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# The Midnight Cry

May 2009, Volume 1, Number 3


A Magazine of Urgent Understanding

## Irrefutable Proof

## of a PENTECOST

## Resurrection

pg. 13



*Not understood until now,  
the Church of God's Faithful  
has received revelation of  
fantastic parallels between  
Old Testament Israel  
and Spiritual Israel.*

Read and EASILY UNDERSTAND  
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### Publisher and Editor in Chief:

*Robert Ardis*

### Senior Editor:

*Daniel Frendo*

### Editorial Assistants:

*Frank Borg and Jennifer Frendo*

### Contributors:

*Daniel Frendo*

*John Durrad*

*Frank Borg*

*Rodrigo Matabaran*

*Peter Moss*

*Andres Yparraguirre*

### Graphic Design:

*Laura Coldewey and Peter Frendo*



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## Do You "Believe Your Bible"?



Dear Brethren,

In the article entitled "Love Your Enemies, Do Good to Them that Hate You" which appeared in the March-April issue of this magazine, we brought to your attention several subjects that actually anger and upset our brethren of Laodicea (the PCG) and the split and splintered "churches of god". The points discussed were from the Word of God, but some do not want to hear something that is different from what they have believed although it comes from

Christ Himself as recorded in the Holy Bible. One subject covered that really disturbs most of the churches and especially the ministers of those churches is Matthew 24:14. The scripture is very plain: "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

Herbert W. Armstrong, the end-time Elijah, was raised up by Jesus Christ to proclaim the Gospel of the Kingdom of God to the world as a witness to all nations. He successfully accomplished this commission—and then he died. But the main point is that the Gospel was preached to the entire world as a witness—and the end of that proclamation was achieved. Our article makes this very plain!

Jesus Christ completed the proclamation of the true Gospel to the world through His servant, Herbert Armstrong. During the past 23 years since Mr. Armstrong's death, Christ has conducted a test to determine the faithfulness of those begotten brethren who were called through the Elijah's ministry to be a part of the Spiritual Temple. Today Christ's main concern is toward those that were called as part of the Spiritual Temple—not the world. The world is not being called at this time! Only a very few are being called today and those are from the streets and lanes of the city or from the highways and the hedges as replacements for those who were called through the Elijah's ministry (Luke 14:16-24) but have shamelessly thrown away their crowns. Thus the efforts of the divided and contentious churches of the "Outer Court" and Laodicea attempting to call and convert the world is an act of confusion and pious futility. It is also an effort to provide tithes and offerings to maintain the life-style of the bickering ministries of the divided churches.

Those being called as replacements are to make up the specifically designated biblical number of Firstfruits that is totally misunderstood by the divided churches, although it is plainly stated in the Word of God! Rev. 14:1 and 4:

“ And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Zion, and with him a hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads...These were... redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

The True Church of God must continually grow in New Truth (II Pet. 3:18) and one of the wonderful New Truths given to the

*Continued on page 11.*

## The Plain Truth About The 144,000 Firstfruits

By Robert Ardis

As students of Herbert W. Armstrong, we were taught to let the Bible interpret the Bible! We should realize by now that Mr. Armstrong did NOT understand much of what has occurred in the Laodicean era, especially since the beginning of the Day of the Lord. This was not his fault! The TIME for the revealing of these TRUTHS did not come about until *after* Mr. Armstrong's death.

The Word of God, the Holy Bible is written TRUTH! Jesus Christ is the Living Word of God and the Head of the One True Church. As has been stated often, the Church of God's Faithful is His True Church, thus we are SET APART BY TRUTH! We have also previously stated that through pre-conceived ideas in a person's mind, it is often very difficult to grasp even a plain and simple statement written in the Bible. Revelation 14:1-5 is a prime example of this statement. We will look at verses 1 and 4 first and then come back to verses 2, 3, and 5.

“And I looked and, lo a Lamb stood on the Mount Zion, and with him a hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads...These are they, which were not defiled with wom-

en; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goes. These were redeemed from among men, being the FIRST-FRUITS unto God and the Lamb (Rev 14:1, 4).

Those two verses PLAINLY state that there will be **144,000 Firstfruits!** It does NOT say they are a **few** of the **Firstfruits**, nor does it say they are Laodiceans, as the PCG claims. These verses tell us the **144,000 are ALL of the Firstfruits!** The statement is so clear, however, the Church of God in the past has NOT believed it. Prior to 1986, none of us including Mr. Armstrong could imagine what was to take place in the Church of God within the next 23 years!

Before 1986, this PLAIN statement in the Bible seemed so improbable. How could this be, we thought? Only 144,000 Firstfruits from all of the BILLIONS of people who have ever lived! And immediately prior to Mr. Armstrong's death, the Gospel was going into ALL nations fulfilling Matt. 24:14! Millions were reading the "Plain Truth Magazine" and viewing "The World Tomorrow" telecast. Nevertheless, when we consider the evidence we have from the Bible, 144,000 makes a lot of sense. The Bible always makes sense once we get our own pre-conceived ideas out of the way.

