

# THE DAY OF THE LORD

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# **The Day Of The Lord**

**6000 YEARS  
HAVE ENDED!**

**WHERE ARE WE NOW IN GOD'S MASTER  
PLAN?**

**CAN WE KNOW?**

**WHAT IS "*THE DAY OF THE LORD*"?**

**ARE YOU SURE YOU UNDERSTAND  
OR DO YOU JUST THINK YOU KNOW?**

**DO YOU REALIZE THE FOUR HORSEMEN HAVE BEEN  
RELEASED AND THE GREAT TRIBULATION LOOMS  
DIRECTLY AHEAD?**

**YOU WILL BE ASTOUNDED BY THE NEW TRUTH  
REVEALED IN THIS BOOKLET!**

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## Chapter One:

# GOD'S MASTER PLAN

**“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men.... And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us...”**John 1:1-4 and 14.

The Holy Bible states in the scriptures above that God and the Word, who became Jesus Christ, have existed **“from the beginning.”** The Word created all creation, the entire known Universe. This Great Being **“who became flesh and dwelt among us”**, also created the entire invisible spirit world that man cannot see. All angels; including the super angels Lucifer, Gabriel, and Michael were made by Him (see Ezekiel 28:15).

The Apostle Paul, writing about Jesus Christ in the book of Colossians, proclaims; **“Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over every creature: For by him were all things made that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him and for him: and he is before all things and by him all things consist”** (Col.1: 15-17). But, WHY AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE WERE ALL THINGS CREATED?

The patriarch Job records the words of this great Creator in chapter 38:4-7: **“Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if thou hast understanding...whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? Or who laid the corner stone thereof; when the morning stars sang together, and all of the sons of God shouted for joy”**. At the creation of the earth the angels were overjoyed.

Genesis 1:1 verifies that which has been stated. **“In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth”**. This was an indeterminate time in the past when the original CREATION was completed. The EARTH had been hung in the heavens in the same manner as multiple millions of other planets were positioned; but Earth was special. **GOD HAS A PLAN!**

Herbert W. Armstrong in his last and greatest literary accomplishment, *Mystery of the Ages*, explained the subject of the creation of the universe and the angels' part in it in the section of “The Mystery of Angels and Evil Spirits.” From pages 88 and 89, Mr. Armstrong has written:

Remember, this earth, originally, was intended to be the abode of a third of all the angels. The angels beholding the earth at its creation, found it so beautiful and perfect they shouted spontaneously for joy. It was to provide a glorious opportunity for them. They were to work it, produce from it, and preserve and increase its beauty.

And at this point, it is well to understand the nature of God's original creation: It is like the unfinished furniture available in some stores. This furniture is “in the raw”—it is finished all but for the final varnish, polish, or paint. Some can save money by doing this *finishing* themselves---provided they have the skill to do so. This furniture may be of fine and superb quality—yet lacking the final beautifying *completion*.

So it is with God's creation. It is *perfect*, but subject to a beautifying finish that God intended angels to accomplish. The original “unfinished” creation was produced by God *alone*. But He intended angels, prehistorically, and MAN, now, to utilize creative power---to

finish this part in God's creation---of adding the final beautifying and utilitarian phases of what shall be the FINAL COMPLETED CREATION!

Lucifer, the great archangel, and one third of the angels were given rule over the earth. But, Lucifer SINNED! Excerpts from pages 87-92 of *Mystery of the Ages* continue.

Yet this great being, knowledgeable, trained and experienced at God's own throne in heaven over the universe and the administration of the government of God, corrupted his way, rebelled against administering or even obeying it. He had led all his angels astray and into the sin of rebellion...

God changed the adversary's NAME to what he became, Satan, the devil---Satan means adversary, competitor, enemy.

Satan directed his supernatural powers henceforth to EVIL. He became bitter not only against God, but against God's laws. He used his subtle wiles of deception to lead the angels under him into disloyalty, rebellion and revolt against the Creator and finally into a WAR of aggression and violence to attempt to depose God and seize the throne of the UNIVERSE....

Their penalty (they are still awaiting final judgment up to now) was disqualification---forfeiture of their grand opportunity, perversion of mind, and a *colossal earthwide* CATACLYSM of destruction wreaked upon this earth.

As a result, the earth came to the condition briefly described in Gen. 1:2.

### Renewing

Genesis 1:2 states: "**And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep...**" How long the earth was left in this condition is not revealed in scripture: "...**darkness was upon the face of the DEEP...**" Satan's rebellion had brought spiritual and physical darkness to the earth. Mr. Armstrong made the following comment on pages 93-94 of *Mystery of the Ages*:

As God surveyed this cataclysmic tragedy, he must have realized that since the highest, most perfect being within his almighty power to create, had turned to rebellion, it left God himself as the only being who *would not* and *cannot sin*."

God had a PLAN and it involved TIME!

The last phrase of verse 2 establishes the fact that TIME had come for a RE-CREATION of the Earth and our immediate solar system, "...**and the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.**" A re-creation was necessary due to the destruction that had occurred in the rebellion and ensuing WAR caused by Satan. The beautiful EARTH and parts of the solar system were damaged or destroyed. They became *without form and void*. "**Without form and void**" are from the Hebrew words tohu and bohu which mean, "to lie waste, an indistinguishable ruin, a desolation," (see *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible*, numbers 8414 and 922). The earth was NOT made this way; it BECAME this way at the revolt of Satan. Isaiah 45: 18 confirms this: "**For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain (8414), he formed it to be inhabited...**" This

verse says God did not create the earth in vain—NOT “tohu”. This is the same word used in Genesis 1: 2. God created it in such perfection the angels had shouted for joy. It BECAME “tohu” and “bohu” through the rebellion of Satan and his demons.

The words deep and waters in verse 2 of Genesis One mean just what they imply. These words are #8415 and #4325 in *Strong's* and are defined as “**An abyss (as a surging mass of water) especially the deep (the main sea or the sub-terranean water supply)---water.**” These verses prove that the **heavens and the earth**; the sun, moon, earth, our solar system and the entire UNIVERSE had been created at a previous TIME. This was a RENEWING, a REPAIRING of that which ALREADY EXISTED. If the SUN had not been in existence, though hidden by dense clouds similar to the atmosphere of our sister planet Venus, ICE would have covered the earth! God's WORD states: “... **the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters...not ICE!** The word ICE is *Strong's* #7140 and is defined as “ice, hail, or frost.”

This fact is conclusive PROOF that a RE-CREATION was beginning in Genesis 1: 2.

Thus, we come to this TIME, years ago, when God was ready to RENEW the face of the earth and to commence this phase of the CREATION of HIS ultimate MASTERPIECE. God and the Word were preparing to CREATE GOD-BEINGS, just like themselves! “**And God said, Let us make MAN in our own image, after our likeness...So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them**” (verse 27).

Mr. Armstrong continues in *Mystery of the Ages* on pages 94-95:

God saw that no being less than God, in the God family, could be *certainly* relied on never to sin---to be like God---who cannot sin. To fulfill his purpose for the entire vast universe, God saw that nothing less than himself (as the God family) could be absolutely relied upon to carryout that supreme purpose throughout the entire universe...God then purposed to *reproduce himself*, through humans, made in his image and likeness, but first from material flesh and blood, subject to death if there is sin unrepented of---yet with the possibility of being born into the divine family begotten by God, the Father. God saw how this could be done through Christ, who gave himself for that purpose.

*And that is why God put man on the earth...to reproduce himself!*

### **Cut Off from God's Spirit**

The EARTH was renewed. All of the living creatures were created (Psalms 104: 30) and the Sabbath instituted in SEVEN DAYS as described in Gen.1: 3-31 and 2:1-3. Adam created also and placed in the beautiful Garden of Eden. Shortly afterward, Eve was created and brought to Adam to be his wife. Adam was given the opportunity to qualify to replace Satan on earth's throne, restoring the government of God. But, as Mr. Armstrong has written on page 114-115 of *Mystery of the Ages*:

The first human, Adam, was created with the potential of qualifying to replace Satan, the former Lucifer, on earth's throne, restoring the GOVERNMENT of God.

But it was necessary that he resist, and reject Satan's “GET” way, which was the foundation of Satan's evil government, and choose God's WAY of LOVE (GIVE), the basis of God's government!

His Maker talked first to Adam and Eve---instructed them in the GOVERNMENT and spiritual LAW of God---though in Gen. 2 only the most condensed summary of God's

instructions to them is revealed. Satan was restrained from any contact with them until God first had taught them.

God instructed Adam in the WAY he should go, but how long did he pursue God's WAY? The scriptures do NOT reveal how long it was until Adam sinned by partaking of the forbidden fruit offered him by his wife.

Adam and Eve were perfect physically, but they did not possess the Spirit of God. They were carnally minded human beings (Rom. 8: 7). They were not influenced by an evil world. They were the "world." Eden was a perfect place to live. Although Adam and his wife were perfect physically and had been instructed by God, Himself, they still were inexperienced and must have had a childlike innocence. How long did it take Adam to succumb to the deceptive wiles of Satan, the devil? Probably NOT LONG!

Mr. Armstrong continued this subject in *Mystery of the Ages* on pages 119-120:

The wily Satan got to Adam through his wife Eve. He did not say, "CHOOSE MY WAY!" He appeared as a subtle serpent. He cleverly deceived her.

He put DOUBTS in her mind about God's veracity. He put a sense of injustice and resentment within her. He deceived her into believing God had been unfair—selfish. He subtly injected vanity of mind. He misled her into thinking it was *right* to take of the forbidden fruit.

Adam, not deceived, nevertheless, went along with his wife. With her, he took to himself the determination of what is right and what is wrong—thus DISBELIEVING what his Maker had said, REJECTING God as Savior and Ruler—rejecting God as the source of revealed BASIC KNOWLEDGE. He believed and followed Satan's WAY!

Remember Adam and Eve were the only persons on earth. Satan viewed Adam as a direct threat to his position as RULER of the earth. Therefore he directed all of his energies into causing Adam to SIN. Did it take a day, a week or how long? How many days or weeks have you been able to live perfectly, without sin, even though you have been given God's Spirit? Think about it!

Continuing quotes from *Mystery of the Ages* on page 120-122:

When God "drove out the man" from the Garden of Eden, and barred reentrance—*lest* he go back and receive eternal life *in sin* (Gen. 3:22-24) – God PRONOUNCED SENTENCE!

God said in effect: "You have made the decision for yourself and the world that shall spring from you. You have rejected me as the basic source of knowledge—you have rejected power from me through my Spirit to live the righteous way—you have rebelled against my command and my government—you have chosen the 'GETTING', 'TAKING' way of Satan. Therefore I sentence you and the world you shall beget to 6000 YEARS of being *cut off* from access to me and my Spirit—except for the exceedingly FEW I shall specially call..."

After the world of your descendants has written the lesson in 6000 years of human suffering, anguish, frustration, defeat and death—after the world that shall spring from you shall have been brought to confess the utter hopelessness of the way of life you have chosen—I will supernaturally intervene.

God thereupon, at the very foundation of this world, laid out a 7000-year master plan for accomplishing his purpose.

### **Where Now?**

The very important question that needs searching out is: WHERE ARE WE NOW IN GOD'S MASTER PLAN? When IS Christ going to “supernaturally intervene?” Is it possible that Christ will “supernaturally intervene” BEFORE man’s world “confesses the utter hopelessness of the way of life they have chosen,” as Mr. Armstrong has written above? Isn’t it true that the scriptures definitely declare that His “supernatural intervention” is what will COMPEL man to “confess the utter hopelessness of the way of life he has chosen?” Yes! This will be clearly shown as we proceed!

Where did Herbert W. Armstrong receive the understanding of this MASTER PLAN? God revealed much of this to him through the understanding of the meaning of the Holy Days of God. Leviticus 23 lists these HOLY FEASTS OF GOD IN CONSECUTIVE ORDER. The Church of God’s Faithful portrays the Master Plan of God each year as we observe these Seven Annual Feasts, or Holy Days of the Lord.

