or missionary life
- Incite hatred, internecine strife, and antagonistic competition
- Use coercive or manipulative methods of evangelism to get church members, including certain advertising that preys on human gullibility

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THE END**

("Church..." continued from page 1)

intention, when I finally did decide to write this piece, that I would try and keep it quite didactic, and not inject personal opinion. I found that, also, to be nearly impossible. So what I have decided to do is this: Write a brief synopsis of what I believe each of these groups represent (which may be enough for the individual who posed the question as well as for others reading this) followed by a discussion of why I believe that a simplistic answer such as what I am next presenting, could be very misleading.

What are the Church of God groups?

Many "churches" feel that they must be scripturally accurate, and simply call themselves "The Church of God" at (or in) such and such a place (replace "such and such" with the name of the community.) Several examples are found in Revelation - Church of God at Corinth, etc. These modern day "Church of God" groups have various doctrinal beliefs and no one thing can be used to categorize them other than they refer to themselves as a "Church of God."

There is one rather large movement that refers to itself as the **Church of God Seventh Day**." It is presently headquartered

in Denver, Colorado. One of its basic tenants is that the weekly Sabbath needs to be observed, and, observed on Saturday, the seventh day of the week. They do not, however, observe any of the so called "High Holy Days" described in Leviticus 23. Indeed, I have read one of their publications which clearly states why they do not believe in keeping what are known to many other believers as God's "Appointed Times."

In the 1940's, a splinter group of the **Church of God Seventh Day** was spun off by a man named **Herbert W. Armstrong**. That group ultimately came to be known as the **Worldwide Church of God**." They adhered to very similar beliefs as those who were still a part of the **Church of God Seventh Day** movement, but, in addition to observing the weekly sabbath, the followers of **Herbert W. Armstrong** also felt it necessary to keep the seven High Holy Days (Appointed Times) talked about in Leviticus 23. In the late 1990's the **Worldwide Church of God** fell upon hard times both financially and spiritually and it split into many, many factions. The present day **Worldwide Church of God** is a mere shadow of the original (in terms of membership) and its current belief system bears little resemblance to that prescribed by its founder, **Herbert W. Armstrong**.

What or who are the Sacred Name groups?

These churches or movements can also be found to have various doctrinal beliefs. The one thing that gives them commonality, is a strong conviction that God has a particular name, and that in order to reach him or connect with him in a spiritual sort of way, one must understand what that name is and when and how it is to be used. Interestingly, among those who might refer to themselves as being "**Sacred Namers**" there is much disagreement as to what the sacred name actually is, how it is to be pronounced, and some even question whether or not it is permissible to vocalize it or write it because it (being the sacred name) is so sacred. And the differences do not stop there. Some believers feel that the Old Testament name for God, sometimes referred to as the **tetragrammaton** needs to be pronounced a certain way, not pronounced at all, or, not even referred to at all. Then there are those who feel the New Testament name most modern professing Christians refer to as simply "Jesus" needs to be correctly used in its original Hebrew pronunciation, Greek pronunciation, Aramaic pronunciation, and sometimes even argue that the sacred name is a two part name or even a three part name. Others, then, believe in the full use of the name, whereas, others, yet, believe it can be contracted to a shorter version (like "Yah")

and still meet the requirement of it being a "sacred name." So, as I see it, the **Sacred Name groups** have but a loose commonality between them, that being, in some form or another, the belief that God's name is special and deserves a specific treatment consistent with a belief system that may or may not reflect the realities of God's wishes or instructions.

What is the Messianic Jewish movement about?

This is probably the easiest question for me to answer because friends I used to have who knew but just a little of my own personal religious beliefs used to automatically categorize me as being or belonging to one or another of the **Messianic Jewish movements**. I believe that the very first of these groups originated in California in the mid to late '60s. It was called **Jews for Jesus** and, over time, developed a significant following. It consisted, initially, of persons who considered themselves to be of "Jewish" ancestry who had come to believe that, contrary to established Jewish doctrine, the messiah had arrived and was the same Jesus whose message is recorded in the New Testament.

And as has happened with many religious movements, there were splinter groups formed off of the original **Jews for Jesus movement**, there were imitator movements, and look alike movements, etc. Now days, I have been told that there are two main elements to the so called "**Messianic Jewish**" movement. One group consists of persons who came out of a Jewish background who have accepted Christ as their personal savior. The other group consists of what are commonly referred to as gentiles, but they have accepted and feel the need to observe and practice many of the original, traditional, Jewish customs to one degree or another.

What about the Hebrew Roots groups; who are they and what do they represent?

This is probably the most difficult question for me to formulate a short, concise answer to. I would like to quote from an article either written by and/or published by Pam Dewey titled "**Hebrew Roots Movement**" which can be found at www.isitso.org/guide/hebroot/.html. "The current **Hebrew Roots movement** does not have a central focal point. It is made up of a wide variety of ministries which do not have a common history. A number of them appear to have been started by just one person or a small group of people as a result of their own independent Bible study. Most have a history of twenty years or less." That about sums it up in my opinion. Thank you very much Pam Dewey. (And I mean that sincerely.)

But in a nutshell, here are some (but certainly not all) of the things that I feel distinguish those feeling that they have "hebrew roots." I must first confess that I personally feel that I have "hebrew roots" in and of the fact that I believe myself to be a direct descendent of the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Joseph, probably through the lineage coming out of Joesph's son Ephriam. Now, that having been said, let me be quite clear in stating that I do not consider myself a part of or belonging to any of the **Hebrew Roots groups or the movement** itself. Nor am I Jewish. By most standards, I would qualify as a gentile; indeed, I probably am a full blown WASP (White Anglo-Saxon Protestant) by most people's standards although there might be some discussion on that subject, too, were someone to confront me with it.

One thing I suspect, but could not confirm while doing my research for this article, is that many of the people involved in the **Hebrew Roots Movement** are familiar with, to one degree or another, the theory of what is commonly referred to as British Israelism. British Israelism is a topic of its own, but the essence of it supposes that the so-called "Lost Ten Tribes" of Israel are in actuality the nations of Europe and the United States and Canada. Some would expand upon this to include the entirety of the former British Empire.

Others in this **movement** feel that the original gospels were originally written in Hebrew and/or Aramaic and then, subsequently, they were translated into Greek thus tainting them somehow. Their solution to the supposed problem is to return to the use of Torah, supplemented with a dose (or heavy dose depending on which of the various elements of the **movement** one chooses) of reading and study in the Mishnah, Haggadah, Halakah, Talmud (either or both the Jerusalem Talmud and Babylonian Talmud) and the Midrash.