### What Does History Reveal?

The Word of God reveals that from Adam through Noah, spanning a time period of 1650 years, only Abel, Enoch, and Noah were considered righteous men. From Noah to the time Israel entered the Promised Land another 900 years elapsed. Those who walked with God during those 900 years of history can be counted on our fingers and toes. Throughout the period of the judges, the kings, and the prophets of the Old Testament, how many are counted as righteous individuals possessing the Spirit of God? Seven thousand had not "bowed their knees to Baal" during this time (Rom. 11:4), but did they possess God's Spirit? Only a very few had the Spirit of God during Christ's 33 ½ years in the flesh. Those included in that group were Mary and Joseph, Elizabeth and Zacharias, Anna, Simeon, John, the Baptist and very FEW others of whom we are aware. Thousands followed Jesus and claimed to believe in him, but where were they on the Day of Pentecost as the New Testament Church began? Even his 12 disciples were not given God's Spirit until PENTECOST of 31AD. Acts 2:41 tells us that after Peter's stirring sermon on Pentecost, 3000 people: "... gladly received his word and were baptized." In the last phrase of Acts 2:47 the Bible



states: "...And the Lord added to the Church daily such as should be saved." Verse 14 of chapter 5 shows continued growth: "And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women." After Stephen's death, persecution set in and the Church became scattered, and spread abroad. "Therefore they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word" (Acts 8:4).

Paul was inspired to write a warning of what was to come:

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

This has a familiar ring to it, doesn't it? Verse 10 shows how the ministry can fall away with the tragic results it brings upon the Flock.

“For Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia. ONLY Luke is with me...

The time was approaching 65 or 66 AD. There was much persecution being thrust upon God's people. Satan and his demons were bringing persecution from the World, OUTSIDE, and infiltrating the Church, INSIDE, with false ministers (see II Pet. 2:1-2; Jude: 3-4).

II Tim 4:16 declares:

“At my first answer no man stood with me, but ALL men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.

Many did NOT "endure to the end" as Paul sadly states in II Tim. 1:15!

“This you know, that ALL they which are in Asia be turned away from me; of whom are Phygellus and Hermogenes.

### 144,000 Makes Perfect Sense

These scriptures describe the history of the early Church of God. How many of those THOUSANDS that were baptized on that Day of Pentecost in 31 AD and immediately afterward, remained FAITHFUL to the end? Thankfully, some did, but many did not! How many remained FAITHFUL in the EPHESIAN era? How many in the SMYRNA, PERGAMOS, THYATIRA, and SARDIS eras? Sardis is depicted as being dead! How many have remained FAITHFUL PHILADELPHIANS since the death of Mr. Armstrong? Think about that! When all of this is taken into consideration, 144,000 is a reasonable sounding number of Firstfruits! And it is a PLAIN statement in the Bible.

Let's proceed with the description of the 144,000 Firstfruits in Revelation 14. Again, verse 1:

“And I looked and, lo, a Lamb stood on the Mount Zion, and with him a hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.

We know the "Lamb" is symbolic of Jesus Christ. We know that Mt. Zion is synonymous with the City of Jerusalem in the land of Israel.

However, there is a HEAVENLY Mt. Zion too! We will look at that next. Let's also search out the meaning "... his Father's name written in their foreheads." Hebrews 12 gives us the answer to WHICH Mt. Zion is being discussed in Rev. 14. Begin with verses 18-19:

“For you are not come unto the mount [Horeb/ Sinai] that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard entreated that the word should not be spoken to them anymore...

Continue with verses 21-22:

“...and so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake: But you are come unto Mount Zion, and unto the city of the Living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels.

This PLAINLY tells us that the MOUNT ZION where Christ and the Firstfruits are standing is in HEAVEN! Do pre-conceived ideas and misconceptions in your mind prevent you from seeing this wonderful scene?

### How many have remained FAITHFUL PHILADELPHIANS since the death of Mr. Armstrong?

The meaning of "the Father's name written in their [our]

foreheads" is revealed in four very familiar scriptures. First look at Ephesians 1:13-14:

“In whom you also trusted, after that you heard the Word of Truth, the Gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that

you believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

Acts 5:32 adds:

“And we are His witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to them that OBEY Him.

Our Lord tells us in John 17:11 that

the Father has given us to Him. The Father’s NAME is then given unto us through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

“And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to you. Holy Father, keep through your own NAME those you have given me, that they may be one, as we are.

And it is a sure fact that God KNOWS and SEALS those that are his: “...Nevertheless the foundation of God stands sure, having this SEAL, The Lord knows them that are his...” (II Tim. 2:19).