**(Our booklet, *The Feast of Trumpets OR the Day of Pentecost...Which?* discusses the first three Holy Days and the overwhelming proof of the visible Return of Christ for His Firstfruits at the First Resurrection on a future Day of Pentecost. Please request your free copy or download it from our website, [www.setapartbytruth.org](http://www.setapartbytruth.org))**

The fourth Holy Day of the year, which occurs on the first day of the seventh month of the Holy Calendar, is the Feast of Trumpets (Lev. 23:24). Please understand, this Holy Day pictures the one-year period of the DAY of the Lord’s Wrath. The Day of His Wrath IS the seventh of the Seven Seals that the Mighty Christ alone can open. See Revelation 6:17 and 8:1. The Seventh Seal comprises the Seven Trumpet Plagues and the Seven Last Plagues, which culminates in the return of Christ and the Firstfruits to take over the rule of the earth.

The fifth Holy Day, The Day of Atonement, depicts the binding of Satan and AT-ONE-MENT, or complete UNITY, with God (Lev. 23: 26-32). The sixth of the Holy days is the Feast of Tabernacles, which pictures the 1000-year reign of those of the First Resurrection as they reign as Kings and Priests under Jesus Christ (vv. 33-35). The seventh and final Holy Day of each year is the Last Great Day (vv. 36 and 39). This pictures the Second Resurrection. This is the period that Mr. Armstrong believed to be 100 years in duration and he referred to it as the “Great White Throne Judgment.” The Second Resurrection occurs AFTER the 1000-year reign of Christ and the Firstfruits, AFTER the releasing of Satan to deceive Gog and Magog, and AFTER the total annihilation of those millions of human beings Satan deceived. Are those MILLIONS lost forever for attempting to overthrow the Headquarters of the King of Kings? The TRUTH of these events that SHALL occur over 1000 years from now is thoroughly explained in our booklet, *The Deep Things of God*. Call or write us and request your free copy, or download from our website.

Mr. Armstrong taught a 7000-year plan to all of us, either directly or indirectly. However, he knew that if the period of time for the Second Resurrection, which he believed to be 100 years, were included, the number of years would total to at least 7100 years. Why did he say; “God thereupon, at the very foundation of this world, laid out a 7000-year master plan for accomplishing his purpose?” WHY does Mr. Armstrong omit the period of time of the Second Resurrection? We will explain this fully, as we proceed.

## Can We Know?

WHEN will the 6000 years of man's misrule expire and GOD supernaturally intervene? If the TIME of the renewing of the face of the earth and the creation of Adam were known, it would be simple enough for most anyone to calculate when 6000 years would end! The exact TIME when Adam sinned and was driven away from access to the "tree of life" is NOT known. Therefore, we must assume this happened very soon after his creation. As will be shown in this writing, we CAN determine very closely the date of the renewing of the earth. Consequently, the time of Adam's expulsion and the overall plan or WORK of God CAN be explained by the principle of the scripture in Romans 9:28: **"For he will finish the work and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth."**

Whenever Adam sinned, God CAN still begin the 6000 year sentence from the point of his creation which CAN be calculated---AND do this in RIGHTEOUSNESS!

Genesis 5 and 11 contain the genealogies from Adam to Abram. These genealogies are painstakingly recorded giving the age at which a man sired a son and the age of that man when he died, generation after generation.

In the *Hebrew - Greek Key Study Bible*, Spiros Zodhiates has written in his commentary on the book of Genesis the following:

The chronology which one often finds in the marginal notes of the older Bibles, notably in the Authorized Version of the King James, is not a part of the Bible itself by any means! Archbishop Usher arrived at the date of 4004 BC by using his calculations of the years in the patriarchal genealogies (Gen. 5, 11). A comparison of these genealogies with those in the Gospels will reveal that biblical genealogies are not necessarily complete by design nor were they given to allow us to calculate the span of time between various events in the early history of man.

Mr. Zodhiates' statement is ONLY his opinion. Comparing the genealogies in the Old and New Testaments reveals there is only ONE difference with the two lists of names. The name *Cainan* is the only variance in the listings. *Ungers' Bible Dictionary* gives this explanation:

Cainan: The son of Arphaxad and father of Shelah, according to Luke 3:35-36. He is nowhere named in the Heb. text, nor in any of the versions made from it, such as the Samaritan, Aram., Syr., Vulg., etc. It is believed by many that the name was not originally in the text, even of Luke, but is an addition of careless transcribers from the LXX.

Scribal errors can definitely occur. Satan tries to hide important spiritual information. Nevertheless, our GREAT GOD will make His truth known unto those who fear Him and keep His Commandments (see John 16: 13; I Cor. 2: 10).

There was a precise TIME when God renewed the face of the earth. He also "set" the solar system at that TIME to be a gauge for his overall plan that would involve OVER 7000 YEARS. One of the most famous calculation for the TIME of the renewing of the earth and the creation of man IS that which Bishop Usher has proclaimed, that being 4004 BC as seen in the margins of many versions of the Bible. Professor Edward Hull in his *Wall Map of World History* confirms Bishop Usher's calculations. But all historians and scholars do not agree with that date of creation.

In the New Testament, Jesus Christ said: "...**man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God**" (Matthew 4:4; Luke 4:4). The apostle

Paul was inspired to write in II Timothy 3:16-17: **“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works”**. ALL scripture would include those chapters of Genesis 5 and 11 that record the early genealogies. They also include II Pet. 3: 8: **“But beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”**

### **The Pattern**

Herbert W. Armstrong was called by God to fulfill many prophecies. One of those was the office of the end-time Elijah who would **“restore all things”** (Malachi 4: 4-6 and Matthew 17: 10-11). This, of course, would be “ALL THINGS” that he was given **“to restore”**, namely the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. But Jesus Christ, Himself, will restore ALL THINGS as plainly stated in Acts 3:20–21: **“And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.”**

Mr. Armstrong was given knowledge of GOD’S MASTER PLAN, but not every detail. The overall Master Plan was one of the doctrines restored to the Church. The Seven-Day Week was the pattern he saw for this PLAN. Man is given SIX days to do all of his own work and activities; but the SEVENTH day is the SABBATH day---the Lord’s Day. On it God rested from all His WORK of renewing AND creating, thus it is a memorial of CREATION. It was blessed, sanctified and made holy; AND man is commanded to keep it (Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11; Mark 2:27-28). This seven-day pattern has been in existence since the creation of Adam. Six days each week are for man’s work (under the influence of Satan). The Seventh Day, the Sabbath Day, is God’s Holy Day on which man is SUPPOSED to rest and keep the DAY holy. This pattern of the seven-day week has been constant and unbroken since Adam and the renewing of the earth.

Mr. Armstrong recognized the pattern and applied it SPIRITUALLY! The scripture states: **“But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, one day is with the Lord as a THOUSAND YEARS and a THOUSAND YEARS as a day”** (II Peter 3:8).

Applying this principle to the weekly pattern, Mr. Armstrong understood man was given SIX one thousand-year days to go his own way, but the SEVENTH day would be the LORD’S DAY. The great fulfillment of this symbolic WEEK would NOT be repeated on a regular basis as the weekly cycle. The LORD’S DAY would continue on for ETERNITY! Within the Lord’s Day, that lasts forever, would be a 1000-year “Sabbath Rest” or the World Tomorrow reign of Jesus Christ and the Saints. Following that period of TIME, Satan will be released and go forth to deceive the **“...nations in the four quarters of the earth.”** Finally after that rebellion is crushed, the Second Resurrection occurs. Mr. Armstrong called it “the Great White Throne Judgment.” He apparently believed this to be another 100 years into the Day of the Lord, but ALL within God’s Seven-Day Spiritual Week.

Mr. Armstrong probably expended much energy on research into the TIME of CREATION and the RENEWING of the earth. With the understanding of the WEEKLY CYCLE being a pattern for the overall plan of God, he could easily perceive Bishop Usher’s calculations fit precisely into the SPIRITUAL SEVEN DAY PLAN. We would not be giving Mr. Armstrong due respect if we think he did not understand the Seventh DAY of the SPIRITUAL WEEK would exist for ETERNITY!

Jewish tradition places the Seventh Day of Genesis 1, not only as the WEEKLY SABBATH, but also as the First Day of Tishri, the beginning of the Seventh Month of the Hebrew calendar.

When the WORD “rested” on that first Sabbath, the earth was renewed in a HARVEST-TIME condition to provide food for all of the complex living creatures and organism to feed upon. The Jews today observe the first day of the seventh month as NEW YEARS DAY.

### Starting Point

We have asked the question: At what historical point in time WAS the RENEWING of the earth and the creation of ADAM? We can understand that some authorities believe this CREATION was physically complete when God rested from his labors on the first of Tishri, 4004 BC! It is very interesting also, that the Great God who created ALL things, came to Planet Earth as a tiny babe, 4000 years later in 4 BC. Jesus Christ, the Son of God was born to his mother Mary and his “stepfather” Joseph very likely on or around the first day of the seventh month in the year 4 BC. Four complete millennial days had swiftly gone by in the stream of time and the WORD of GOD had predicted the TIME of his FIRST coming.

Professor Edward Hull came to this conclusion with his “*Wall map of World History*”. However, we who are old-timers and former members of the Worldwide Church of God were taught many years ago that Jesus was born on or around the Feast of Trumpets of 4 BC. Mr. Armstrong, Dr. Herman L. Hoeh, and other ministers and writers of the *Plain Truth* and *Good News* magazines gave a number of sermons and wrote several articles on this important subject.

Most “Christians” have never really questioned when Jesus was born. Most of these sincere people assume Jesus Christ was born on Christmas day over 2000 years ago, but few have ever made an effort to prove their “beliefs”. Nevertheless, many first-rate encyclopedias, books and articles on the subject of Christmas and its very ancient pagan origin are readily available. Jesus Christ was not born on December 25! (If you need information on where and how Christmas originated, please contact us.) The actual time of His birth--- and His death and resurrection---are in detailed prophecies in the Word of God!

True Christianity is based upon the fact that the Creator of all things gave up the power of HIS DIVINITY and came to the earth as a helpless, newborn babe. Much controversy has arisen over the exact TIME of His birth, but an honest search into the scriptures and authentic history provides an accurate answer to the question, “WHEN WAS JESUS BORN?”

In the Book of the Prophet Daniel, chapter 9, verses 24-26 the *Seventy Weeks Prophecy* that supplies clues to determine WHEN JESUS CHRIST WAS BORN is recorded:

**Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks (a total of 69 weeks): the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.**

As we look into Bible prophecy, a necessary key of understanding is given in Numbers 14:34 and Ezekiel 4: 4-6 where it is explained: “...I have appointed thee each day for a year”. Thus

a day of prophetic fulfillment is equal to a year of actual time. The total of 69 weeks of prophetic fulfillment would be  $69 \times 7 \text{ days in a week} = 483 \text{ year of actual time}$ .

Ezra, the Priest, records the exact time the “**commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem**” was decreed by King Artaxerxes of Persia: “**And he came to Jerusalem in the fifth month, which was in the seventh year of the king...Now this is the copy of the letter that the king Artaxerxes gave unto Ezra the priest, the scribe...**” (Ezra 7:8 and 11). The “commandment” or decree officially recognized Jerusalem as a provincial capital city, under its own governor, within the Persian realm and would be rebuilt. King Artaxerxes’ seventh year was in the calendar year September 458 BC to September 457 BC. The 483 years of the 69 weeks prophecy extended from 457 BC forward to AD 27. That was the time when Jesus, the Messiah, began His ministry. Here is how the date is calculated:

$69 \times 7 =$	483 years
Minus	457 BC, the year the decree was issued.
That leaves a subtotal of	26 years, or AD 26
Compensation for no year zero	$+ 1$
The correct final figure is	27 years, or AD 27

There is no actual year zero, which should have been placed between the year 1 BC and AD 1. An additional year must be added as compensation, bringing the correct final figure to AD 27.

Remember, Daniel 9 contains the *Seventy Weeks Prophecy*, so we have not yet looked at the last seven years of the prophecy---the Seventieth Week! This last prophetic week is vitally important. Verse 27 declares: **And he** [Jesus Christ] **shall confirm the covenant** [the New Covenant] **with many for one week** [the 70<sup>th</sup> week = 7 actual years]: **and in the midst** [the middle of the prophetic week, or after 3 ½ years] **of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease...** It is prophesied that Jesus, the Messiah, would “**be cut off**”... “**in the midst of the week**”, or in other words, Jesus would be killed as the sacrifice for the sins of the entire world--- after 3 ½ years of His ministry.