According to one article I read, some of the followers of **Peter Michas** and other Hebraic Roots organizations have connections to and conduct seminars in conjunction with, what I understand to be a non-Christian institution, called **Jerusalem School of Synoptic Research**. That same article makes the claim that the Hebrew Roots Movement groups are "too numerous to count" which is consistent with what Pam Dewey has stated.

And, there is a whole other set of religious teachers and groups which purport to emphasize the hebrew roots of Jesus and even the hebrew roots of Christianity itself, in their beliefs and practices. The variations here, it would seem to me, are endless, so I will conclude with this as my last thought on the subject.

Article found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/a2009-051-06.htm>

THE END**

("Joseph isn't..." continued from page 1)

girl from France, in the kitchen of the *matgeria* - the chicken incubator where the eggs were stored, chicks hatched, then inoculated and sent to Europe (David, a Moroccan Jew, used to make the best *shukshuka*) - I used my very limited Hebrew to mention how the volunteers had just visited *Ramat HaGolan* (the Golan Heights). I was very happy to have seen part of the biblical inheritance of *shevet Menashe ben Yosef* (the Tribe of Manasseh son of Joseph), especially since the descendants of Menashe today are Americans. I said, "Yosef *lo Yehudi*." Joseph isn't Jewish!

Immediately there was quite a stir, a conversational commotion, and I asked the French girl who spoke Hebrew what was going on. She said everybody was debating whether or not Joseph was Jewish. They all started to say to me, "You need to talk to Professor Karniel, you need to talk to Professor Karniel." I said, "Who is Professor Karniel?" They informed me he was a professor at Haifa University who lived at Ramat Yohanan and that he knew his Bible. I said, "If he knows his Bible, then he'll know the difference between Joseph and Judah."

Just so happened Professor Tzvi Karniel's wife was there and she said she would talk to her husband and arrange a date to meet. We met and Professor Karniel was most gracious and said he understood the difference between Joseph and Judah, but was curious why I believed Joseph isn't Jewish. I explained why and gave him a copy of **The United States and Britain in Prophecy** and **The Plain Truth** magazine. He said his class was now discussing the story of Joseph, and knowing how God can work, I wouldn't be surprised if he brought up what I said about the United States being **the prophesied single GREAT NATION of Menashe** (Gen. 48:19). He said I was welcome to return for further conversations.

I was also later invited for coffee and conversation to the **kibbutz** home of a widower who was present at the breakfast and appeared angrily adamant that Joseph was Jewish. God blessed our meeting as well.

Blessed be the God of Joseph and Judah! May the modern identity of our twelve tribes continue to be restored and the reconciliation process be fulfilled. I'm pleased to help in whatever way I can to let all know that, **"I am Joseph your brother!"**

Article found on line at:

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THE END**

("Logic on..." continued from page 24)

written by Francis Scott Key (in English) and should be sung word for word the way it was written. The news broadcasts gave a translation that's NOT even close.

Sorry if this offends anyone, THIS IS MY COUNTRY! Would you allow me to come to your country and then allow me to demand that you sing your National Anthem in ENGLISH? And, because I make this statement DOES NOT mean I'm against immigration!

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE IN MY COUNTRY. Welcome to come through like everyone else has:

- Get a sponsor!
- Get a place to lay your head!
- Get a job!
- Live by OUR rules!
- Pay YOUR taxes!
- And LEARN THE LANGUAGE LIKE ALL OTHER IMMIGRANTS HAVE IN THE PAST!!!

And please don't demand that we hand over our lifetime savings of social security funds to you to make up for "your" losses. If you don't want to pass this on for fear of offending someone, then YOU ARE PART OF THE PROBLEM! When will AMERICAN'S stop giving away THEIR RIGHTS? We've gone so far the other way, bent over backwards not to offend anyone. But it seems no one cares about the AMERICAN that's being offended! WAKE UP America!

Item found on line at:

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THE END**

LETTERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2...

to \$75.44 per night. Visit our website for more information about the rooms. We would prefer families stay in the villas since the lodge rooms are more limited. We would also like to save them for those with more limited budgets. Please call Aaron Baker at 517-281-2073 (9 AM -11PM Eastern time) for reservation information.

This year we will again have exceptional musical talent, many skilled presenters, and lots and lots and lots of young people. A number of group meals are planned as well

as group activities. We will let you know when you can make actual reservations at [Grizzly Jack's Resort](#). More information will be coming in future emails, so please look for emails in the coming days and regularly check the website.

We would appreciate your continued prayers for the planning and preparation leading to the Feast.

On behalf of all involved,
Jeff Ledy

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/I2009-051-01.htm>

THE END**

**Utica, Illinois Feast of Tabernacles
-Update (05-06-09)
by Jeff Ledy (Laingsburg, Michigan)**

Dear Fellow Feastgoer,

I am writing to update you on information regarding this years Feast of Tabernacles that will be held at [Grizzly Jack's Grand Bear Resort & Conference Center](#) in Utica, Illinois. If you missed my first letter please go to our Feast website at www.feast2009.org.

It is now OK to make reservations for accommodations at the resort. Before you run to the telephone please finish reading this letter. It will save you time, answer several questions and generally teach you patience.

If you wish to reserve a room within the lodge itself, PLEASE call Aaron Baker at 517 -281-2073 between 9AM -11PM Eastern Daylight Savings Time. The room rate will be \$104.00 plus 11% Illinois tax (Total = \$115.44) through the [Lodge](#). The Festival Fund we have will subsidize the per night cost down to \$75.44 per night (including tax!). Aaron will help you with your reservation for rooms within the Lodge building (where services are held).

If you call the [lodge](#) directly I believe you will still be trying to get it figured out by the time the Feast arrives and those who called Aaron will probably have your room. It has to do with room assignments, types of rooms and of course the correct room rate. Trust us and call Aaron.

We strongly recommend the Villas for families. They are new, large and a great value for the money. If you wish to reserve a Villa (they sleep 6-9 people) you may call the lodge directly for your reservation. PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING. They will quote you a rate of \$149.00 plus 11% Illinois tax per night. (Total = \$165.39) This is correct. Once the majority of the reservations are made we will be subsidizing all the per night costs down to the \$125.39 per night cost we

quoted in the first letter. When you arrive at the Feast you will have the \$125.39 rate in your reservation. Please note that this rate is for 6 people. If there are more in your group they will charge an extra \$20.00 per night per person as a fee to cover the per person cost of the indoor Water park & Amusement park tickets that come with each reservation. Please factor that into the number that you give them for your reservation. It is my understanding infants do not count towards the additional \$20.00 per night charge. We will have extra park passes available for any families that run short of passes.

For all of those interested in a villa, you may call toll free 866-399-3866 then option #1.