## You Mean In Heaven?

Revelation 14 is an obvious portrayal of 144,000 Firstfruits with Christ on Mt. Zion in the Heavenly Jerusalem. The first Resurrection has taken place and the Firstfruits have been born into the God-Family.

“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it does not yet appear

what we shall be: but we KNOW that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we will see Him as He is [See I John 3:2].

The 144,000 Firstfruits bear the

NAME of the Father, GOD! When this is all a reality, the marriage of the SON of GOD to the FIRSTFRUITS will be ready to commence.

Revelation 14:2 states:

“And I heard a voice from heaven,

as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: and they sung as it were a new song before the throne and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.

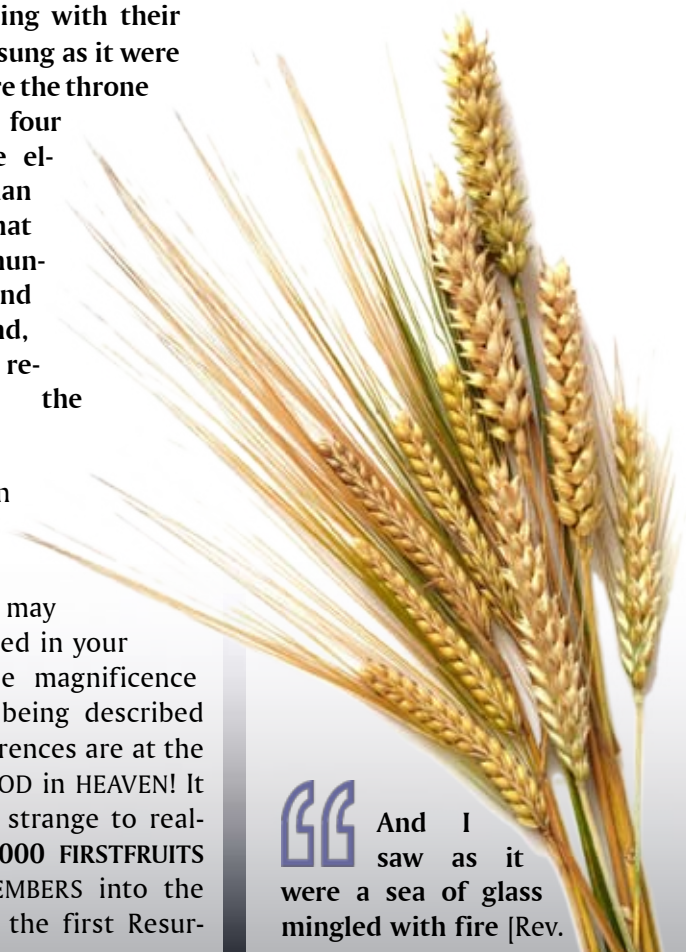
Again I caution you, the reader, not to let misconceptions that may be deeply engrained in your mind, to dim the magnificence of the spectacle being described here. These occurrences are at the very THRONE of GOD in HEAVEN! It should NOT seem strange to realize that the 144,000 FIRSTFRUITS become BORN MEMBERS into the Family of God at the first Resur-

rection. As God-Beings, Christ will have them ascend to HEAVEN and stand in the PRESENCE of GOD THE FATHER! Verse 5 declares: “... they are without fault before THE THRONE OF GOD!” Our Lord and Savior will present us before His Presence “without fault”.

Now observe WHEN it is that they “stand in His Presence.” Revelation 15:1 and 6 gives this startling information:

“And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels having the seven last plagues: for in them is filled up the wrath of God...And the angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues...”

Now read verses 2, 3, and 4 and realize the picture here is BEFORE THE LAST PLAGUES are poured out.



“And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire [Rev.



4:6]; and them that had gotten the **VICTORY** over the Beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

This is a **WONDERFUL**, absolutely **AMAZING** statement of **ENCOURAGEMENT!** What we see depicted here is that portion of **FIRSTFRUITS** who must **OVERCOME** and achieve **VICTORY** over the **BEAST** and his **IMAGE!** These pictured here standing in **TRIUMPH** had: "...kept the commandments of God and had the testimony of Jesus..." But they did **NOT** "grow in grace and knowledge" (see Rev. 12:17 and II Pet. 3:18). They had "HELD FAST" but refused to **GROW** and become a part of the one **TRUE CHURCH**. They are the **Laodiceans** and the **unfaithful Philadelphians** who are not "accounted worthy to escape" to the Place of Safety. These begotten children of God must **OVERCOME** in the **MOST DIFFICULT** of ALL SITUATIONS! They must endure physical, mental, and emotional suffering on a scale we, thankfully, can not imagine, before they are allowed to die in the **HORROR** of the Great Tribulation!

“ And they **OVERCAME** him [Satan, the Beast, the Image] by the **blood of the lamb**, and by the **Word of his testimony**, and they loved not their **LIVES** unto the death (Rev. 12:11).