His ministry began AD 27 in the autumn, which would actually be AD 27½. The addition of 3½ years to AD 27 ½ makes it evident the year of His death would be AD 31, in the spring of the year.

The Spirit of God had Luke the physician to record for us that Jesus was about thirty years old when He was baptized. A while later, after His baptism He began His 3½-year ministry. “**And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age...**”(Luke 3:23).

Now that we have determined that He was 30 years old in the autumn of AD 27, it is simple to calculate the year of His birth. Since Jesus was about thirty years old when he was baptized in AD 27, He had to be born in the year 4 BC.

Since the year of His birth has been calculated by using as a basis the prophetic scriptures and the historical information contained in the Bible, is it possible also to calculate the season or month of His birth?

Yes, it is! We old timers were taught this back in the late 60’s and early 70’s! The very interesting conclusion to this subject was proven to us through scripture, history, and the Hebrew Calendar that the birth (first coming) of Jesus Christ was, within a two-week period, around the first day of the seventh month of the Sacred Calendar. It becomes abundantly clear from Biblical,

historical, and calendar evidence that Jesus Christ was not born in the winter or spring. Obviously Jesus could not have been born on Christmas day. The overwhelming evidence strongly points to the two week period around the Feast of Trumpets, 4 BC, as the probable time of the birth of Jesus Christ.

### **From Here To Eternity!**

This date---the first day of the seventh month of 4 BC---would come 4000 years after the time of the completion of the RENEWING of the earth, the creation of Adam, and God resting on the Seventh Day. This totals FOUR one thousand-year days! This appears to be corroborating proof that 4004 BC is the correct date for determining WHEN God inserted 6000 years within His Eternal Time, according to His overall Plan for the spiritual Creation of millions of God-Beings! Six thousand years would be allotted for man to go his own way in his misrule of the earth, under Satan's influence. Man's time BEGAN in 4004 BC. With that as a starting point it is easily understood when the 6000 years end and God's Eternal Time---the DAY of the LORD---should begin again!

Date of the RENEWING of the earth	4004 BC
Birth of Jesus Christ	- 4 BC
	4000 years completed of total 6000 years.
	6000 years
Minus	<u>4000</u>
	= 2000 years left to be fulfilled from 4 BC.
Minus	<u>4 BC</u>
Uncorrected date =	1996 AD
Compensate for no 0 year =	<u>+ 1</u>
Corrected year =	1997 AD end of 6000 years.

The first day of the seventh month of the Hebrew (Holy) Calendar, which is God's FEAST of TRUMPETS, in the year 1997 began the evening of October 1. On that date, as it appears by the best calculations, 6000 years of MAN'S TIME under the influence of Satan ended and GOD'S TIME, the DAY OF THE LORD, (ETERNITY), *began* once again.

Could that really be true? Has God begun to "supernaturally intervene" in the affairs of man as Mr. Armstrong has declared?

Has the Day of the Lord begun? If it has, **WHERE IS CHRIST?**

## Chapter Two:

# **NO MAN WILL KNOW-- UNTIL!**

I have “counted days” for years. Most of us who study the prophesies of the Bible know that God tells us He will REVEAL His truths to those who reverence, honor and fear Him. **“Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he reveals his secrets to his servants the prophets”** (Amos 3:7). Psalm 25:14 gives additional assurance: **“The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him, and he will show them his covenant.”** And John 16:13 states: **“Howbeit when it, the Spirit of Truth, is come, it will guide you into all truth: for it shall not speak of itself; but whatsoever it shall hear, that shall it speak: and it will show you things to come.”**

One of the TRUTHS of the “things to come” that we have always sought to understand is, WHEN will Christ and the Day of the Lord COME? On the evening of the Feast of Trumpets, October 1, 1997, as I began preparing the sermon for the Holy Day, I knew that 6000 years were supposed to be ending. However, the GREAT TRIBULATION had not yet occurred, nor had the Heavenly Signs been seen that were to usher in “the GREAT DAY OF HIS WRATH. The Day of the Lord’s Wrath was to occur after these awesome events.

Are we just foolish to think that man can accurately determine the time of the creation of Adam? Or had the time finally come for us to understand this truth, hidden from us by God until this very DAY? Had God held back a vital TRUTH from the Church until this very specific TIME, and then suddenly REVEALED it?

With the REVEALING of this astounding TRUTH, other vitally important prophecies can be brought to light, one at a time! God does everything perfectly and right on time!

### **God Expects His Faithful to Understand**

There are quite a few prophecies in the Bible that give a specific number of days that will occur within certain plainly stated events. For example: **“And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that makes desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days”** (Daniel 12:11). In Mark’s gospel he has written in chapter 13, verse 14: **“But when you shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet standing where it ought not, let him that reads understand, then let him that be in Judea flee to the mountains.”** Here the Word of God exhorts us to UNDERSTAND the meaning of these prophecies which refer to a number of DAYS.

Verses 12-13 of Daniel 12 give more meaning to the time spoken of here. **“Blessed is he that waits and comes to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. But go you your way till the end be: for you shall rest, and stand in your lot at the end of the days.”** This clearly reveals that Daniel would die but “stand” in the RESURRECTION at the end of the DAYS--when CHRIST returns at the SECOND COMING. Revelation 12:14 adds more: **“And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, times and half a time, from the face of the serpent.”**

These scriptures plainly inform those who will read that an IMPORTANT event is soon to occur for which TRUE Christians had better be watching and waiting. When this event does occur the Faithful (Rev.17:14) will understand and flee. They will be taken to THE place of safety for a time, times, and half a time (Rev.12:14). A short time prior to the flight of the Church, the “Two

Witnesses” shall begin their 1260-day ministry (3½ years) and at the completion of their “work” they shall be killed. “**And they of the people and kindred and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies...**”(see Rev 11: 4-13). But then, after 3½ days they will be resurrected and ascend into the heavens along with the other righteous dead (like Daniel) at the return of Christ. At that time true Christians who are “**alive and remain,**” in the place of safety, will be instantly changed from flesh to spirit and will also rise to meet Christ in the clouds. Compare Revelation 11:4-12 with I Thessalonians 4:15-17 and I Corinthians 15:52-57.

(Write for our free booklets: **Petra; Place of Safety or Place of Slaughter?** and, **The Feast of Trumpets or Pentecost... Which?** These booklets reveal from the Word of God the TRUTH of the events leading up to, during, and after, the 3½ years.)

Doesn't it make sense, that any one who is a true Christian---

- a) who sees these mighty events beginning to occur,
- b) who flees as God instructs him to do,
- c) who enters into the “place of safety,”
- d) who knows the “two witnesses” are fulfilling their ministry, would BEGIN COUNTING these specified number of days and actually KNOW when Christ would return---AT THE END OF THE DAYS?

WHY COULDN'T WE KNOW THE “DAY OR THE HOUR?” --- or at least, the week, month or year!

### “... The Time Is At Hand”

That is where my thoughts were on the evening of the Feast of Trumpets, October 1, 1997 as I asked God to inspire me in my sermon preparation.

I began reading in the first chapter of the book of Revelation. “**Blessed is he that reads and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand**”(verse 3). AND THE TIME REALLY WAS AT HAND!

As I read verses 9-10, I was utterly amazed at the thought that hit me like a bolt of lightening! “I, John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. I was in the Spirit on THE LORD'S DAY.” This was AMAZING and STARTLING! HOW MANY times had I read those verses, but now they SHOUTED out the TRUTH which God had kept HIDDEN---it remained a mystery, a secret---until the very TIME this fantastic event HAPPENED!

What would you consider to be the greatest, most safeguarded SECRET in the entire Bible? What MYSTERY would be tucked away in the Word of God that could NOT be understood by anyone until certain events should be finished?

Revelation 10:7 states: “But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, **THE MYSTERY OF GOD should be finished...**” (my emphasis).

What is the MYSTERY of GOD, the GREATEST MYSTERY of all time, known ONLY by the Father, God Almighty? The statement concerning this secret is recorded in Mark 13:32: “**But of that day and that hour knows NO MAN, NO, NOT THE ANGELS which are in heaven, NEITHER THE SON, but THE FATHER [ONLY].**” This is indeed a GREAT MYSTERY! Matthew 24:36 adds the word “ONLY”. But WHICH “day and hour” is being discussed that ONLY THE FATHER KNOWS! Continue reading Matthew's account beginning verse 37: “**But as in the days of Noah were, so shall also the COMING of the SON of man be.**” The Greatest MYSTERY of

ALL TIME, known ONLY by the Father, is the TIME, the day and hour, of the COMING of JESUS CHRIST!

Proceed now to Matthew 24: 38-44:

**For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came and took them all away, so shall also the COMING of the Son of man be. Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken and the other left. Watch therefore: for you know not what hour your Lord does come. But know this, that if the good man of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be you also ready: for in such an hour as you think not the Son of man COMES!**

This GREAT MYSTERY, or secret known ONLY by the Father, was the TIME of the COMING of CHRIST! The TIME of His Coming described here is a TIME when everything is going along very normally---eating, drinking, marrying, etc.---UNTIL Christ comes SUDDENLY, UNEXPECTEDLY, like a “THIEF”, completely unaware. This is the reason WHY no one other than God, Himself, knew this!

Notice that I am stating this in the past tense. No one that I know of, who was a Church of God member under the teachings of Mr. Armstrong is EXPECTING Jesus to return NOW, at this TIME before the Great Tribulation! All those of the former WCG believe these scriptures typed out above are speaking of Jesus’ VISIBLE return that does come AFTER the Great Tribulation, the Heavenly Signs, and the Day of the Lord’s Wrath! In the past, we have all tried to apply these scriptures to the time AFTER those terrible events occurred, but that is NOT the TIME described in the scriptures above.

A time of normal activities is pictured in Matthew 24:38, AS IT IS TODAY, not a time when most of the earth and much of mankind will have been destroyed as prophesied to be AFTER the Tribulation. Let me emphasize Matthew 24:44: **“Therefore be you ready: for in such an hour as you think not the Son of man comes.”** Please understand! The VISIBLE return of Christ (Rev. 1:7) will NOT be an UNEXPECTED EVENT. **The TWO WITNESSES will announce the VISIBLE coming of Jesus Christ, IN ADVANCE, to the whole world!** The Two Witnesses will certainly know their ministry lasts for 1260 days (Rev. 11:3 & 7).

During their ministry, they will call down the “Trumpet Plagues of God” in the manner that Moses and Aaron did anciently. And they will INFORM the entire WORLD of the EXACT TIME of the VISIBLE RETURN of Jesus Christ. Read about this in Revelation 11:3-15. Verse 6 states: **“These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have POWER over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.”**

These two prophets will be killed at the conclusion of their 1260-day ministry. This occurs 3½ days before the Last Trumpet sounds ushering in **the VISIBLE SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST**---and the Resurrection of the Saints! Proceed with verses 9-12 and 15:

**And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and a half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts to one another; because these two prophets tormented them that**

**dwelled on the earth. And after three days and a half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.** (See also I Corinthians 15:51,52 and I Thessalonians 4:16.)

Revelation 1:7 proclaims: **“BEHOLD, HE COMES WITH CLOUDS AND EVERY EYE SHALL SEE HIM...”** This time His COMING will NOT be **“as a thief”**, UNEXPECTED and SUDDEN, but PROCLAIMED to the ENTIRE EARTH IN ADVANCE! The VISIBLE RETURN OF CHRIST will be accompanied with mighty and fantastic SIGHTS and SOUNDS that the ENTIRE EARTH will experience! Revelation 11:15 plainly informs us that these GREAT EVENTS happen as the LAST TRUMPET is blown!