Please check the website regularly. We hope to have a tentative schedule for each day of the Feast on the website later this week.

On behalf of all those involved,
Jeff Ledy

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/I2009-051-02.htm>

THE END**

**There is No Passover Day?
(8-30-08)
by Jon D. Pike (Phoenix, Arizona)**

This letter is in response to the item "Bible Days start in the Morning and Not at Sunset?", which was published in Issue #46.

Jon D. Pike writes:

Laura,

I just skimmed thru your back and forth with Richard Heath regarding biblical days beginning in the AM, and some Passover events timing. I found myself in general agreement with your explanations regarding sequences of events.

My suggestion stems from your use of the term "Passover Day." I would like to encourage you to take about 30 minutes some time with a concordance and bible and pay specific attention to how the term "passover" is used. In the OT, you find it often in phrases like "kill the passover" and "keep the passover." I am of the opinion that these 2 phrases mean the same thing as the Hebrew term translated "keep" where this phrase is used is not the term that can be correctly translated "commemorate." Unfortunately, we ex-WWC folks used the term "keep the passover" to mean that we were getting together to commemorate the passover, which indeed we were (albeit imperfectly in many regards).

The problem arises not from what we said, but when we come across the "keep the passover" phrase in the OT and assume that it means what we meant when we used the phrase.

The underlying Hebrew word translated into "keep," unlike a different word that can mean "celebrate or commemorate," means "to do, execute, or accomplish." That is why I assert that "keeping" or "killing" the passover, when those phrases are found in the OT mean the same thing. Another often found phrase is "eat the Passover"

Laura Lee writes:

In context of what the Bible says, the word "Passover" can mean several different things. For example: In Exodus 12:11 it is talking about "Eating the Passover", Exodus 12:21 is talking about "Killing the Passover lamb", Exodus 12:27 is talking about "One of the ways the Passover Sacrifice was Used which was so the Death Angel would Passover", Exodus 12:43 is showing that "Passover was an Ordinance (law)" and I could go on. The most basic meanings of Passover are that it is a day, a sacrifice or a meal.

In context of scripture keeping the Passover and killing the Passover would be both the same and different. By killing the Passover lamb you are also keeping the Passover, however to keep the Passover involves far more than just killing the Passover lamb.

Jon D. Pike writes:

My over-arching assertion here is that there is no "passover day" in the scriptures. The scriptures told the ancient Israelites to kill or "do" the passover on the 14th, between the evenings; and to eat it that night. That doesn't make the 14th or the 15th the passover day, but it focuses on the lamb being the passover. Of course, the Son of God is our passover and the ancient lamb pictures that to us.

Laura Lee writes:

I do agree with you that the Passover does focus on Christ being our Passover lamb, however scripture does make it clear that this focus was always to be done within a certain time period and once a year so there is a specific day of the year which is called the Passover day.

Jon D. Pike writes:

Unlike, the Day of Atonement, which is defined as a specific calendar day, likewise all God's Holy Days; the term "Passover" is not the name of either the 14th or the 15th day, and in NT times came to refer to the entire Spring Festival, including the preparation or 14th day-- but was not used to name a specific day, but named the sacrifice.

Laura Lee writes:

I believe that for most people there is a disconnect when it comes to Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. We believe that Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread are one and the same. The reason we refer more to or put more emphasis on Passover and the First Day of Unleavened Bread being the same day is because that was when the Passover Meal was eaten and when the Death Angel Passed over. Passover came to be known as the Passover because it was the night the Death Angel Passed Over and that would have been at midnight on the 15th of Abib. When you look at this closely, the lamb was killed on the preparation day, and the blood was daubed on the door post so that when the Death Angel Passed Over those who had the lambs blood would not be killed. It pictures and symbolizes Christ's death saving us from our sins.

Many people do not understand that even the Old Testament tells us that the whole week that most refer to as "The Days of Unleavened Bread" is also referred to as "The Passover Week". See Ezekiel 45:21, which says: In the first month, in the fourteenth day of the month, ye shall have the Passover, a feast of seven days; unleavened bread shall be eaten."

This verse not only tells us that Passover lasted for seven days but that it was the same week that unleavened bread was eaten. It also tells us that it was a seven day feast, so that would definitely mean that the **Worldwide Church of God** had the date of Passover wrong or that they still have the days included in the "Days of Unleavened Bread" wrong because when they keep Passover on the 14th and Unleavened Bread starting on the 15th for seven days they are keeping an eight day Holy Day week and scripture is pretty clear that this Holy Day week is only seven days long and of course the New Testament tells us that the preparation day was the day before the Passover Day/Week. So I do agree with you on this point and I also disagree with you, Passover did happen on a certain day, but it was also a week long Feast.

Jon D. Pike writes:

Should you decide to follow my suggestion to study how the word "passover" is used; please let me know if you found any flaw in my writing above. This is entirely possible as it has been years since I specifically studied this; and would appreciate your informing me if I have mis-summarized here in any way.

By the way, I believe that I Kings 18 proves that "between the evenings" occurs before dark.

Also, no inference should be made that I

am promoting any specific time of day to commemorate the Passover in modern times by what I have said here.

Thank you for your service in maintaining this [website](#), Your Brother in Christ, Jon

Laura Lee writes:

I guess, based on certain statements you have made throughout your letter, I could assume that you are in agreement with a Passover week that starts on the 15th with a preparation day on the 14th and that would put us in agreement. However after years of answering letters, I also understand that what people seem to say is not always where they are going with what they say. So you will probably have to see if I saw any flaws in your writing by seeing what I said in regard to your comments. We have studied many aspects of the Passover and you can read those studies and the studies of others at: <http://darwinlauralee.com/passover.htm>

We do not have all of the stuff we have printed in regard to Passover posted on that page yet, but we are working on it as we have time. Some articles posted there only refer to Passover in passing and others are in depth in regard to Passover. So, we hope you and others can and will use some of the articles posted on that page to enhance their own Passover studies.