## Overcoming in the Great Tribulation!

God, in His great mercy, inspired John to write this portion of scripture portraying them as **VICTORIOUS!** God singles them out from the rest of the **144,000 Firstfruits**

for this special honor due to the severity of their trial and for their encouragement when they finally "awaken"—in the Tribulation. This is written as part of the "Word of His Testimony" informing them that they **CAN OVERCOME!** Through the Spirit of God, they must lose their **PHYSICAL LIFE**, but gain the ultimate **VICTORY— ETERNAL LIFE!** Remember, this great scene is **BEFORE** the last plagues are poured out! The Resurrection occurs *before* the seven last plagues are cast upon the earth! The Bible says so!

In the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> chapters of the book of Revelation, the **FIRSTFRUITS** are standing before the Throne of God and they all have *harps*. Rev. 15:3 shows them singing the songs of **MOSES** and the **LAMB**. Chapter 14:3 describe them singing a new song that no one else could learn. The Greek word for "song", Strong's #5603, can be singular or plural, as in these two verses. (See also Eph. 5:19 and Col. 3:16.) Consequently, verse 3 may be paraphrased as "**and they sung as it were new songs...and no one could learn those songs of Moses [and the Lamb], except the 144,000.**"

Our very important booklet, "The Feast of Trumpets—Or—The Day of Pentecost—Which?" continues from this amazing point of revealed **TRUTH**. Hopefully you now understand that there are quite a few **AMAZING** events **PLAINLY** described in the Bible that have been hidden until now. I hope it is as plain to you as it is to me, that the Resurrection of the **144,000 FIRSTFRUITS** occurs on **Pentecost**—the **Feast of Firstfruits**—**BEFORE** the seven last plagues are cast upon the earth and the remaining rebels of mankind.

## The False Shepherds!

The divided ministries of the **synagogue of Satan** and Gerald Flurry's **lukewarm Laodicean PCG** refuse to understand the plain truth of the **144,000 Firstfruits** that you have read in this article. They have turned their attention to the world and are attempting to duplicate Herbert Armstrong's commission that was successfully completed as Matt. 24:14 and Zech. 4:9 declare. All of the combined efforts of these divisive and contentious churches don't "hold a candle" to what Christ accomplished through his Elijah. Their efforts are futile! God is not calling the world now! He is interested in His **Lost Sheep** who are presently asleep in the **synagogue of Satan** or the **blind Laodiceans** of the **PCG**. This magazine is designed to awaken those sleepy and blind eyes. Jesus Christ will "gather" those who respond (II Thess. 2:1).

Those divided and bickering churches are only causing confusion as to who and where is the **True Church**. Nevertheless, Christ is here in the **CGF**, and is identifying us as His **True Church** by revealed **Truth** as you have read in this article. The subject of the "Innumerable Multitude" of Rev. 7:9-17 is another stumbling block to the divided churches. They have believed since prior to 1986 that the **Innumerable Multitude** are those who come to God from the **Great Tribulation** although that would contradict the plain statement in Rev. 14:1-4 of **144,000 Firstfruits**.

In the next issue we will cover the subject of **The Innumerable Multitude**—more wonderful and undeniable **Plain Truth** from the **Living Christ**, the head of his **One True Church**. ❖



## and Their Prophetic Significance

by Daniel Frendo

Here's what Herbert W. Armstrong had written in a May 1985 Good News article entitled *What does Pentecost mean to You?*:

Do you know what is the most universally believed *false* doctrine in the Christian world? That universally believed false doctrine is that all humanity is LOST – consigned to an eternally burning hell – unless they ‘get saved’ by accepting Jesus Christ as personal Savior *NOW!* They say that we, NOW, are in the *ONLY* day of

salvation – that when Christ returns to earth the door to salvation will be CLOSED! Unless you are ‘saved’ NOW, you are LOST!... What, then, is the TRUTH that the annual day of Pentecost, or Feast of Firstfruits, is given to teach us? It teaches us the very opposite of what this world’s ‘Christianity’ believes. It teaches us that we of the TRUE Church are the ‘FIRSTFRUITS’ *ONLY* – the FIRST to receive salvation through Christ. It teaches us *that all others* are NOT YET CALLED. It teaches us that, as Jesus said, ‘NO ONE CAN come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him’ (John 6:44).

Immediately after our first parents rejected God as their Ruler, Revealer of knowledge and Saviour, God placed “cherubims and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life” (Gen. 3:22-24). Thus, all mankind was barred from access to God and receiving eternal life... except the comparative FEW whom God would specifically call for some special service preparing for the coming Kingdom of God.

Jesus Christ shed His blood for all mankind. The Church is called out in this present age, but God will call the rest of humanity – the nations of Israel first, then an innumerable multitude of all nations – during the Millennium and the Last Great Day periods respectively.