All of the inhabitants of the earth who are still alive at that time will have been WARNED. Even as they rejoice over the Two Witnesses’ death, you can be sure they will be counting the days, hours, and minutes and will be fearfully EXPECTING that which SHALL OCCUR at the end of 3½ DAYS! The WORLD will have been WARNED! The resurrection of the Two Witnesses and the VISIBLE APPEARANCE of CHRIST will not be as a **“thief in the night.”** NO! **IT WILL BE EXPECTED!**

The GREAT SECRET, the MYSTERY of GOD, the WONDERFUL NEW TRUTH REVEALED to the Church of God’s Faithful is that **CHRIST HAS ALREADY RETURNED! THE DAY OF THE LORD HAS COME “AS A THIEF IN THE NIGHT.” HE HAS SUDDENLY COME TO HIS TEMPLE!**

Revelation 1:10 plainly states John was projected into the TIME of **THE LORD’S DAY**. Everything John has recorded in the Book of Revelation is from that which is taking place during the LORD’S DAY. The simple fact we had not realized before, the very reason we could not know the *day* or the *hour*, the Father’s Great Secret, was NOW REVEALED.

At the precise TIME after 6000 years God made the scripture very plain to me---He opened my mind to the biblical fact that the **DAY OF THE LORD** and the **DAY OF THE LORD’S WRATH** are NOT the SAME OCCURRENCE. The Day of the Lord’s Wrath is only a one-year period and is the seventh of the SEVEN SEALS, of which ALL SEVEN SEALS are opened DURING the DAY of the LORD!

John observes everything in the Book of Revelation from the point of view of our PRESENT TIME. Chapters 2 and 3 are the history of God’s Church from its New Testament beginning in 31 AD. This history and prophecy extends from the EPHESIAN “era” through the end of the LAODICEAN “era” that will be accomplished very soon in this present time of the Day of the Lord.

Chapters 4 and 5 show John projected into heaven on the LORD’S DAY. He beholds the mighty, heavenly scene right there in the throne room of ALMIGHTY GOD, the FATHER. God has a BOOK (scroll) in His hand. Only Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God could receive the BOOK from the FATHER’S hand and OPEN THE SEALS on the BOOK. The Seven Seals cover the remaining chapters of the Book of Revelation and ALL SEVEN SEALS were OPENED, as John observes, in the DAY OF THE LORD!

Prophecies that have long been closed to our understanding are now become PLAIN TRUTH that makes so much sense.

## **“As a Thief in the Night”**

The next vital point to consider is II Peter 3:9-10. **“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”** Peter emphasizes that in the last days people would scoff: **“... And saying, where is the promise of his coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation”** (verse 4). There will be those right here today that will laugh and scoff at the statement that 6000 years have elapsed and the Day of the Lord has come. Nevertheless, He is *NOT SLACK* concerning his promise! Verse 10 clearly declares: **“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night...”**

### **AND IT DID!**

Apparently no one has accepted Revelation 1:10 or II Pet.3: 10 to mean that which is plainly stated. Yet, these scriptures mean EXACTLY WHAT THEY STATE! John WAS projected, in the Spirit, into the DAY of the LORD. We could NOT know the DAY or the hour until the TIME was completely elapsed. At that point in TIME God allowed us to understand the meaning of the DAY of the LORD and to see that it had come as “a thief in the night.”

## **“In the Which”**

The DAY of the LORD is God’s TIME once again following the insertion of 6000 years allotted to man under the influence of the devil. At last, Christ will “supernaturally intervene”. Again God’s TIME that began at the end of the 6000 years will last throughout ETERNITY.

**“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; IN THE WHICH the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up...looking for and hasting unto of the coming of the day of God [THE FATHER]...”** (II Peter 3:10 and 12).

Study those verses carefully. Notice the expression, “IN THE WHICH”. The Day of the Lord came as a **“thief in the night”**. It continues right on through the time (IN THE WHICH) the Great Tribulation will occur, (IN THE WHICH) Christ will visibly return for the Firstfruits, (IN THE WHICH) the 1000-year Reign of Christ and the Saints will occur, and (IN THE WHICH) will be the 1000-year Last Great Day, followed by the “purging of the earth” as it is made ready for Universe Headquarters and the dwelling place of God the Father! THE DAY OF THE LORD EXTENDS THROUGHOUT ALL ETERNITY!

It was able to come as **“a thief in the night”** because we were NOT looking for it! We assumed the **Day of the Lord** was the Seventh Seal, the **Day of the Lord’s Wrath**. Obviously, neither the Great Tribulation, nor the Heavenly Signs had occurred, therefore we did not think it was TIME for the LORD’S DAY. We just did not understand that **the Day of the Lord** and **the Day of the Lord’s Wrath** are **TWO different periods of time**. The *Day of His Wrath* is ONLY a ONE-YEAR period within the Day of the Lord, which began BEFORE the opening of any of the Seals---and continues (IN THE WHICH) forever.

Please understand! All SEVEN SEALS are opened during the Day of the Lord! God revealed this TRUTH to us at the precise moment in time to fulfill II Peter 3:10: **“But the Day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night...”** **And it surely did!**

This statement from THE WORD of GOD cannot happen again at any other time! WHY? Because, NOW, we understand the actual meaning of the DAY of the LORD! We had thought only

of the *Day of the Lord's Wrath*, but now the Truth has been REVEALED! IT COULD NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN AS A THIEF IN THE NIGHT!

The apostle John sees the Day of the Lord beginning with Christ opening the First Four Seals—the *Four Horsemen are released!* As each of these mighty seals is ripped open by Jesus Christ, Himself, John hears the voice of one of the awesome Living Creatures. Each one cries out in succession, “**COME and SEE**” (Rev.6: 1,3,5,7). Are they crying out for John to “*Come and See*”? John most certainly observes these fantastic events unfolding. Nevertheless, the Living Creatures are crying out for Christ to “*Come and See*” the effect the opening of the Seals is having upon the earth!

The Greek word rendered “COME” is *Strong's #2064, erchomai*. The same word is also used as “GO” or “WENT” in the KJV. In fact in Matthew 14: 29 it is used as COME and GO in this one verse: “**And he said, Come (#2064). And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to GO (#2064) to Jesus.**”

The subject of the first 8 verses of Revelation 6 is the releasing of the Four Horsemen and the horrible effects that will be produced as they gallop forth over the earth. The Living Creatures are crying out to CHRIST to GO and SEE if the Horsemen have ALL of the conditions and circumstances ready for the OPENING of the FIFTH SEAL, the GREAT TRIBULATION! The Horsemen have raced forth to perform their grisly tasks that will cause the death of ¼ of the population of the earth and bring forth “The Beast” upon the world scene. The TENTH YEAR of their Ride begins on the Feast of Trumpets, September 23, 2006. Jesus Christ has much to do, NOW, at this TIME in the Day of the Lord!

## Visits

Our Lord has always watched over the affairs of mankind. He saw the evil of the world in the days of Noah and instructed Noah in the building of the ark (Genesis 6-7). He observed the building of the tower of Babel and came down and confounded the languages of the people (Gen. 11:1-9). He visited Abraham and informed him of His plan to destroy Sodom and the cities of the plain. He even sat there with Abraham and two angels and enjoyed a meal (Gen.18-19). Christ, the Lord called Moses up to the top of Mt. Horeb/Sinai and talked with Moses from the burning bush (Exodus 3-4). He brought the plagues upon Egypt and opened the Red Sea for the Israelites to escape (Ex. 7-14). He appeared every DAY and NIGHT for forty years in the pillar of cloud and fire to the Israelites. All through the Old Testament we read of His appearances to His people. Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon even saw him inside the raging fiery furnace walking and talking with Shadrech, Meshech, and Abednego (Daniel 3).

In the New Testament, after His death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven, the Lord appeared to the apostle Paul in brilliant glory, so bright that Paul was blinded (Acts 9:3-9). He appeared again to Paul just before he was to be martyred, to “strengthen” him (II Timothy 4:16-17). Visits have been his normal way of keeping involved with the overall PLAN of God. He VISITS the earth! NOW, one of the most important events of history is beginning to happen. Most certainly this Great God Being would want to come and inspect, investigate, discern, to evaluate and be assured that everything was to happen as it has been prophesied in this most prophesied period in the entire Bible---the Day of the Lord.

The first action to be taken, as he returns “**as a thief**” (Matthew 24:42 and Luke 12:39-40), would be to fulfill Malachi 3:1: “**Behold, I will send my messenger** (John, the Baptist at Christ’s first coming and Herbert Armstrong at Christ’s second coming) **and he will prepare the**

**way before me: AND THE LORD WHOM YOU SEEK, SHALL SUDDENLY COME TO HIS TEMPLE...**” Jesus Christ has SUDDENLY come to his TEMPLE (His Church) and found it in the situation that exists today---primarily in rebellion, chaos and confusion, divided, split, splintered, and blind! Nevertheless, a very tiny group of FAITHFUL remains as the INNER COURT (Revelation 11:1) of the Temple. Can YOU grasp the reality that CHRIST HAS SUDDENLY COME!

God’s Faithful are humbled as well as utterly thrilled to receive this ABSOLUTELY NEW understanding. This revelation should have the effect God would expect it to generate---a sense of extreme URGENCY to OVERCOME, endeavoring to conquer our sinful nature and become more Christ-like, struggling to overcome AS Christ did (Revelation 3:21). II Peter 3:11 declares: **“Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of person ought you be in all holy conversation (behavior, conduct) and godliness.”** Realizing that Christ has come SUDDENLY to His Temple we must strive mightily to overcome the pulls of our carnal minds, this plague of our human heart (see Romans 8:7 and I Kings 8:38). **“Watch you therefore and pray always that you may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass and to stand before the Son of Man”** (Luke 21:36).

Return to Malachi 3:1-2: **“...and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold he shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? And who shall stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fuller’s soap.”** Who shall stand (again Luke 21:36) when He comes SUDDENLY to His Temple? What will He do now, since he HAS SUDDENLY returned? The KJV states, **“...who shall stand when he appears”**, but the Hebrew word for **“appears”** or **“appeareth”** is Strong’s #7200, *ra’ah*. The same word is used right across the page in my Bible in verse 18 as **“DISCERN”**: **“Then shall ye return, and DISCERN (#7200) between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serves God and him that serves him not.”**

No one has seen Christ, YET! He hasn’t come to APPEAR---YET! He has come to His Temple and is **DISCERNING** who are the righteous and who are the wicked; who serves God and who does not; who is worthy to escape ALL these things and STAND before Him. He has come SUDDENLY to His Temple and is very much aware of the DIVISION, the splits, splinters, and the utter confusion that exists in the Outer Court of His Temple, today. We will have much more on this subject later in this writing.

### **Peace and Safety?**

The apostle Paul mentions the Day of the Lord in his own words and style, as inspired by God’s Spirit, in I Thessalonians 5:1-3: **“But of the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction comes upon them as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.”** We do not know how much Paul understood of the prophecies concerning the Second Coming of Christ. We do know he understood that Christ would come at the sound of the LAST Trumpet (see I Thess. 4:15-17 and I Cor. 15: 51-52). It should now be completely understood that the COMING of the Day of the Lord “as a thief in the night” and the COMING of the Lord at the LAST trump are TWO entirely different TIMES!

Paul writes in I Thessalonians 5: 3: **“For when they shall say, Peace and safety...”**, but please realize that when Christ returns at the sound of the LAST TRUMPET, no one will be saying,

“**peace and safety**”. At that time the Earth will be reeling and wobbling through the solar system from the effects of all out nuclear war and the “angelic bombings” of the first six Trumpet Plagues, with the possibility of much of the earth’s population dead or dying. And instead of “**peace and safety**” the Seven Last Plagues loom ahead and will be poured out upon the earth. The Earth, as we know it today, will be utterly destroyed.

### **Repetition Helps**

Jesus’ VISIBLE Return will not be as a “thief in the night”! The TWO WITNESSES will have warned the entire WORLD of His imminent RETURN! THEIR MESSAGE will be shouted out to the entire earth with great power---“THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND!” The Two Witnesses will know exactly when Christ will return! THEY will be COUNTING DAYS! They fully realize their ministry is for 1260 days, and then they must give their lives. These two righteous prophets know also that 3½ days later they will be resurrected---“**For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first**” (I Thessalonians 4:16).