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/I2009-051-03.htm>

*****THE END*******

**Move on to the Next Charity!
(12-14-07)
by Michael Porter (Benin Republic)**

We received a complaint from some brethren that they were unable to get straight truthful answers from Michael Porter in regard to what the money they were sending him was being used for. Much of the money they sent to him was targeted for specific purposes, such as the Feast, rent, hospital bills etc. and yet Michael avoided sending them a copy of any receipts showing what the money was being used for. When we confronted Michael Porter, we got a ton of pictures and little else from him. We tried to tell him that pictures were not proof of anything, at least not of anything we wanted answers for. He did send us some hospital receipts, but they appeared not to be dated for the time of the 2006 prayer request in question but were dated several months later and they didn't really say what Stella was even in the hospital

for so it is also hard to use those as proof of anything. During our confrontation with Michael Porter we found him to not always be truthful in what he said and he avoided even answering many straightforward questions which we asked him. When all was said and done we had more questions than answers, so to our readers, all we can say is be careful who you send money to. Make sure the person can send you a receipt showing where the money went and if they can't or they avoid answering you, move on to another charity. We do realize that Africa is not a good place to be at this time with all that goes on there, however, God's people should not be purposely deceiving each other, I do not care where they live. The nature of many people in Africa is to make a living by coning people out of their money, so the only way to discern who is or is not doing this, short of going there in person, is to require receipts showing they are using the money for what you intended it for. If they can not do this for you, then as I said, move on to the next charity. Below is one of the exchanges we had with Michael Porter. It is up to the reader to discern whether they believe there is a problem here or not.
Laura Lee

Michael Porter writes:

I SENT THIS EMAIL ON THE 19TH NOVEMBER WITHOUT ANY WORD FROM YOU, HOPE THIS GOT TO YOU.

Laura Lee writes:

I did not receive the below email from you on the 19th of November and that is why I did not respond to it. I did however receive this email from you on the 21st of November (It is as follows):

Praise and Thanksgiving

November is the month of Thanksgiving and "thanks" giving!

It's a time of great joy to all of us as we settle back and remember ALL the things we need to thank God for on the special day that we set aside to praise God for our bountiful way of life!

We thank God for Jesus, the rock of our salvation. *"The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer"* II Samuel 22:2

We thank God for salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ. *"In Him we have redemption through His blood . . ."* Eph. 1:7
We thank God for our marriage. *"Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."* Matthew 19:6

We thank God for our children. *"Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth."* Psalm 127:4

"And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus!" Philippians 4:19

We thank God for our grandchildren.

"Children's children are the crown of old men . . ." Proverbs 17:6

We thank God for our ministry. *"And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."* Ephesians 4:11,12

We thank God for His Word. *"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away."* Mark 13:31

We thank God for faith . . . *"God has dealt to each one a measure of faith."* Romans 12:3
Let's confess these praise and thanksgiving confessions at least ten times each day so that our spirits will be soaring in the heavens every day this month.

We wish you a very happy Thanksgiving Day.
Michael

I was going to print it in the newsletter and I am wondering if you wrote it or if you know who did write it?

Michael Porter writes:

Dear Laura & Darwin,

Shalom in the name of Jesus our only peace.

Thank you very much for your articles and newsletters via email and snail mail that you sent regularly. It has continued to be a source of blessing and encouragements to us. For a long time now I have neither written to you or sent in any bible study article, it is not forgetfulness or that am no longer interested on the good work you are doing for the Lord, it is due to some many things happening here. We also received some get well letters some brethren sent to us through you which you sent over to us through the snail mail, thanks.

Laura Lee writes:

We are glad that you like receiving our newsletters. I did however check back in our records and found that we did not send you any get well cards or letters from us or anyone else on our list for your last prayer request that had to do with Stella back in **June of 2006**. So how do you explain to me your statement that we sent you some letters via snail mail when we actually did no such thing?

Michael Porter writes:

However, there was a **prayer request** that was sent to you which raised an eye brow or didn't go down well with some people in 2006. It was a **PRAYER REQUEST** sent

on behalf of my wife STELLA when we were attacked by some voodoo worshippers during one of our outreaches. Stella was severely attacked with machetes and some others wounded including my self. I read some emails from some brethren that frowned on the prayer request and also alleged that the prayer request was copied from that of **ANNA JOHNSON** which means that of Stella might not be true.

Laura Lee writes:

The prayer request that was sent out to our list by you was very close to the one we sent out for Anna Johnson and we were the ones that sent out a warning in regard to it to the rest of the brethren.

Michael Porter writes:

I want to apologize to you and every other person who might have waited since 2006 for the clarification of this **prayer request**. I am sincerely sorry for causing pain to the body of Christ.

This is the truth about the prayer request: I directed our Ministry secretary to send out a prayer request to some brethren and inform them to pray about the incident and for Stella's recovery. He never informed me about anything that he added to the prayer request that he sent out.

Laura Lee writes:

Who was your Ministry Secretary and how do I reach him or her in order to confirm what you are saying?

Michael Porter writes:

Our former Ministry secretary took some stories from the **prayer requests** of Anna Johnson to you to make up the story about Stella's attack. He never told me that he added something to what I told him to write about Stella's attack. When I found out what he did, it was too late for me to retrieve them because he has already sent it out to several people. I am to be blamed because I never informed you or others about the discrepancy in the sent out prayer requests. The committee decided to handle the situation here by themselves here. He also used my name to steal a camera, \$100 bill, and some other materials sent to us by a Christian brother from USA. He stole some letters sent to the Ministry thinking that it was money. His collaborators in the post office have since been relieved of their jobs and charged to court. As a result of this and many others the committee has to sack him. I failed to tell you all these because I don't know how you will receive them. I am sincerely sorry.

Laura Lee writes:

Please send me proof that the collaborators were charged in court. Surely

this would be in your local newspaper, if not most court records are public and you should be able to show us some kind of proof that these people were charged in court.

Michael Porter writes:

Now concerning the articles or answer to a **question** that you said that I sent in, I never did and Lucas Yovo vehemently denied it too. I cannot ever remember when I answered such a **question**. There must be a mix up somewhere. I refused to answer the email because I can't be able to trace it towards me or Lucas Yovo.

Laura Lee writes:

Unfortunately I can trace the answer you sent to us to you. Please see the **attachment** to this email. You really need to explain to us why we received this email from a Michael Porter from your email address but yet you claim you did not send it to us. Who is Lucas Yovo and why didn't you claim that you didn't answer this **question** before this. I did email you about it more than once.

Michael Porter writes:

Please I want you to apologize on our behalf to whosoever this unfortunate incident has caused some pain or disappointment. I want to apologize once again and hope that every one of you will forgive us with the brotherly love in Jesus Christ. I also ask for your prayers for discernment and wisdom in all things. Pray that we shall remain steadfast in the Lord always.

I hope to read from you and if you need more explanation I will be willing to give it.

Shalom in Jesus.