With God there is no discrimination or injustice. Those who have been predestined to be called (Eph. 1:4-12; Rom. 8:28-30) are being judged

now and must overcome Satan (1 Pet. 4:17). The apostle Paul clearly affirms that “we must THROUGH MUCH TRIBULATION enter into the kingdom of God” (Acts 14:22).

### The 144,000 Firstfruits

The ones who God will bring to repentance and who will be given His Spirit during the Millenium and the time period after the 2nd resurrection shall not have Satan to overcome. That’s why the promises in Rev 2:26-27, 3:21 and 20:6 pertain only to those called during the Church age – the 144,000 Firstfruits most of whom are now becoming ready to become the wife of Jesus Christ, that perfect helpmeet that will follow Him “whithersoever He goeth” (Rev. 14:1-5).

“Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years (Rev. 20:6).

### Jesus Christ – the Passover Lamb and the Wave Sheaf

In the same way that Jesus Christ had depicted the Passover Lamb by giving His life *on the same day* that the Passover lamb was killed, He also pictured the wavesheaf by fulfilling it *on the same day* that

...we of the TRUE Church are the “FIRSTFRUITS” ONLY - the FIRST to receive salvation through Christ.

the sheaf had been ceremoniously waved by the priest for centuries. Compare Lev. 23:10-14 to John 20:1-16. After fulfilling His role as the Perfect Sacrifice according to scripture (1Cor. 15:1-4), our Lord



and Savior went on to also present Himself as the firstborn from the dead – the Firstfruit of the resurrection. Jesus was accepted as the wavesheaf by God the Father as the First of the Firstfruits at the very time that the priests were performing the wave sheaf ceremony.

Yes, it was on that same day and at that very time that the risen Christ had gloriously presented Himself to His Father in heaven. We also need to remember that nothing could be harvested until that Firstfruit was taken and waved before God. Jesus Christ fulfilled this perfectly!

**“But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ’s at his coming (1 Cor. 15:20-23).**

Thus, following a number of centuries that had slowly passed by, the time came when the two ceremonies picturing Christ in the beginning of God’s plan had been fulfilled... PERFECTLY.

### The Two Wave Loaves

Who are the ones who shall be made alive “AFTERWARD”? James 1:18 shows us that “they that are Christ’s” are those who God begets to be “firstfruits”. In 1 Cor. 15:51-52, the apostle Paul goes on to demonstrate that the Firstfruits

will be resurrected at the sounding of the seventh and last trump.

In Lev. 23:10-14, God instructs that nothing could be harvested until

### The Firstfruits will be resurrected at the sounding of the seventh and last trump.

the wave sheaf was offered and accepted fifty days from the morrow after the Sabbath during the Days of Unleavened Bread, meaning on Pentecost

(verse 16). In verses 15 and 16 we read more exciting instructions that were to take place on the Day of Pentecost. “Two wave loaves” of finely ground flour were to be harvested from the new grain. Obviously, for it to be so fine, this flour would have been sieved and ground many times over. It was

then formed into two loaves, with leavening, and baked in an oven. The Two Wave Loaves were to be “of fine flour, they shall be baked with leaven; they are the firstfruits unto the Lord” (v. 17).

Interestingly, at that exact time anciently, another significant ceremony took place. The priest would wave the two prepared Wave Loaves before God IN THE SAME MANNER that the Firstfruit Wavesheaf had been waved (vs.19-20). So again, a similar ceremony, this time with two wave loaves picturing the Firstfruits, of the first early harvest, the First Resurrection. Everyone called to be Firstfruits throughout history is pictured by the two wave loaves baked with leaven and waved on the Day of Pentecost.

the wave sheaf was offered and accepted fifty days from the morrow after the Sabbath during the Days of Unleavened Bread, meaning on Pentecost

### We shall be presented to God, faultless by Jesus Christ our High Priest.

Even though the exciting truth about the real significance of the two wave loaves was only revealed by Jesus Christ to Mr. Robert Ardis, pastor general of the Church of God’s Faithful, in the early stages of the Day of the Lord, Mr. Herbert Armstrong could still state the following:

**“**We have all, if we have been converted, become a part of that New Testament Church. We have become part of what was symbolised by those wave loaves. (Pagan Holidays – or God’s Holy Days, which? Pg. 25).

Isn’t it interesting, and indeed exciting, that these two loaves were waved by the high priest to be presented to and accepted by God? Isn’t it also so exciting to know that

now Jesus Christ is our High Priest (Heb 3:1)? Isn’t it obvious that He shall fulfill the symbolism of “waving” the Firstfruits as the

two wave loaves before God, to be presented to and accepted by God? Jude 24 throws more light on this: “unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.” Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James, informs us that we shall be presented to God, faultless by Jesus





Christ our High Priest. We are going to be introduced to our Father... “before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.”

God has a wonderful plan that has everything to do with His faithful Firstfruits who will have made themselves ready as the wife... for the marriage of the Lamb (Rev. 19:7).