A forewarned Planet Earth will EXPECT His visible Return and the First Resurrection! Everyone left alive on earth will SEE Him returning, “**Behold he comes with clouds and every eye shall see him...**”(Revelation 1:7). This will be the greatest event in history! ALL shall see and hear! God will have this recorded by some type of “spiritual videotape” to the extent that even those who killed His Son, as the Lamb of God, will be required to VIEW His triumphal RETURN, when they are raised at the Second Resurrection. This great event will NOT be as a “**thief in the night!**” NO! It will be the most visible event ever! **The coming of the “DAY of the LORD” has already occurred---as a “thief in the night”!**

We have previously studied Matthew 24:37-44, but some of this needs repeating with Luke 17:26-36 added for more emphasis to be sure this extremely important fact is understood.

**And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot, they did eat they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.**

These scriptures in Luke are the same as we read in Matthew 24 and picture a time when life is going on as usual, eating, drinking, planting, building, marrying and starting families. This is NOT describing every day life at the time of the Day of the Lord’s Wrath. At that time, after 2 ½ years of tribulation, the earth will be practically destroyed by the ravages of war caused by man. Add to that the one-year period of God’s Wrath and the imminence of the VISIBLE SECOND COMING of CHRIST, then life most certainly will not be going on as usual---**BUT IT IS NOW!**

Read again Matthew 24:36, but this time with the revealed knowledge of God’s Great Secret: “**But of that day and hour knows no man, no not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.**” And WHY didn’t we know? We did not know because we thought the DAY of the LORD and the DAY of HIS WRATH were the same event. This was a perfectly kept secret until the very moment it should be REVEALED. Verse 37 continues: “**But as the days of Noah were, so shall**

also the **coming of the Son of man be.**” The “coming of the Son of man” written of in verse 37 is at a time when all things are going along as usual.

Verse 40 of Matthew 24: declares: “**Then shall two men be in the field; the one shall be taken and the other left.**” When Christ comes suddenly, secretly, *as a thief*, THEN, He says: “...**two shall be in the field...**” “**Two women shall be grinding at the mill; one shall be taken and the other left**” (v. 42}. Luke 17:31 makes this comment: “**In that day, [the Day of the Lord] he which shall be upon the housetop and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field let him not return back.**” This is very plainly speaking of NOW and the immediate time **prior** to the GREAT TRIBULATION!

In the Day of the Lord’s Wrath and the Visible Coming of Christ, there will be very few houses or housetops left, or “stuff” in the house. The WOMAN, or the Faithful Church (Rev.12), will be in the place of safety. The “remnant of her seed,” those made up of both Laodiceans and some of the “synagogue of Satan”, who through stubbornness or lethargy will not become a part of the One True Church. They will not be accounted worthy to escape and MUST overcome the Beast, his image, his mark, etc., in the Tribulation (Rev. 15:2 and 20:4). They will give their lives in death during the 2-½ years of Tribulation before the Day of the Lord’s Wrath begins, and then rest in their graves awaiting the First Resurrection.

The 144,000 physical Israelites of Revelation 7:1-8 will have suffered through the TRIBULATION, too. They certainly will not possess *houses, housetops, or “stuff.”* Immediately prior to the Day of the Lord’s Wrath, it appears that they will be brought to the Place of Safety to be protected from the Lord’s Wrath (Rev. 7:1-8 and 9:4). So as that terrible last year begins, the earth and all in it shall be practically destroyed!

These scriptures quoted above, from Matthew and Luke, are for NOW!

Mankind will not be saying, “**Peace, Peace,**” or “**Peace and Safety!**” NO! They will be screaming, in horror and fear, the words recorded in Jeremiah 4:19-26:

**My bowels, my bowels! I am pained at my very heart; my heart makes a noise in me; I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet the alarm of war. Destruction upon destruction is cried; for the whole land is spoiled: suddenly are my tents spoiled, and my curtains in a moment. How long shall I see the standard, and hear the sound of the trumpet? [This is obviously the time of the Seventh Seal, the Trumpet Plagues, the Day of the Lord’s Wrath.] **For my people is foolish, they have not known me; they are sottish children, they have none understanding: they are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge. I beheld the earth, and lo, it was WITHOUT FORM AND VOID; and the heavens and they had no light. [Notice the wording by Jeremiah is the same as in Genesis 1:2 “without form and void”---“TOHU” and “BOHU,” the very same Hebrew words.] I beheld the mountains, and lo, they trembled, and the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heaven were fled. I beheld, and lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and ALL the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the Lord, and at his fierce anger. (Underlining added.)****

Today we are in the Day of the Lord. Men are seeking “peace and safety”. Life, on the whole, is going on as usual in some areas of the world, although violence and unbelievable evils are everywhere. We have passed the point of the “beginning of sorrows” of Matthew 24:8. The Four

Horsemen are in full gallop and the Great Tribulation looms on the horizon! The accumulated results of man's rebellion against his Maker will be brought to fruition. The Great Tribulation, the Heavenly Signs, and the Day of the Lord's Wrath will come storming, frighteningly upon this wicked world bringing complete destruction---DURING the **DAY OF THE LORD!**

Christ is very busy. His "Special Treasure" (Malachi 3:17) will be spared the utter horror and misery described above. Jesus Christ is "discerning" and thoroughly testing those special few who shall be His Pillars. Nine years have quickly gone by in this "discernment" period. Some are being selected; others have failed. Some have proven themselves worthy and are the SPECIAL TREASURE to Him. They are His very important PILLARS that will STAND before Jesus Christ in His Temple.

The vital Pillar Members must be positioned upon the True Spiritual Foundation (Ephesians 2:20-21). They must be securely situated there **before** the other scattered pieces, or "lively stones", can be fashioned back into the Temple. The Pillars are the Faithful Philadelphians before whose feet some of the "synagogue of Satan" will come to be taught the TRUTH you are reading at this moment. Revelation 3:9 clearly informs us of this: "**Behold, I will *make* (or *give* #1325) **them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews,** (they say they are "Churches of God", but God says He has only One True Church, therefore they are the 'churches of god' or Synagogue of Satan) **and are not, but do lie; behold, I will *make* (#4160) **them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.**"****

### **Mothers and Daughters**

Please understand! It is estimated that there are now more than 300 split and splintered divisions of the former Worldwide Church of God. Since the death of Herbert W. Armstrong in 1986, Satan has struck a masterful blow. The Church as a whole has been scattered and practically destroyed. The same situation that has existed for years with the Roman Catholic Church and her Protestant daughters is now very apparent in the WCG and her daughter churches. Division, confusion, no true leadership, politics, and the inability to cooperate due to vanity and contention are what Christ is discerning as He observes His Temple. He has only ONE WORK and ONE FAITHFUL TRUE CHURCH... NOT 300+ Divisions!

Most of these divisions, splits, and splinters are made up of our BRETHREN who possess the Spirit of God. They are begotten children of God. Nevertheless they have left the TRUTH in one way or another. They are either following a minister who is not following Christ, or they have become a law unto themselves, just "sitting out there", doing nothing. Others are too fearful to become a part of the True Church and risk separation from their families and friends. And some become involved in the study of bizarre doctrines that cloud the mind and rob their time (see II Timothy 2:16). There are all kinds of excuses that Satan uses to deceive (see Luke 14: 16-24). These extremely dangerous spiritual conditions will abruptly erupt into a pitiful WAIL for God to intervene for them! We will enter the TENTH YEAR of the Day of the Lord on the Feast of Trumpets this year! The Four Horsemen are riding!

The book of Malachi, Ezekiel 34, Jeremiah 23, and Isaiah 28, are four sections in the Holy Bible that give an up to the minute picture of that which has occurred in the scattered and shattered divisions of the "daughter churches" and in the Laodicean Church today. Verses 7-8 of Isaiah 28 sum up the confusion that is seen in the divided churches of the Outer Court of the Temple, the synagogue of Satan:

**But they also have erred through wine and strong drink are out of the way; the Priest and the Prophet have erred through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment. For ALL tables are full of vomit and filthiness, so there is NO place clean.**

This is how Jesus Christ, the Lord of Hosts, sees His Temple at this TIME in the Day of the Lord! We will take a closer look at this a little later.

At this TIME Christ is very busy selecting, measuring, and polishing His Special Treasure. They are deep within the Inner Court of the Temple. They know Christ has One True Church and will always have one humble true priest-shepherd-minister sitting in the seat of judgment. Isaiah 28:5-6 states this plainly: **“In that day shall the LORD of hosts be for a crown of glory, and for a diadem of beauty, unto the residue of his people, And for a spirit of judgment to him that sitteth in judgment, and for strength to them that turn the battle to the gate.** They will be protected from the Tribulation (Mal.3: 17 & Rev.3: 10).

Our Lord appeared to the prophet Ezekiel in chapters 8 and 9 of his book. Ezekiel was shown in spirit that which is occurring right now in July of the year 2006. Christ has SUDDENLY come in the DAY of the LORD, immediately prior to the GREAT TRIBULATION, the Fifth Seal. Ezekiel saw the Eternal God in great awe-inspiring splendor riding upon a mighty cherub. The Eternal then took Ezekiel, in spirit, to Jerusalem. This is easily understood to be a prophecy for these days, immediately PRIOR to the Tribulation. Here Jerusalem is a type of national Israel as a whole, but specifically God’s Church or Temple to which he has suddenly come.

Ezekiel 9:1-4 describes exactly what is actually happening at this very TIME in God’s Temple.

**He cried also in my ears with a loud voice, saying, Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with his destroying weapon in his hand. And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lies toward the north, and every man with a slaughter weapon in hand; and one man among them was clothed with linen, with a writers inkhorn by his side: and they went in and stood beside the brazen altar. And the glory of the God of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon he was, to the threshold of the house. And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer’s inkhorn by his side. And he said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.**

### **Making Up His Special Treasure---“In THAT Day”**

This is very plain! Christ has come suddenly to his Church. He is examining, investigating, checking and testing to DISCERN who IS **“worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.”** This fact is made more obvious in Mal. 3:16-17:

**Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written (by the angel with the writers inkhorn [?]) before him for them that feared the Lord and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, IN THAT DAY (The Day of the Lord)**

**when I make up my jewels (or special treasure) and I will spare them, as a man spares his own son that serves him.**

“Spare them” from WHAT? The GREAT TRIBULATION! HE is here NOW to insure His Special Treasure, HIS FAITHFUL of His Church, will be set apart and protected in the PLACE He has prepared.

Isn't this so obvious? God has sent Jesus Christ back to His Spiritual Temple, at the very beginning of the DAY of the LORD, to gather, lead, and inspire His SPECIAL TREASURE, His FAITHFUL ELECT. The called, chosen, and faithful of the Philadelphian Candlestick will soon be taken to the Place of Safety that Christ has prepared for them. These FAITHFUL are very much aware of the fact we have entered the Day of the Lord and are urgent to be “*about our Father's business*”. Only the Church of God's Faithful has understood this pivotal TRUTH until now! We must be “**sighing and crying**” over the abominations our Laodicean brethren are ensnared in by Gerald Flurry and the PCG. And also for the thousands of God's “Lost Sheep” of the OUTER COURT of the Spiritual Temple, whom Satan has captured.

### **The Laodiceans**

Another vital point we need to consider at this point is stated in Rev. 3:20: “**Behold, I stand at the door, and knock...**” Gerald Flurry has used this scripture extensively; claiming this pictured the PCG warning the “Laodiceans.” Mr. Flurry has refused to understand that HE is Laodicea! God chose him to be the physical LEADER, the HIGH PRIEST of the LAODICEAN CHURCH--the Seventh Candlestick. The Laodicean “era” began with Gerald Flurry. (Request our updated, latest revision of *Elijah's Message to the Philadelphia Church of God* for a complete explanation of this amazing TRUTH).