Michael Porter

Laura Lee writes:

I do believe we need more explanation from you. We keep records here so before you speak to us, be sure that you tell us the truth. There are some people with in the Church of God that are having some problems with the many discrepancies in what you say. We are among those who are having a problem with what you have now said in this email. We need proof that Stella was operated on in 2006. Since you paid all that money on her hospital bill you would certainly have a receipt or should be able to get a copy of your receipt from the hospital she was in. Send us the court records for those who were as you said charged in court. Send us anything which will prove to us that the things you are telling us are true. We are not well pleased with the lies you have told in this email. If you truly have a ministry in Benin then you should be able to prove it. Are there people in your congregation you can have contact us? We really need to get

these discrepancies straightened out with you as soon as is possible. This is your chance to clear your name and prove yourself worthy of all this money I hear you are receiving on a regular basis. We sincerely hope to hear from you in a timely manner. Also do you know a James Snipes and if so, who is he. Please send us copies of receipts for items you have purchased in the past for the Feast of Tabernacles or something which would prove to us that you ever had one. Has anyone from the United States ever visited you in Benin that we can contact as proof that your ministry exists. Your answer to this email is important to both you and us. We are very sorry that we have to ask these things of you but there does seem to be a major problem here and we just want some truthful answers from you and the proof that we have asked you for. If you do not have the proof we are asking you for then you need to explain why you cannot send us that proof and not ignore the email as you have said you did in the past, in regard to the [2006 prayer request](#) and my email in regard to the [question](#) you answered. Do not ignore us or you will find yourself in bad print which we do not want and I am sure you don't either.

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/I2009-051-04.htm>

THE END**

Report on P. F. Lazor (10-12-07)

by Tony Ray

(West Sacramento, California)

Tony Ray writes:

I just found your site with the [letters](#) from PF Lazor. I see him almost every week at Mule Creek St. Prison in Lone, CA. I just wondered if you needed any updated contact info from him.

He's doing as well as can be expected, his faith is strong and he hasn't lost hope of gaining his freedom.

Thanks for your help. Tony

Laura Lee writes:

Dear Tony,

Thank you for your offer, however I believe our contact info for PF Lazor is up to date, as we just received a letter from him on October 5, 2007.

We also thank you for the report on PF Lazor's condition and hope you will contact us again in that regard. Thank you.

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/I2009-051-05.htm>

THE END**

God's People in Prison (11-24-07)

by Ron Hoover (Internet)

Ron Hoover writes:

You should get rid of that Richard Markland article, do you know he was convicted of raping an 8 year old girl? He is in prison now.
<http://www.hwarmstrong.com/richardmarkland1.htm>

Laura Lee writes:

I only knew Richard Markland for a few months before he went to prison in November 2006. I was not at his trial nor have I ever heard both sides of the story. What I do know is that he would not plead guilty and take a lesser sentence. Why would a person do that if they were really guilty?

I do not know if molesting a child carries a 10 year sentence in every state, however I now know this to be true in both Ohio and North Dakota. You see our roofer, who I thought was a very nice man, and one who had worked at a local school here in Bismarck for many years as well as having his own roofing business, was at approximately the same time as Richard Markland being convicted for the same crime. In my dealings with this roofer I felt him to be quite honest and straightforward, so when he pled guilty to having molested an eleven year old girl, I believed him.

Because he pled guilty he got a 10 year sentence but they said he only had to serve 4 years of it in prison, the rest would be probation. Richard Markland on the other hand has always maintained his innocence and was sentenced to 10 years and must serve 10 years. So the guilty get to go free sooner because authorities believe they are honest in saying they are guilty and those who maintain their innocence get to serve the whole sentence because authorities believe they are lying when in reality some of them may actually be telling the truth.

Guilty people go free all the time or never get caught, one that comes to mind is [O. J. Simpson](#), and many people in our time are being released from prison as they find that the DNA evidence has cleared them. It is true that guilty people can and do lie about not being guilty, but then how does one sort through the innocent and the guilty to find the innocent if they are both claiming to be innocent?

Law enforcement agencies many times are corrupt and even in some cases plant evidence. Who does the court believe? Of course they believe their own officers. It is sort of like the ministry in the corporation Churches of God, even if one minister does something wrong, all the other ministers back him up and so it goes with many of your law enforcement agencies.

I know of a case where one police chief told a woman she had to let her husband work in the garage when the woman showed the chief of police her restraining order clearly showing her husband was not to be on the property. Later in a conversation with the DA she told him that her husband was working in the garage and the DA said why are you letting him on the property when you have a restraining order. She told the DA that the chief of police told her she had to let him work in the garage. Even though the DA blew a fuse on that one, the chief of police never lost his job because of that.

The same police chief went to the offender of a crime and told him everything the witness said about the crime he had committed including the witnesses name. So much for police confidentiality and keeping a witness safe from harm. As things go, approximately 1 year later this police chief was caught having sex with two under age teen age girls while in the line of duty. To my knowledge the only thing he ever got from that crime was fired, as far as I know he was never charged with a crime and yet one was committed. My point here is that not all law enforcement officers or agencies are above helping the criminal rather than the victim. What happens in many cases also is due to public out cry for a resolution to a crime police officers will many times recruit the first person they can find and say they are the one who did it, end of investigation. A famous case that comes to mind here is the JonBenet Ramsey murder case. On July 9, 2008 the Boulder District Attorney's office officially apologized to the Ramsey family in a letter. JonBenet was murdered on December 26, 1996 and by the time the DA finally cleared all family members of her murder they lost everything and Patsy Ramsey, JonBenet's mother had died of cancer. So much for being innocent until proven guilty.

And what about the people in the Bible, specifically God's people? Read the story of Joseph starting with Geneses 39:1. His master's wife wanted Joseph to have sex with her and when he refused and tried to leave she took his garment. Geneses 39:12 "And she caught him by his garment, saying, lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out." Joseph was innocent, but Joseph went to prison because his master's wife lied and God allowed it.

Here are a few examples from the Bible of God's people being thrown into prison. John the Baptist was in prison. Matthew 4:12 "Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee." The apostles were in prison. Acts 5:18 "And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison." Paul and Silas sang when they were in prison. Acts 16:25 "And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and

sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them." These are only a few examples of God's people having been thrown into prison, there are many more throughout the Bible.

Darwin Lee writes:

So, according to your theory, you better not pay attention to their writings which compose much of the New Testament.

Laura Lee writes:

From scripture we see that not all people who are in prison are guilty and sometimes God not only allows them to be in prison for long periods of time but some even die there. So in answer to your question, if we ever need a roofer again, and our old roofer is out of prison and still roofing houses, we would certainly hire him again to roof our house because he was good at roofing. And so it is with Richard Markland, we will continue to print his articles as long as they square with the Bible. And to you I sincerely hope that you never end up in prison for a crime which you did not commit.

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/12009-051-06.htm>

THE END**

Holy Days and Tithing? (8-8-08)

by David Rydholm

(Olympia, Washington)

David Rydholm writes:

Hi, Thank you for your email. I have visited your [site](#).