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**On that Day of Pentecost, those of the physical nation of Israel were presented in their clean clothes to God by Moses...**  
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### Parallels between Old Testament Israel and Spiritual Israel

Going back in time, we will see that after Israel had come out of Egypt “with a high hand”...after having come to the Red Sea having been miraculously fleeing night and day, after being miraculously led through the Sea “as on dry land”, after seven weeks of their journey had gone by, the Day of Pentecost was at hand. In Exodus 19, we see that the Mighty God had brought the nation of Israel to Mt Sinai, in the land of Midian, to enter into a very special covenant with them. These people were to be a special, peculiar treasure unto God. The Eternal God was proposing a MARRIAGE COVENANT between Himself and national Israel, and He was very serious about it.

(Note

verses 6, 10, 14 and 16).

On the Day of Pentecost, the nation of Israel stood before Mt. Sinai as God descended to the top of the mountain. “At the nether part of the mount”, Moses presented the people to God (v. 17). As God had come down upon Mount Sinai with the long blast of the increasingly louder sound of the trumpet,

the children of Israel witnessed an awesome display of power, which must have had a profound effect on them (vs.18-20). The mighty sound of a trumpet and the voice of God were heard on the Day of Pentecost! What an incredible and fantastic event this must have been on the Feast of Firstfruits!

On that Day of Pentecost, those of the physical nation of Israel were presented in their clean clothes to God by Moses as the voice of the Eternal shook the earth and the mighty trumpet sounded long and loud. As we read in 1 Cor.

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**The Church is Spiritual Israel today (Gal. 6:16),**  
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10:11, all these things that happened to our forefathers in ancient Old Testament Israel nearly 3,500 years ago have everything to do with us today and are a physical type of that which shall be a spiritual reality as confirmed by the New Testament: The Church is Spiritual Israel today (Gal. 6:16), Jesus Christ will return at the Last Trump (1 Cor. 15:52), and the Church is the Bride of Christ (Eph. 5:25-27). Compare Ex. 19:5-6 to 1 Pet. 2:9.

I Thess 4:15-17 describes the first event that is prophesied to happen

once the seventh and last trumpet sounds:

“...we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 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: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”

### What is Soon Ahead

Matthew 24 shows us that, following the Sixth Seal – the Heavenly signs - *the Seventh Trumpet* will eventually sound. Here’s what will happen:

“And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall

see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other, (v. 30-31).

“The time is coming when the people will hear the great trumpet and will see the firstfruits rise

*Continued on page 21.*



# Irrefutable Proof of a **PENTECOST** Resurrection

By Frank Borg

What is Truth? How can we recognize it? Truth is what is recorded in the Word of God and revealed by Jesus Christ, the Head of God's true Church. Truth is certain, precise and accurately represents what scripture states. If a teaching does not precisely tally and absolutely conform with scripture, then it is not Truth! Truth doesn't come from a man or an organization of men; it comes from the Word of God through a man.

One of the many truths Christ has given His Church, the Church of God's Faithful, is that the resurrection will take place on a future Feast of Pentecost (or the Feast of Firstfruits). As we shall see, this Truth precisely tallies, absolutely conforms and accurately represents what scripture states on the resurrection.

The New Testament word for 'first-fruit' is a translation from the Greek word 'aparche' (Strong's number 536). This word could be translated as "a beginning of sacrifice, that is the firstfruits". An 'offering' is something that is given or presented, and in this case, firstfruits are being offered or presented to God. The dictionary definition of the word 'firstfruits' is as follows: "the initial gathered fruits offered

or presented to God". That is the meaning of the word 'firstfruits'! With these biblical and dictionary definitions in mind, the "Feast of Firstfruits" could potentially be called the "Feast of the initial gathered fruits presented to God".

The name "Feast of Firstfruits" doesn't only refer to the gathering of the firstfruits, but it also clearly refers to the presenting of the firstfruits to God. Of course, the firstfruits can only be presented to God if they have first of all been resurrected! Let us here take a look one biblical proof of the Pentecost resurrection. This irrefutable proof will focus on the seventh seal and the seven trumpet plagues.

The book of Revelation talks about seven seals, and these seals are prophesied to be opened during the Day of the Lord (Rev. 1:10; Rev. 4 onwards). Revelation 1:10 tells us that the apostle John was in the spirit on the Day of the Lord when he saw events portrayed by the seven

**The dictionary definition of the word 'firstfruits' is: "the initial gathered fruits offered or presented to God".**

seals begin to unfold.

The Church of God's Faithful understands that we are in the Day of the Lord and that the first four seals, which are depicted by the four horsemen of the apocalypse, have already been opened. (Please ask for our booklet entitled *The Day of the Lord*). The first four seals, or horsemen,

must be released before the tribulation – because scripture clearly reveals that the tribulation is the fifth seal.