Those of the Outer Court of the Spiritual Temple are unfaithful Philadelphians who can be rightly called the “adulterous wife”, the “Lost Sheep of the House of Israel,” or the “synagogue of Satan;” but they are NOT LAODICEANS. Those FAITHFUL who followed Mr. Flurry out of the “adulterous Outer Court” to do the WORK of the seventh Church era became the TRUE Laodiceans. Mr. Flurry has mistakenly placed the title “Laodicean” on everyone in the OUTER COURT. He and the PCG members were the dynamic LAODICEAN WORK of Christ for seven years, but he gradually substituted a militaristic government of fear in the PCG instead of God's government. And for another “gimmick” Gerald Flurry appropriated the title “That Prophet” and veered completely off track, doing his own futile work instead of God's Work. (More about “That Prophet” later.) Thus the Laodicean members caught up in that “abomination” are heading toward the Great Tribulation if they don't hurriedly get out of that Church and back to the Philadelphia Candlestick/Church.

The Laodicean Work was a mighty Work. Gerald Flurry was chosen by God to perform the task of “measuring” the INNER COURT, the Faithful (Rev. 11:1). Also, Mr. Flurry, as a type of the “watchman” of Ezekiel 33, was to WARN the “adulterous Outer Court” and national Israel. Mr. Flurry is a very zealous man, but his zeal has turned from zeal to do the WORK of God, to a zeal for his own work. (Write for our free booklets, *Bloody Jezreel* and *Whoso Reads...Let Him Understand*).

The Laodiceans of the Seventh Candlestick worked together with those who had remained faithful in the INNER COURT who were the TRUE Philadelphians of the Sixth Candlestick. A few thousand sincere brethren heeded the warning message of Mr. Flurry's book, *Malachi's Message*

to the Church of God Today and joined in the WORK CHRIST was performing in His Laodicean Church. The TWO Candlesticks worked together (Luke 17:35) for SEVEN YEARS as the PCG, the Philadelphia Church of God.

### **God's Faithful Elect**

Now, in the Day of the Lord, Christ is once again separating and sifting out his precious, Special Treasure. The Sixth Candlestick burns brightly as the Church of God's Faithful that are the ELECT of God who have been "sifted out" of the PCG---or in a few rare cases have come from the *streets and lanes of the city* and even from *the highways and the hedges!* The Faithful Elect are not deceived. They can perceive the lukewarm attitude of the PCG leadership in the areas of terribly abusive government. Most congregations can see that this abuse is a fact by just looking around at those precious called-out-ones of God who are now the cast-out-ones by Diotrophes type ministers (see III John: 9-10) who rule over most PCG congregations.

The Faithful Elect also recognize the complete change of the PCG's commission, the violation of law with the copyright infringement concerning *Mystery of the Ages*, and the disgraceful lawsuit the PCG leaders provoked with their brothers of the WCG. The Faithful Elect realize the efforts by Gerald Flurry and the PCG to get *Mystery of the Ages* to the WORLD is an exercise in "pious futility". (Read again, Jeremiah 4:22.) The Spiritual Temple was "finished" by Herbert W. Armstrong, who was a type of Zerubbabel (Zech. 4:9)! *Mystery of the Ages* contains spiritual knowledge that the WORLD cannot understand at this time. Mr. Armstrong wrote on Page 5 of *MOA*:

The truths of the Bible are revealed here a little there a little, scattered from the beginning to the end, *and revealed only through the Holy Spirit* within those surrendered and yielded to God, willing to have confessed error and wrongdoing, and yielding to believe Christ the Word of God. Jesus was the Word in Person. The Bible is the same Word in print.

NO ONE can have the *Holy Spirit*, which alone can open the human mind to UNDERSTANDING of this Word of God, without a complete repentance and an implicit belief in Christ as well as believing what he says. (Emphasis mine)

Please read the above statements by the Elijah again. Understand that the very important facts written there by Mr. Armstrong are completely ignored by Gerald Flurry as he attempts to send the spiritual knowledge of *Mystery of the Ages* (the Gospel) to the entire world. God is not "calling" the world now. Mr. Armstrong successfully accomplished his commission of taking the spiritual knowledge of the Gospel to the world as a witness to all nations. And, very importantly, through his ministry all of the "lively stones" of the Spiritual Temple were called. Christ will "build the Temple" with the "lively stones"---not the world.

The principle of the above statement by Herbert Armstrong is taken from God's Word as recorded in I Corinthians 2:10-12:

**But God has revealed them to us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searches all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knows no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit, which is of God; that we may know the things that are freely given to us of God.**

*Mystery of the Ages* is for those of God's SPIRITUAL TEMPLE, not the WORLD at this time. As we have previously stated; "The PCG can distribute *Mystery of the Ages* by the shipload to the World, but it can not be understood because it is SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE"!

Faithful Philadelphians and awakening Laodiceans who are hearing the messages of NEW TRUTH coming from God through the Church of God's Faithful realize, without doubt, this is where Christ is WORKING. God has revealed to the CGF the true identity of Laodicea and the Two Candlesticks. He has given the CGF the astounding revelation of the Day of the Lord that opens practically ALL prophecies from here on out. In fact God has revealed much of the "end from the beginning" (Isaiah 46:10) as recorded in our booklet, ***The Deep Things of God!***

The Great God does not reveal TRUTH to rebellious dissidents. He reveals TRUTH only to those who love, fear, and humbly submit unto Him. We would be unable to understand ALL the many NEW TRUTHS God is pouring upon us if we were not submissive to God. That is not a boast; it is a biblical fact!

Some Laodiceans are already aware that Mr. Flurry has turned his back to the INNER COURT (Ezekiel 8:16) and are crying aloud for God to show them what He would have them do. They have not known where to go; however, as you are reading this, you should recognize "your shepherds voice" (John 10:4).

Now it appears that OUR commission, the WORK that Christ has given to us of the CGF, the Philadelphian Candlestick, is rapidly being fulfilled. For nine years Christ, through His Faithful Church, has "**stood at the door and knocked**" on Mr. Flurry's Laodicean door. Many of them have laughed and scoffed at our efforts. However as they ridiculed our warnings, they failed to see that Mr. Flurry had careened completely off course, yet they blindly followed. But, in God's mercy, through the CGF website or personal contact with our members, He has revealed His tiny Church to some deeply sincere Laodiceans. There are those who have been jolted in to wakefulness by Gerald Flurry's unbiblical claims and demands. Thus they have been led to the CGF where Jesus Christ is pouring out NEW TRUTH and forming proven "Pillars" for the Spiritual Temple.

Just as the WCG had brought in more and more unbiblical worldly doctrines, Gerald Flurry began teaching weird, way-out, bazaar doctrines to the PCG. The most recent of these *doctrines* is his ridiculous spin on the "lawful Joshua" and the "unlawful Joshua", which was the "last straw" for at least one PCG minister! We have written warning letters to Gerald Flurry, carefully explaining that it is very possible that he is the prophesied Joshua, the High Priest of Zechariah 3, *standing before the angel of the Lord in filthy garments*. He has been admonished to repent of his "abominations" as symbolized by the "filthy garments". If he is the Joshua of prophecy and if he does repent, the title of High Priest ruling from Christ's Throne in the Kingdom of God is offered to him as we read in Zechariah 6:11-13:

**Then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set *them* upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest; And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name *is* The BRANCH [Jesus Christ]; and he [Christ] shall grow up out of his place, and he [Christ] shall build the temple of the LORD: Even he [Christ] shall build the temple of the LORD; and he [Christ] shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his [Christ's] throne; and he [Joshua]**

**shall be a priest upon his [Christ's] throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both [Christ and Joshua].**

But, Gerald Flurry has laid claim to another highly authoritative title!

The "title" he has pompously claimed is the weirdest of the false doctrines he has as yet imagined---he has taken the title, "THAT PROPHET". The Holy Bible plainly declares the title of "THAT PROPHET" refers ONLY to Jesus Christ (Deuteronomy 18:15 and 18, John 1:21, Acts 3:22-23)! Taking this title unto himself is not only a BLASPHEMOUS claim, but makes Gerald Flurry a "false Christ" and a "false prophet". This false claim is an abomination in God's sight, very *filthy garments* indeed. The CGF is "knocking" loudly on Gerald Flurry's PCG door, admonishing him to repent of that abomination.

Just as WCG members' acceptance of the satanic "trinity" doctrine has possibly quenched the Spirit of God within them (I Thess. 5:19), in like manner the Laodiceans' blind acceptance of their Leader's heretical claim of being "That Prophet" places them on a straight course to the Great Tribulation! Sadly only a few Laodiceans have awakened at Christ's knocking to become a part of the CGF. The time of warning in words and writings to the PCG will come to an end! Once the full number of Pillars have been proven and set in their positions, then ACTION by the POWER and AUTHORITY of the Living Christ will be ready to begin! Christ will "open the door" to the Lost Sheep snared in the synagogue of Satan. Many of them will be made to come (Rev.3:9), but I wonder if MIRACLES, SIGNS, and WONDERS will be able to open the blind spiritual eyes of the Laodiceans (Matthew 12: 22-33).

### **...It Is Near Even at the Door**

Our Great God has bound Himself and His overall plan for His purpose for mankind to a condition that we call TIME! Our beautiful earth is but a speck of cosmic dust rotating and revolving around a small star we call the sun. God set them and the other celestial bodies, as it would suit His Wonderful Plan. Each rotation of the earth would be a day. Each time the earth made a complete revolution around the sun would be a year. From the beginning, God and the Word had a Master Plan for the creation of God-Beings just like themselves---And it would require TIME and CIRCUMSTANCES.

Since the creation of Adam, the earth had traveled around the sun 6000 times as the Feast of Trumpet began at sundown on October 1, 1997. At that TIME man's TIME ended and we entered once again into God's TIME—HIS DAY! Tremendous events are happening at this very moment. The Mighty Christ is busy. He will quickly bring about the final circumstances, conditions, and situation to fulfill every scripture concerning the period of TIME we are now in---the Day of the Lord.

Christ has ripped open the first four Seals and released the Four Horsemen. The four Living Creatures have cried out to Him to "COME and SEE" as the Horsemen manipulate the situations and circumstances of this world. Christ has COME and He SEES the conditions of the earth and His Church. Every tiny detail of prophecy shall be fulfilled as He prepares to open the fifth Seal, the GREAT TRIBULATION. Our Lord SUDDENLY came to his Temple. He is well aware of the sad condition of the shattered OUTER COURT and the victims of Satan's deception. He is sternly observing Gerald Flurry as the High Priest of the Laodicean Church. And it warrants repeating that it certainly appears Gerald Flurry is "Joshua" in his *filthy garments* leading the

blind PCG into ABOMINATIONS (Mat. 24:15) and into the Great Tribulation. But Christ is very much aware that most of them are BEGOTTEN CHILDREN of God---and part of His BRIDE!

God is a JEALOUS God (Exodus 20:5). He will NOT permit Satan to cause the spiritual death of those called and chosen of God (John 6:44; 10:28-29). It certainly seems that Joshua (Gerald Flurry) will be brought to repentance of his abominations and vanity.

**Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee [by complete and total repentance] and I will clothe thee with change of raiment” (Verses 3-4).**

Make no mistake, Dear Reader, if Gerald Flurry is the Joshua of Zechariah 3 and 6, God can bring him to repentance! The Prophet Jonah tried to run and hide from God but truly repented in the belly of the great fish. The Living Christ is perfectly able to create any “thing” or circumstance to bring this man to his knees. His pitiful clamoring about a “lawful Joshua” and an “unlawful Joshua” indicates an extremely troubled mind.

Watch carefully and pray for this stubborn man that his repentance can come about with the least pain possible. But if repentance does not occur quickly, suffering and death in the Great Tribulation is his only other option! And what about his Laodicean followers? What will they do? Can they accept the fact that they have been blindly deluded and are actually themselves the Laodicean Church? They have looked upon their scattered brethren in disdain and deep contempt, especially us of the CGF! When Gerald Flurry is brought to humble submission to God, can the ministry and members of the PCG also repent of their vanity and pride and respond to our “knocking” before it is too late?

Our booklet *Petra---Place of Safety Or Place of Slaughter* is a must read from our website or request your free copy.