Just a brief summary as to what I think: I was in the **WCG** from 1967 to 1979, but after my own study have determined **HWA** did not explain or preach or teach truthfully Exodus 23:14-16 and Leviticus 27:30-31. Exodus lists 3 feasts, not seven, and from other scriptures I've determined those feasts are Nisan 14-20, Sivan 5, and Tishri 15-21. The other annual holy days are Sabbaths.

Laura Lee writes:

Ex. 23:14-16 "Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto me in the year. Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt; and none shall appear before me empty: And the feast of harvest, the first fruits of thy labours, which thou has sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field."

I will agree with you in that I believe that **Herbert Armstrong** did teach the Holy Days

wrongly, but I also do not agree with what you have stated above. Annual Holy Days are all Sabbaths, it wouldn't matter whether you called them Annual Holy Days or Sabbaths.

Herbert Armstrong listed them as the "First Day of Unleavened Bread", "The Last Day of Unleavened Bread", "Pentecost", "Trumpets", "Atonement", The First Day of the Feast of Tabernacles" and "The Last Great Day", which gives you seven "Holy Days" or "Sabbaths". **Herbert Armstrong** got this information from Lev. 23 where they are all listed as Holy Convocations or Assemblies. What Exodus 23:14-16 is talking about is 3 seasons and I believe **Herbert Armstrong** always acknowledged that there were three holy day seasons as stated in Exodus 23:14-16. The first season would include Passover and the seven Days of Unleavened Bread. The second season would include Pentecost. The third season would include Trumpets, Atonement, the seven days of the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day.

Where I and **Herbert Armstrong** part ways is on Passover and Pentecost. **Herbert Armstrong** always taught that Passover was not a Holy Day, but Lev. 23 does include it as a Holy Day. Passover and the First Day of Unleavened bread would be one and the same day. **Herbert Armstrong** also made up his own way of counting to Pentecost so Pentecost would always fall on a Sunday. The evidence for a Sivan 6 Pentecost can be found in Exodus 19.

David Rydholm writes:

Leviticus 27 is the first commandment in the Bible on tithing, and it's not on money, but you could pay in money if you pay 120% of the value of the tithe in-kind, like grain or wine.

Laura Lee writes:

Lev. 27:30-31 "And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's: it is holy unto the Lord. And if a man will at all redeem ought of his tithes, he shall add thereto the fifth part thereof."

I believe that what you are saying is that all tithes were to be in the form of goods, such as grain or wine etc. and if you turned this into money before using it as a tithe you would have to pay 120% in tithes rather than 100%. In other words if you had 10 pears worth \$10.00 and you tithed on the pears you would make your offering 1 pear. Now if you sold the pears for money and you got \$10.00's for them, now because you have money instead of pears you would have to offer \$1.20 for your tithe rather than an actual 10%, because you are saying there is a penalty for turning your goods into money

and offering the money rather than fruit or goods.

In Leviticus 27:30, God makes it quite clear all the tithe of the land is His and this would include money also. If you ever watch old westerns on TV or at the theater, you will notice that they didn't always pay with money. Many times in old westerns you will see people paying their medical bills with chickens or some other sort of animal or goods. Farm goods were at one time used to pay for many things just as we use money today. You try paying your doctor bills in chickens now days and you will be laughed at and sent to collections. Now days you need to take your chickens and turn them into money and then pay your medical bills. In doing this your money is still coming from the land, so a tithe of money still belongs to God. A tithe is still only 10% whether it is goods such as grain or wine or money.

What is really being talked about in Chapter 27 in regard to redemption is that people made vows to God which they later changed their mind about. For example there were certain things like the first born which were already dedicated to God which were God's and could not be redeemed or bought back from God. They are His. Then there are the vows people make to give God things which are unclean things or even people that are not Holy to God or not dedicated to God. When these things were given as a vow/offering to God, people were allowed to buy these unclean things/undedicated things or people back from the tithe or offering they gave to God, for the items or persons value plus a fifth part. In simple terms, it is talking about your ability to buy back or redeem things from God, which you offered to God but which God did not require of you, but that you vowed to give and now you have changed your mind and want to redeem them back or buy them back from God. Leviticus 27:28-29 makes it clear that you cannot buy back or redeem things or persons which are dedicated to God.

David Rydholm writes:

If the churches believed the above, I would consider attending their services.

You may respond if you wish but I don't require an answer. For the truth, David Rydholm

Laura Lee writes:

This is just an excuse for you to use to justify your not assembling with God's people. If all of God's people had the same truth they would never have to grow in grace and knowledge as scripture says. The bottom line is that one person has studied Holy Days, another person has studied Tithing, another person has studied where the 10 tribes are today and the list goes on and on. The whole idea of fellowship and holy

convocations or assemblies is for all of God's people to come together in one spot and learn from and teach each other. Unfortunately many as yourself have the attitude that I am the final word on the matter and since I have it right, anyone who does not see it as I see it is not of God so they excuse themselves from speaking to those people or assembling with them. It's just another form of "It's my way or the highway". God's church does not grow because people judge other people as not being one of God's people. You and another person could agree on 9 things from scripture but if you disagree on only one thing, you will separate yourself from those people or those people will throw that one person out of their group. I have seen and experienced this judging to death phenomenon happen over and over again within the church of God. There are no two people who agree on every single thing which is found in scripture, yet many people use this criteria to relegate others as belonging to Satan and therefore are not brethren at all. Then they use it as an excuse not to assemble with others on the Sabbath, just as you are now doing. Read your Bible! You separate yourself from others for sin. If someone is a murderer or a child molester who is still practicing these sins and has no intention of repentance or has not yet repented, do not hang out with these kinds of people. It is not a sin for someone not to see a certain scripture exactly as you see it.

I sincerely hope you reconsider and meet with other Sabbath Keepers at some point as they need your input as much as you need their input.

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/I2009-051-07.htm>

THE END**

**Steve Collins Books! (09-11-08)
by Kenneth Ryland (Wichita, Kansas)**

This letter is in response to the article Ephraim and Manasseh Allies in the Modern World, which was published in Issue #46.

Kenneth Ryland writes:

Darwin and Laura,

I looked over your latest newsletter (#46). There is some interesting material in it. There is one thing that I noticed in particular. I was reading in one article that you were touting a book that you had written about Parthia and the migrations of the northern 10 tribes. You stated that you and Yair Davidy agree on this. I found your comments to be very disingenuous because you made no mention whatsoever of Steve Collins and

the five volumes that he has written to date on the migrations of the 10 tribes -- one of the volumes dealing specifically with Parthia. Steve is probably the foremost authority in the world today on these historical migrations, and a close personal friend of Yair Davidy. The fact that you completely omit any mention of Steve's books makes me wonder whether your book is nothing more than a rehash of what Steve has already written on the subject. If you had mentioned Steve's books, your readers would surely have been tempted to compare what you have written with Steve's books on the subject.