Following is a list of the seven seals discussed in the book of Revelation:

Rev. 6:1-2 describes the *first seal* depicting the first horseman representing 'spiritual deception'

Rev. 6:3-4 describes the *second seal* depicting the second horseman representing 'war'

Rev. 6:5-6 describes the *third seal* depicting the third horseman representing 'famine'

Rev. 6:7-8 describes the *fourth seal* depicting the fourth horseman representing 'pestilence'

Rev. 6:9-11 discusses the *fifth seal*, or tribulation

Rev. 6:12-17 discusses the *sixth seal* or heavenly signs

Rev. 8, 9, 11 discuss the seventh seal or Day of the Lord's Wrath

The final seventh seal (which we will focus on to prove the Pentecost resurrection) is referred to as the "Day of the Lord's wrath" (or last year of tribulation). We know that the 'Day of the Lord's Wrath' will end on a Feast of Trumpets when Christ will return (with His bride) and set His feet on the Mount of Olives (Zech. 14:4).

If the Day of the Lord's Wrath lasts a year and ends on a future Feast of Trumpets, we can deduce that it



will begin on the previous Feast of Trumpets!

Chapters 8, 9 and 11 in the book of Revelation demonstrate that the seventh seal, or the Day of the Lord's wrath, comprises seven terrible plagues which will fall on this earth. These seven plagues will be heralded by the blowing of a trumpet! (See Rev. 8; Rev. 9:1, 13; Rev. 11).

At this juncture, it is necessary to state that Psalms 81:3 clearly demonstrates that trumpets are blown to mark each of the seven annual Feast days:

**“Blow up a trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed [or on 'festivals, feasts', Strong's 3677] for this was a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob.**

Evidently, the seven trumpets (which will mark the beginning of each of the seven plagues during the Day of the Lord's Wrath) will be blown on each of the Feast days! The trumpets will not be blown randomly or sporadically – God is not erratic! On the contrary, He is very meticulous, organized and does things right on time!

During the Day of the Lord's Wrath, or the last year of tribulation, a trumpet will be blown on each of the Feast days and at the sound of each trumpet, plagues will fall on the earth. We have already seen how the 'Day of the Lord's wrath' will last from one Feast of Trumpets to the following Feast of Trumpets. We have also seen that a trumpet will be blown on each Feast day.

Let us now take a look at each of the seven trumpets, the Feast days on which they will be blown and their corresponding plagues:

The *first Trumpet* will be blown on the first Feast during the Day of the Lord's wrath – which, as we have seen, will be a Feast of Trumpets. The plague associated with this trumpet is that a third of the trees and vegetation will be burnt up. (Rev 8:1-2, 6-7)

The *second trumpet* will be blown on the next Feast, the Day of Atonement. The plagues brought about by this second trumpet blast on the Day of Atonement will include one third of the sea turning into blood, a third of the fish dying, and a third of the ships being destroyed (Rev. 8:8-10).

The *third trumpet* will be blown on the Feast of Tabernacles. The plagues brought about by this trumpet blast include fresh water becoming bitter and many will die (Rev. 8:10).

The *fourth trumpet* will sound on the next Feast during the Day of the Lord's wrath, which will be the Last Great Day. This plague results in darkness brought upon the earth (Rev. 8:12).

The *fifth trumpet* will be blown on the first day of Unleavened Bread. Please read Rev. 9:1-12 carefully. With the sound of this fifth trumpet, we can see the first of the three woes come into play representing war which is inspired by Satan and, significantly, verse 5 and verse 10 both tell us that mankind will be

***During the Day of the Lord's Wrath... a trumpet will be blown on each of the Feast days and with the sound of each trumpet, plagues will fall on the earth.***

*Continued from pg. 2 - Do You "Believe Your Bible"?*

CGF is the complete understanding of the 144,000 Firstfruits of Rev. 14 and the Innumerable Multitude of Rev. 7:9-17. Our 160 page book entitled Set Apart by Truth is available upon request or you may download it from our website. This book thoroughly examines Rev. 7 and 14 and makes plain the thrilling revealed Truth of these subjects. However, to help you grasp the depth of the amazing truth in the understanding of these matters we will present this in two articles: "The Plain Truth About the 144,000 Firstfruits" (presented on page 3 in this issue) and the "Innumerable Multitude" will be covered next month.

These revealed Truths are "knowledge from Jesus Christ given by the grace of God" (II Pet. 3:18) for your edification and additional proof that the Church of God's Faithful is His True Church. But don't just believe me! Get your Bible and prove what you read—then BELIEVE IT! ❖

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tormented by this plague FOR FIVE MONTHS. Notice: this plague will last for FIVE MONTHS! Why is this five months significant? Because it gives us further evidence that these *seven trumpets* are blown on each of the Feast days during the Day of the Lord's Wrath! Remember the fifth trumpet is blown on the first day of Unleavened Bread which cover the five month period between the first day of ULB and the final Feast of Trumpets marking the end of the Day of the Lord's Wrath, or the return of Christ with his bride on the Feast of Trumpets. This is further evidence to those with eyes to see and willing to accept the Bible that these seven trumpet plagues will be showered down on this earth commencing on each of the seven Feast Days that are to fall within the last year of tribulation.