## Chapter Three:

# The Day of the Lord... Key to Prophecy for Today!

Proving that the Day of the Lord shall exist throughout ETERNITY has been one of the goals of this booklet. Mr. Armstrong recognized the pattern of the seven-day week and applied it to a SEVEN-DAY SPIRITUAL WEEK. God interrupted His eternal TIME and gave mankind six 1000-year days to follow their own ways influenced by Satan and his demons. The Seventh Day, the Lord's Day, is once again God's TIME and will exist forever! Within the Day of the Lord will be the 1000-year reign of Jesus Christ and His Wife. That MILLENIUM of peace, productivity, and plenty, Herbert Armstrong fittingly labeled as the WORLD TOMORROW! That wonderful TIME of God's Law of Love in action will be a perfect model world to the billions of people who lived throughout the 6000 years of man's history, when they are raised up as physical human beings at the Second Resurrection. It will be a contrast between the effects of God's Way of cooperation and peace compared to man's competition and war. Six thousand years of going "man's way" compared to 1000 years of God's Way is a 7000 year PLAN that can teach ALL of a resurrected mankind, who never had the opportunity, HOW to live. Their DAY (II Pet.3: 8) to LIVE a long life and to qualify to become God-Beings through the Spirit of God comes after the 7000 years.

The Day of the Lord has come! 6000 years have ended. There are many Old and New Testament scriptures whose subject is the Day of the Lord---especially for this exact point in time immediately before the Great Tribulation. We will explore a few of these, shortly. There are other scriptures that deal with the Day of the Lord as time progresses into the Great Tribulation (Luke 17:31; I Thess. 5:2). Other scriptures continue into the one-year of the Wrath of God (Zeph.1:14-16; Isa. 13:9 and 13). There are prophecies that use the term "Day of the Lord" or "in that Day" pertaining to the Millennium (Isa.11:11, Amos 9:11-15). "In that Day" meaning the Day of the Lord also pertains to the Last Great Day (Ezek.38:14-16,39:11 and Rev. 20:8) and can even include the time when God the Father comes to make Earth His headquarters (II Pet. 3:12-13). These scriptural references are just a few of many involving the Day of the Lord, which is again God's TIME that continues throughout eternity.

The fact of the apostle John being projected into the Day of the Lord (Rev. 1:10) before any of the Seven Seals are opened is a vital KEY to the understanding of prophecy, especially for today. For example, we have previously read Malachi 3:16-17, but let's read and study them once more.

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

As you study these verses you should ask, "To which DAY is God referring?" The verses state that these people feared God, they were in close fellowship with one another, and they thought upon His Name (Rev. 3:7-8). Consequently, God says they are His and **in that Day** He will make them His Jewels or Special Treasure. WHEN? He says also that He will spare them! Spare them

from what? Surely, we understand God is referring to their being spared from the Great Tribulation and the Day of His Wrath!

Chapter three of Malachi begins with the Lord coming SUDDENLY to his Temple. Verse 2 states that He has come “**in that day**” to DISCERN those who are worthy to STAND (His PILLARS), those who are His Jewels. Isn’t it clear that He COMES first, suddenly---“**as a thief in the night**”? Then He determines who are His Faithful Jewels--- before the Tribulation! We are in the TENTH YEAR of the Day of the Lord. WHAT HAS CHRIST DISCERNED ABOUT YOU?

### **“Churches of God” or “churches of god”!**

Earlier in this presentation, it was mentioned that the Church of God has been scattered and shattered. Divisions, strife, and contention are the fruits of the synagogue of Satan, which is called by various groups, *the Churches of God*. They can use any title they like, but biblically the title *synagogue of Satan* would be correct! Those churches are DEAD branches and are the *churches of god*, little “c” and little “g” (see II Corinthians. 4:4).

I Corinthians 1:10 warns: “**Now I beseech you brethren by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and there be NO DIVISIONS among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same MIND and in the same JUDGMENT.**” Can you grasp the seriousness of the situation that exists in the WCG and her daughter churches as viewed in the light of this directive from the Word of God? Can’t those church leaders read? There is only one True Church and one True leader, “**...him that sitteth in judgment...**”(Isaiah 28:6). And as of now only NEW TRUTH identifies the Church of Jesus Christ!

We have also read in Isaiah 28 of a corrupt and spiritually drunk ministry that have deceived and led God’s people astray. Jeremiah 23:1-2 states:

**Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of MY pasture! SAITH THE LORD. Therefore thus saith the LORD GOD of Israel against the pastors that FEED MY PEOPLE; Ye have scattered MY flock and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold I will visit upon YOU the evil of YOUR doings, SAITH THE LORD.**

Read the remainder of this chapter and all of Ezekiel 34. These are warnings from the Eternal God written to the vain and contentious MINISTRIES of the synagogue of Satan that comprise ALL---everyone---of the “churches of god”. Isn’t it very plain that God is extremely ANGRY with these ministers? They were His ministers keeping His Flock. They are His ministers no more!

### **Has Satan Won?**

We are living in extremely dangerous times! We are NINE FULL YEARS into the Day of the Lord! The awful results of the Four Horsemen’s ride and the Great Tribulation will bring disaster to the entire world---and many of God’s People. Has Satan won? Will he finish gobbling up the vast majority of the Church of God in the Great Tribulation (I Peter 5:8; Rev.12: 12 & 17)?

NO! God will show His people where the TRUE CHURCH is located; where the Living Christ is working, leading, and guiding. Written words, such as this that you are reading, will convince very few that the CGF is the only TRUE CHURCH of Christ. Nor will dynamically powerful sermons cause huge numbers of God’s people to come to the Church of God’s Faithful! The vast multitudes of written and spoken WORDS by a corrupt ministry have so confused God’s Flock that they do not know what to do or where to go!

Jeremiah 50:6 describes this existing condition: “**My people hath been lost sheep: their shepherds have caused them to go astray, they have turned them away *on* the mountains: they have gone from mountain to hill, [confused brethren are searching out large groups and small groups, but do not know where the True Church is located] **they have forgotten their resting place**” [where JESUS, the TRUE SHEPHERD is]. Satan has done a job!**

What is NEEDED to show where the True Church is located will be fully supplied by the Head of the Church! When Christ decides all is in readiness, His POWER and AUTHORITY (Matt. 28:18) will be MANIFESTED in His Church through miracles, signs, and wonders exactly as it was during His earthly ministry. Matthew 10:6-8 declares: “**But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.**”

Nevertheless at this moment God is supplying New Truth and the urgently needed inspiration and guidance to those who have eyes to see and ears to hear. He is moving the CGF forward to the completion of the Work of God (John 4:34) in a step-by-step process.

First, look at Isaiah 28:5-6:

**In that day [NOW] shall the LORD of hosts be for a crown of glory, and for a diadem of beauty...(to us who understand the glorious TRUTH that the Mighty Christ, with all the authority of His Name, is here with us in the Day of the Lord)...unto the residue of His people...(the CGF is the tiniest and most pitiful remnant, but we are His Church)...**And for a spirit of judgment to him that sitteth in judgment**...(there is one individual sitting in the seat of Judgment who is given God’s Spirit to judge righteously. Jesus Christ is not divided, the Government of God will always exist in His True Church)...**and for strength** (Strong’s #1369, force, valor, victory, might, power) “... **to them that turn the battle to the gate.****

The CGF has no real strength at this time (Rev.3:8), but when Christ is ready for the rescue work of the Lost Sheep to begin, it will be accomplished even if some must be salvaged from the very *gates of hell* (Matthew 16:18).

### **Triplicates!**

Next, read Haggai 2:23 where it emphasizes vital details during the Day of the Lord: “**IN THAT DAY, saith the Lord of Hosts, will I take thee, O Zerubbabel, my servant, the son of Shealtiel, saith the Lord, and will make thee as a signet: for I have chosen thee, saith the Lord of Hosts”.** Notice carefully! It is emphatically stated THREE TIMES that it is THE LORD SPEAKING! **Three Times**---“**Triplicates**”! This is speaking of happening in the Day of the Lord---NOT 20 years ago! Herbert W. Armstrong was a second type of Zerubbabel; however another, a third, has arisen in the Day of the Lord and will be backed up by the POWER and AUTHORITY of the LORD of HOSTS.

Again, “**IN THAT DAY, saith the Lord of Hosts, shall the nail that is fastened in the sure place be removed, and cut down, and fall; and the burden that was upon it shall be cut off: for the Lord has spoken it**” (Isaiah 22:25). Isaiah is referring to a modern-day “Shebna”: **Thus saith the Lord GOD of hosts, Go, get thee unto this treasurer, *even* unto Shebna, which is over the house...**”(Verse 15).

The removal of a third “Shebna” has taken place since the **Day of the Lord** came as “a thief in the night” on Oct. 1, 1997. This third modern-day “Shebna” was removed from his position in the Seat of Government of God’s Church and replaced by a third present day “Eliakim”.

“**IN THAT DAY**”--- NOW---“**And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will call my servant Eliakim, the son of Hilkiah: And I will clothe him with thy robe, and strengthen him with thy girdle, and I will commit the GOVERNMENT into his hands**” (Isaiah. 22:20-21). Mr. Armstrong died in 1986. He was also a type of “Eliakim”, but notice again this is “**in that Day**”, the Day of the Lord. Another, third, “Eliakim” has come on the scene! In the same manner that God used THREE different “Elijahs”; there are THREE “Zerubbabels” and THREE “Eliakims”. This is prophecy from the Word of God---just keep watching!

God has poured His Spirit of Judgment upon ONE individual who will sit in the Seat of the Government of His Church, while the spiritually drunken ministry of the *synagogue of Satan* wallows around in their filth (Isaiah 28:7-8). The Lord of Hosts is the HEAD of His True Church and will give POWER and AUTHORITY to it that shall be manifested in great signs, wonders and miracles. The training program for the Two Witnesses is in its infancy at this precise time---in the Day of the Lord.

The *third* “Eliakim” will not only have the Seat of Government in God’s One True Church, but Christ, the Lord of Hosts, shall give him an OPEN DOOR (vv. 21-22 and Rev.3:7-8). Of course, we know God’s Word states that Jesus Christ IS the DOOR (John 10:7-9).

### The Open Door

Let us read Revelation 3:8-9 but temporarily omit the three phrases that do not apply to the subject of the OPEN DOOR. “**I know thy works: behold I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it.... Behold, I will make [#1325] them of the *synagogue of Satan*, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold I will make [#4160] them come and worship before thy feet, and to know I have loved thee.**” Please analyze carefully the meaning of these vital words.

An OPEN DOOR is given to the remnant of Philadelphia. Note carefully that this message to Philadelphia is BEFORE the “hour of temptation” or the Great Tribulation (v.10) from which a Faithful Philadelphian is promised protection. It does NOT apply to Mr. Armstrong. He has been dead over 20 years. At this moment this promise does NOT apply to the split and splintered “churches of god”, *the synagogue of Satan*, because they have NOT KEPT GOD’S WORD PATIENTLY.

The “synagogue of Satan” say they are True Christians or “spiritual Jews” (Rom. 2: 28-29). They say, “We are the Churches of God”, but that is a lie! They are the “churches of god” (little “c” and little “g”), *the synagogue of Satan*. Nevertheless, they are **BEGOTTEN CHILDREN of GOD**.

Our Lord says, He will GIVE SOME OF THEM TO US and He will MAKE THEM come to US. They must be taught the **NEW TRUTH** from Christ by His PILLAR MEMBERS, His “Special Treasure” that He loves! How will he MAKE them come? Remember that the Four Horsemen have been galloping over the face of the earth for nine full years. All systems for the horrendous completion of their task to destroy millions of human beings are nearly ready. When this actually begins it will be quickly noticed and recognized that this tiny, Church, through **NEW TRUTH** and the POWER to perform any MIRACLE by the NAME of JESUS CHRIST, IS HIS TRUE CHURCH. The *synagogue of Satan* will COME through the “DOOR” to God’s True Church.

Once they begin to COME to us, the process will be greatly accelerated by us GOING to THEM!

Matthew 10 was fulfilled in the DAY the Lord Jesus walked this earth in the flesh; however, a close study shows Matthew 10 is also for this time when our LORD is again walking over this earth. For example:

(1) Verse 6 states: **“But go rather to the Lost Sheep of the House of Israel...”** These LOST SHEEP are NOT the *Nations of Israel*. They have not yet had their calling, thus are not LOST! The divided churches of the *synagogue of Satan* are perilously close to being LOST forever.