Please show me where I am wrong in my assessment.

Ken Ryland

Laura Lee writes:

Hello Kenneth Ryland,

I am sure that Steve Collins will get a chuckle or two from your defense of his books and I must admit that when I saw this particular letter come in I also was amused. The bottom line here is that neither Darwin or I have ever to date written any books. We publish this newsletter 6 times a year and other than writing an article here and there, this is what we do. We also have never to date met Yair Dividy although we know of him.

I think that you only scanned what you were reading from Issue #46 not giving any thought to look and see who actually wrote what you were reading. Our newsletter is not compiled of only what we write, but most of it consists of items which many people from all over the world send to us. What you were apparently reading from Issue #46 was actually Steve's article titled: Ephraim and Manasseh Allies in the Modern World

So, I hope I have shown you where your assessment of this matter is wrong, but we are flattered that you thought we wrote a book, although we have not. I am sure that Steve will be pleased by your defense of him when you apparently thought we were taking something from him. We agree with your assessment that Steve is an authority when it comes to information and history in regard to the 10 tribes and we do hope that you will continue to read our newsletter in which we will continue to print more of Steve's articles. Laura

Letter found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/I2009-051-08.htm>

THE END**



To the Readers of this Newsletter. We are sorry this issue is so late.

We have been exceptionally busy this year with various things.

In the early spring we had a lot of flooding in Bismarck. We live on a hill approximately 1 mile from the Missouri River, so we were dry here, but it delayed Darwin by 2 to 3 weeks with window cleaning due to all the snow we got which then melted rapidly and caused all the flooding. He is still running a week or two behind. I keep the books, create the work orders and do all the scheduling and from mid March to mid June we are really busy.

We also had two visitors this year from out of state, which was something we thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated. Evan Manning from Canada spent Passover with us and Michael R. Zaeske from Michigan visited the weekend before Pentecost. We have a guest room for anyone who visits and we enjoy the company and fellowship.

On the downside, one person from Bismarck accused us of purposely not sending them this newsletter and didn't seem to want to hear it even though we told her it was not even done yet.

Recently another person wrote me a letter and wanted to know how my mind works, so that should be interesting when I have a chance to actually answer that letter. I am truly looking forward to hearing my answer as I am sure you all are to.

Again I am sorry this newsletter is late. Hopefully I can catch up sometime this year.

Laura Lee

PRAYER REQUESTS & UPDATES ---

the-cog-messenger@earthlink.net

To send out prayer requests without joining our list, use the form at: <http://darwinlauralee.com/data/05-21-06.htm> or join our prayer request list by using the form at: <http://darwinlauralee.com/data/05-17-06.htm>

April 17, 2009--Len Neubert

My long time friend and pastor of the heartland fellowship, Len Neubert is in serious health now. As little as a couple weeks ago he went to the doctor for a severe backache, only to find out he has a very advanced stage of Pancreas and liver cancer and in the last day or so his kidneys are shutting down. He is in great pain but not depressed and is not seeking any treatment but relying on God for healing. Emergency prayers are requested. Sent by Wayne Schatzle

April 24, 2009--Glenn Gappert

I need to let all you know about the recent developments with Glenn and a big health concern. Last week Glenn started turning very yellow...jaundice. I got him to go to his doctor. After testing he was scheduled to see a specialist at the hospital. Fortunately they (because of a favor due) got Glenn in, in 2 days. After those tests he was put in the hospital and a temporary stint was put in near the gall bladder, liver, pancreas area where there is some sort of tumor (type unknown yet). Now he is scheduled for a specialized ultrasound for Monday at Hennepin County Medical Center in downtown Minneapolis. This test is not available in North or South Dakota and a few other regional states. We were also pretty lucky to get in so fast. This ultrasound is endoscopic which means they approach it from the mouth; the same way they put the stint in. He had gotten so bad with his eating that he lost 15# in the 5 days the doctors were involved. Before, even if he ate a piece of toast, he would be up until 3-4 in the morning because it would feel like he had just had a Thanksgiving Dinner. We are told that we will get preliminary results about 2 hours after the test and final in a couple days. This test is so sensitive the doctors can see through the cell walls to detect what is going on inside...blood flow, etc. I cannot imagine it. After the temporary stint was put in place his color started returning the first hours and is not noticeable at this time. He also woke up hungry for the first time in months. Why they put in a temporary stint, instead of permanent I don't know and I have not had a chance to ask. We ask for your prayers, without them, we would be nervous wrecks. Thanks, Sandy Gappert

May 15, 2009--Glenn Gappert

Sorry this is taking so long to get to, I am having a hard time getting my mind around all this. The weekend of April 27th Jeremy drove Glenn and I to Minneapolis for some medical tests for Glenn at Hennipin County Medical Center. Unfortunately the tests did not come back with positive results. Glenn has inoperative cancer in his pancreas. Of his two doctors here one said he had a year to a year and a half. The other told me he would be lucky to make it to the fourth of July. We are trying to be positive. Since it is inoperative, we are searching for alternative homeopathic choices and have one that sounds promising. One of our customers discovered a process that takes parts of flax seeds and makes the result have about 300 times more antioxidants. They also operate as part of a philanthropic organization threw the Health Sciences Institute. In a positive light, Glenn feels fairly good again. A temporary stint was put in about a week before the trip. Before that the cancer was pushing on the tube that allows enzymes to enter the lower stomach upper intestine so that your food digests. It would take all night for him to digest even ½ piece of toast. He was bright yellow (jaundice) before the stint and could not eat. He woke up from the procedure 'hungry', (then they had him on only clear liquids). He never eats much, but at least some. Of course, we are praying this works, and ask you to do the same. Believe me, we can feel your prayers. Without them we would be basket cases. You have our sincere gratitude. Much love to all of you, Glenn and Sandy

Prayer Request Archives

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/p2009-051-01.htm>

THE END**

PLEASE PRAY

THE MESSAGE BOARD (ADS & INFO) ---

the-cog-messenger@earthlink.net

SABBATH SCHEDULE--BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

- April 15, 2009---Last Day of Unleavened Bread (See Ad)
April 18, 2009---Teaching the Law-- Lesson #270 & Lesson #271
April 25, 2009---Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
May 2, 2009---Teaching the Law-- Lesson #272 & Lesson #273
May 9, 2009---Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
May 15, 2009---Bible Study
May 16, 2009---Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
May 23, 2009---Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
May 29, 2009---Pentecost (See Ad)
May 30, 2009---No Services
June 6, 2009---Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
June 13, 2009---Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
June 20, 2009---Teaching the Law-- Lesson #274 & Lesson #275
June 26, 2009---Bible Study
June 27, 2009---Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up
July 4, 2009---Teaching the Law-- Lesson #276 & Lesson #277
July 11, 2009---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: June 15, 2009. 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)

THE LAST DAY OF UNLEAVENED BREAD IN BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

On Wednesday, April 15, 2009, 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.