(2) Verse 7: **“... preach... the Kingdom of Heaven is AT HAND”**. The Kingdom was at hand during Christ’s Ministry because the KING was among them. Since October 1, 1997 the Kingdom is at hand once again because the KING has returned.

(3) Verse 23: **“... You shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come”**. The early Apostles went to the cities of Judah originally, and to a lesser extent to the nations of Israel that had migrated to Western Europe. The end-time Apostle Herbert W. Armstrong thundered the Gospel of the Kingdom of God to all nations (Matt. 24:14). But Christ shall see to it that **the Kingdom of Heaven is at HAND** is proclaimed over the cities of Israel now that He has come in the Day of the Lord!

The Gospel is the Good News of the Family of God. Mr. Armstrong successfully completed that commission through the Power of God’s Spirit. The Message of the **“Kingdom is at Hand”** will be carried to the “Lost Sheep of the House of Israel”, i.e., *the synagogue of Satan*, by the tiny “residue” of God’s TRUE CHURCH, and to the WORLD by the Two Witnesses. The tiny Philadelphian “remnant/residue” will greatly multiply into the “Woman” of Revelation 12. The POWER and AUTHORITY of God’s “SIGNET” will accomplish the mighty acts of faith as was done in the first century, as verse 8 declares: **“Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils; freely you have received, freely give”**. This will not be “WORDS” only! The AUTHORITY of the HEAD of the Church, Jesus Christ, the Lord of Hosts, shall add great strength to these “WORDS” (Matthew 28:18).

## COME!

As of this writing in November 2006, we are in the TENTH YEAR of the **DAY of the LORD!** Great, horrendous, events are erupting and will intensify upon this evil world AND the WCG and her divided daughters. You have an opportunity to COME, NOW, and be a part of the GREATEST and MOST POWERFUL WORK of the Church of God, EVER! With the understanding you have been given in this booklet, please carefully study Chapter Four beginning on the following pages and use the 15 points presented there to teach others in a scriptural and “common-sense” method of ***How YOU Can Teach “The Day Of The Lord” To Others.***

We are the tiny “residue” at this time! Nevertheless as the THOUSANDS of God’s deceived, confused, yet begotten children, witness MIGHTY WORKS coupled with NEW TRUTH, through the LOVE of Christ, they will COME to the CGF and be TAUGHT (Rev. 3: 9). There is to be tremendous growth in our numbers very soon. Instead of being the “residue or remnant” we will be described as the WOMAN (Rev.12:13-16) who **“flies into her place”** (v. 14). However, there will be a number who see and hear yet make all sorts of excuses not to heed. Others will go scurrying off to investigate other confused groups. And there will be some who just stubbornly refuse to respond, even though they **“keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony**

**of Jesus Christ”** (v.17). These all together are pictured as the tiny “**REMNANT**” that will suffer the wrath of Satan in the Great Tribulation!

What will YOU do?

We have entered the TENTH YEAR of the DAY of the LORD!

**THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND! IT REALLY IS!**

Revelation 1:3 thunders aloud: **“Blessed is he that reads, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein, FOR THE TIME IS AT HAND”**.

## Chapter Four:

# How YOU Can Teach “The Day of the Lord” To Others!

### A Point-by-Point Explanation of this very Important Subject

1) Remember, we all have had preconceived ideas in our minds. We must study the Holy Scriptures with an open mind; then believe the Scriptures.

2) Revelation 1:10 states: “**I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day...**” “The Lord’s Day”, or as usually stated, *Day of the Lord*, has absolutely nothing to do with Sunday or any other day of the week! When the preconceived ideas about this verse are removed and it is read for what it says, it becomes obvious that at this early point in the unfolding of the Book of Revelation, John is projected into the prophetic *Day of the Lord*, so often written about in the Old Testament.

3) John states that he is in the **Day of the Lord** in Rev. 1:10. In Rev. 4:10 John is told he will be shown things that will be *hereafter*---and the *hereafter* he is to be shown includes the opening of the *Seven Seals*. The *Seven Seals* cover the climactic times of the releasing of the Four Horseman, the Great Tribulation, the awesome Heavenly Signs, and the one year period of the *Wrath of the Lamb*, culminating in Christ’s visible return at the sound of the *Last Trumpet* and the First Resurrection! All *Seven Seals* are opened while John is “...*in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day*”, or more plainly stated, during the Day of the Lord!

4) We have had the preconceived idea that the Day of the Lord and the *Day of the Lord’s Wrath* (the Seventh Seal) are one and the same. A careful examination of the scriptures in the next point proves that they definitely are **NOT** the same!

5) The Seventh Seal is the *Day of the Lord’s Wrath*, which is the final one-year period of 3½ years of Great Tribulation---during the Day of the Lord. Revelation 6:17 declares; “**For the great day of his wrath** (Strong’s # 3709, meaning “*anger, indignation, vengeance, wrath*”) **is come; and who shall be able to stand?**”

Now read these scriptures that define the length of time for the *Day of the Lord’s Wrath*:

Isaiah 34:8: “**For it is the day of the LORD’S vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion.**”

Isaiah 61:2: “**To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God...**”

Isaiah 63:4: “**For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.**”

6) God’s Word declares the Day of the Lord (not the *Day of His Wrath*) would come as a “**thief in the night,**” suddenly, unexpectedly (I Thess. 5:2; II Peter 3:10; Matt. 25:13).

7) The awesome and frightening Sixth Seal, the Heavenly Signs (Rev. 6:12-17), will be seen by all on the earth as they usher in the one-year period of the Seventh Seal, also called the Day of the Lord's Wrath or the Trumpet Plagues. Not only will the Sixth Seal introduce the Day of the Lord's Wrath, the Two Witnesses will be warning the entire world of that which is on the horizon. These two Prophets, just as Moses and Aaron did anciently, will thunder aloud to the WORLD, forewarning of each event that shall unfold. They will call down each of the Trumpet Plagues. They will inform the ENTIRE EARTH of when the Day of His Wrath will begin---and when it will end! These two powerful, yet humble, servants of God know they will be killed at the end of their 1260-day ministry and will alert the entire earth of the exact time of their death and the time of their resurrection. Their resurrection is at the time of the Last Trumpet---at the RETURN of JESUS CHRIST for the Firstfruits (study Rev. 11:3-15 carefully).

8) There will be NOTHING “unexpected,” “secret,” “sudden,” or as a “thief in the night”, about the visible Return of Christ for His Firstfruits. The whole WORLD will SEE Him return (Rev. 1:7). The whole WORLD will know in advance the exact time of His visible Return by the proclamation of the Two Witnesses.

9) However, the Day of the Lord and Christ's secret coming “as a thief” will be at a time when everything was going along as usual---*eating, drinking, marrying, giving in marriage...*(read Matt. 24:36-44). After the Great Tribulation and the one-year Day of the Lord's Wrath, NOTHING will be as usual (see Jeremiah 4:19-29 and Isaiah 13:9-13).

10) *Sudden destruction* is coming upon this earth in spite of world leaders attempting to bring *peace and safety*. “*Peace and Safety*” can still be hoped for TODAY, nevertheless, no one on earth, except God's Faithful in the place of safety, will be saying, “*PEACE and SAFETY*” (I Thess. 5:2-3) when the Day of the Lord's Wrath begins. By that time the Four Horsemen's ride and 2 ½ years of Great Tribulation will have destroyed *billions* of people over the face of the Earth. *Sudden destruction will have already come!* There will be NO safety or peace except in the place God has prepared.

11) The Day of the Lord has already come as a “thief in the night”---and you didn't know it! That's the way God intended it to be. That is precisely HOW it could come as “a thief in the night”. Now the SECRET has been revealed (Mark 13:32)! Prior to this NEW TRUTH everyone has had the misconception that the Day of the Lord and the Day of the Lord's Wrath were one and the same. But NOW you know! And when you read the scriptures and think it through, it is obvious they are TWO different occurrences.

12) According to the best scholars, 6000 years of man going according to his own deceived heart came to an end October 1, 1997. Herbert Armstrong said he did not think time could go on past 1997. And I personally believe The Day of the Lord---that will continue for all eternity---began on that Feast of Trumpets evening of October 1, 1997, secretly, suddenly, like a thief in the night. God opened my mind to the meaning of Revelation 1:10 at that very time! It was TIME for this great Truth to be revealed and God revealed it to me. I state this as humbly as I can. He had to use someone and I was available. Regardless of WHO He used, the biblical points already brought out above are TRUE, and the fact is that The Day of the Lord and the Day of the Lord's

*Wrath* are TWO different events! That understanding was revealed on Trumpets of 1997. If you do not want to believe all of this happened on October 1, 1997, that's your decision. However, if you understand that this fact is true, then you know the Day of the Lord must come BEFORE the Great Tribulation---and the Tribulation is imminent. Remember also, I am saying the First Four Seals were opened over nine years ago and the fearsome Four Horsemen have ridden out over this earth---in the Day of the Lord---before the Fifth Seal is opened. I hope you have the "spiritual eyes" to see the affects of their ride to this point. When all is in readiness Christ will open the Fifth Seal.

13) Christ has "*come suddenly to His Temple*" (Malachi 3:1). When Christ Returns visibly at the First Resurrection, it will not be *suddenly* or *unexpectedly*. The Faithful in the place of safety will have been waiting, watching, and praying for 1150 days. His Return will be expected---and God does things right on time!

14) Christ has already come *suddenly to His Temple* and He is NOW doing the following:

(a) He is discerning who is worthy to stand as His Pillar members (Malachi 3:2; Revelation 3:12 and Luke 21:36). Notice the question in Malachi 3:2: "**...who shall stand when He appears?**" "Appears" in this phrase is an unfortunate rendering of the Hebrew word *ra'ah*. In verse 18 this same Hebrew word is rendered "discern". Christ has come secretly "*as a thief*" not to appear but to discern! See also Matthew 24: 39-41 and Luke 17:30-37 and notice carefully the selection that is taking place.

(b) He will "discern," or determine by careful inspection, those worthy to escape the Great Tribulation and stand as His Pillars. Malachi 3:17 shows He will "discern," by close examination, those who are to be SPARED as His special treasure---**in that day**---the Day of the Lord. He is placing His special mark (Ezek. 9:4 and John 17:17) on His Faithful, NOW---in the Day of the Lord--- before the Great Tribulation and the Day of the Lamb's Wrath.

(c) Malachi 3:3 declares He will also "**...purify the sons of Levi...**" These "sons of Levi" are the *hireling ministers*, the shepherds of God, not the ministers of the world's churches, (John 10:12-13) that have led His people astray (Jer. 50:6). They will be purified and purged in the "fire" of the Great Tribulation--- if they do not repent before then. The Great Tribulation takes place during the Day of the Lord, but before the one-year period of the Day of His Wrath. These *hirelings* must repent now or be purified by the fires of the Tribulation. When the Day of the Lamb's Wrath begins all Faithful Philadelphians will have been in the place of safety for 2½ years. It appears that the hireling ministry and the unfaithful Philadelphians they have deceived, together with the Laodiceans will have given their lives in the Tribulation before the Day of His Wrath begins. To be proven faithful they must overcome the Beast, the image of the Beast, his mark, and the number of his name (Rev. 15:2 and 20:4). Those who do not overcome will lose their lives eternally in the lake of fire.

15) The NEW TRUTH you have studied in this booklet began to be given October 1, 1997 on the Feast of Trumpets. At that time we entered the Day of the Lord and Christ returned suddenly to His Temple. You have not known this TRUTH until now---but NOW you have new REVEALED KNOWLEDGE! You are responsible for how you handle this knowledge (Hosea 4:6). Christ identifies His One True Church through NEW TRUTH given only to that ONE TRUE CHURCH. The Church of God's Faithful, the Church of Jesus Christ is **SET APART BY TRUTH!**

I sincerely hope this chapter and the entire booklet will help you to fully understand the vital subject of **The Day of the Lord**---and that you will be able to thoroughly explain this essential TRUTH to others.

We are here to help you in the study of God's Word and any other spiritual needs. Our address is Church of God's Faithful, PO Box 279, Eutawville, SC 29048. Our telephone numbers are 803-492-9061 and 843-462-7977

We look forward to hearing from you in these urgent times in which we live!

**“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”**