PENTECOST IN BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

On Friday May 29, 2009, Pentecost, 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 Family Restaurant" in Mandan.

Ten Tribes Site!

by David Ben-Ariel (Toledo, Ohio)

This Ten Tribes site seeks to add to the treasure trove of information about the Israelite origins of the West, prophesied to greatly increase and culminate in the reconciliation and restoration of Judah with Israel, becoming "One Nation Under God," a truly United Kingdom!

http://tentribes.blogspot.com

Item found on line at:

http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/i2009-051-03.htm

THE END**

Ancient Astronauts the Dogu Code

Sent by Win Powell (Lake Panasoffkee, Florida)

From: http://ancientgravitics.tripod.com/

Parallel Paradox

Viktor Schauburger, Nikola Tesla, Moray, TT Brown as well as other historical figures laid the ground work and developed the primary technologies setting the stage for Electrogravitic Propulsion Systems in our modern era. The fact of the matter is that I decoded this same logistical information from the ancient astronaut schematics.

I began to ask myself, has the human race been involved in back engineering off-world technology and/or decoding ancient symbols since the 1800's?

Did the scientist of the 1920's & 1930's

Whiskey Creek Retreat --- Sent by Kim Snyder, Livonia, Michigan

WHISKEY CREEK RETREAT

CUSTER, MICHIGAN

Thursday July 23, 2009

Thru

Sunday July 26, 2009

Make Reservations by July 1st

\$30 per person

Camping Retreat - Bring:

Tent / Trailer

Sleeping Gear/Folding

Chair/Towels/Swimsuit

Dirt Bikes / Quads

Bring Non-perishable Foods:

Pop/Water/Snacks

(All else will be provided)

- * Canoe the Pere Marquette
- * Volleyball on the Beach
- * Bible Sand Sculpting Contest
- * Campfire Music
- * Bible Studies
- * Swim in Lake or Heated Pool
- * Ride the trails
- * Off-site camping facilities
(full hook ups) available
- * Cabins also available to
"rent" for those without
tent/camping equipment

For Reservations Contact Kim Snyder - (734) -765-6563

KimMSnyder@gmail.com

Send Check (Made out to Kim Snyder) to: 37360 Bristol Livonia, MI 48154

Item found on line at:

<http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/i2009-051-01.htm>

THE END**



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

Gift Donations Received: Previous Balance: \$279.02

03-22-09 -- SM -- \$20.00
04-26-09 -- RL -- \$5.00
05-24-09 -- MZ -- \$20.00

Total = \$45.00 THANK YOU!

Total Gift Donations: \$324.02

Subscriptions Requested: 04-20-09 -- Rose Mary Knudson
04-21-09 -- Janine Ziomek-Witek
06-11-09 -- Apolonio S. Federico
06-11-09 -- Chad Bussell

1 Year Subscriptions Paid: Rose Mary Knudson -- \$13.80
Janine Ziomek-Witek -- \$13.02
Apolonio S. Federico -- \$22.20
Chad Bussell -- \$13.02

Postage Increase Extra stamps -- \$1.61

Amount Left: \$260.37

Subscription Requests Pending at this Time: None

decipher some of these same ancient technologies?

Conclusion:

The archetype premise of academia based on a "Unified Primitive Man Theory" is in error it is in fact a misinterpretation of ancient and modern man's history.

Order the Dogu Code on CD today, contents over 800 pages! Graphically Illustrated step by step Translations Windows Based exe.book. Presented by Robert A. Patterson, Reverse Engineering Specialist.



Dogu picture from: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dogu%C5%AB

http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/i2009-051-05.htm
THE END

Place of Safety Camp? by Alan Croyle (Emporia, Virginia)

Jesus Christ is come in the flesh, 1 John 4:1-3. When the (computer) mark becomes world law, will your children reject it? And dwell in the Place of Safety Camp near Armstrong, Ontario, Canada. Contact: Alan Croyle, PO Box 7, Emporia, VA 23847

Item found on line at: http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/i2009-051-04.htm
THE END

Logic on Immigration Sent by Keith Slough (Kannapolis, North Carolina)

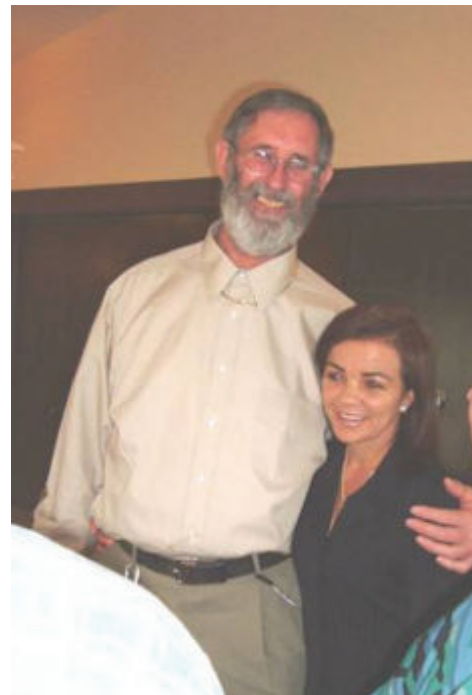
Everyone concentrates on the problems we're having in this country lately;
• illegal immigration
• hurricane recovery
• alligators attacking people in Florida

Not me. I concentrate on solutions for the problems. It's a win-win situation.
• 1. Dig a moat the length of the Mexican

"Jeffrey Caldwell is Married"

by Jeffrey Caldwell (Redwood City, California)

Jeffrey Allen Caldwell from California and Odete Ribiero daSilva from Brazil were married on March 20, 2009. We would appreciate your prayers for our marriage!



Item found on line at: http://darwinlauralee.com/thecogmessenger0051/i2009-051-02.htm
THE END

- border.
• 2. Send the dirt to New Orleans to raise the level of the levies.
• 3. Put the Florida alligators in the moat along the Mexican border.

Any other problems you would like for me to solve today?

On singing OUR National Anthem in Spanish. I'm sorry, but after hearing they want to sing OUR National Anthem in Spanish - enough is TOO much! NEVER did they sing it in Italian, Japanese, Polish, Irish-Celtic, German, Portuguese, Greek, French, or any other language because of immigration. It was (Continued on page 14)