The *sixth trumpet* will be blown on the Last Day of Unleavened Bread. With the sound of this trumpet, the second woe will come into play with a third of the population dying from fire, smoke and brimstone (Rev 9:13-21).

The *seventh trumpet* will blow on the next Feast which is the day of Pentecost:

“ In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed (1 Cor. 15:52).

As is stated in 1 Corinthians 15:52,

this seventh, final trumpet which will be blown on the Feast of Pentecost will signal Christ coming to meet the firstfruits in the clouds. Those who have died in Christ over the ages including the repentant

***the 'armies' that followed Christ 'were in heaven' again indicating that the resurrection must occur before Christ returns on the Feast of Trumpets.***

Laodiceans who would have died in tribulation will be resurrected and the rest of the Philadelphians in a place of safety will be changed on this resurrection day! (Note: There is no mention of Christ returning to the

Mount of Olives YET!)

The events which will take place when this seventh trumpet sounds are as follows:

a) The resurrection of the firstfruits (1 Cor. 15:51)

b) Christ meets the firstfruits in the clouds (1 Thess. 4:16-17)

c) The third woe (lasting for 110 days) consists of seven vials will begin to be poured out on the earth (Rev. 15:6-8) as follows:

1. Rev 16:1-2 Terrible sores
2. Rev 16:3 Sea becomes blood
3. Rev 16:4-7 Water becomes bitter
4. Rev 16:8-9 Scorching sun
5. Rev 16:10-11 Darkness & pain
6. Rev 16:12-16 Euphrates dries up
7. Rev 16:17 Greatest earthquake ever & hail

d) Christ presents the firstfruits to the Father (Jude 24)

*Continued on page 21.*

The Feast of Trumpets  
OR  
The Day of Pentecost...  
WHICH?

## Feast of Trumpets— Or the Day of Pentecost—Which?

God's Holy Days reveal His Plan of SALVATION. Mr. Herbert Armstrong kept these Holy Days for years without understanding their full meaning. Nevertheless, as he continued to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ," he understood more and more of God's overall master Plan. As God's Faithful continue in this same way of growth and knowledge of Christ, New Truth is given for anyone with the Spirit of God to see that this tiny church is God's True Church.

This booklet presents New Truth, such as answers to the following:

1. Does the First Resurrection occur on the Feast of Trumpets or the Day of Pentecost?
2. Where and when does the Marriage of the Lamb take place?
3. Do the 3½ years of the Church's protection in the Place of Safety, the 42-month rule of the Beast Power, and the 1260-day ministry of the Two Witnesses all begin and end at the same time?

**This NEW TRUTH is being given, not only for our inspiration and encouragement, but to show that Christ is here in the Church of God's Faithful. Request your free copy today. You have nothing to lose, but so much to gain!**



# Daniel's Numbered Days

PROVE THE PENTECOST RESURRECTION

By John Durrad

A particular moment...a part of a duration...the commencement of the past, present, and future as a sequence...the limited duration of human existence as contrasted with eternity... What is all this about? In one word: "Time"!

Our heavenly Father, the supreme Head of the universe, does not have to be concerned with time. He is immortal! However, He did create time when He gave instructions to the Word to create the heavens and the earth.

## Numbered Days

God created the 24 hour day, the 7 day week, the month (moon) and the year (sun). The Church of God's Faithful (CGF) now has greatly enhanced understanding on the phrase 'time, times, and a portion of time' (Dan. 12:7) together with the other numbered days discussed in the book of Daniel including the 1335 days (Dan. 12:12), 1290 days (Dan. 12:11) and 1150 days (Dan 8:14). What are these numbered days? What significance do they have? What are they referring to? We know that they must be important because they come from God! Let us take a look at a few scriptures in the twelfth chapter of Daniel as we begin to understand the meaning of these various numbered days:

“In the third year of Cyrus King of Persia a THING was revealed

unto Daniel” (Dan. 10:1). This THING was special revelation from God. It was a vision of the future - a vision of extreme importance to God's People alive today. The third year of King Cyrus would make the date of this vision around 535BC which saw the last record of a vision given to Daniel (Dan. 12:4).

“And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there

Time, Times,  
and an  
Half?

shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever. But thou, O Daniel, seal up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end;

many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased. Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river (Dan. 12:1-5).

On the other side of the river, Daniel saw two other angels. These two angels are in addition to the one clothed in linen who first addressed him (Dan. 10:5). One of these angels asked a question to the angel clothed in linen which mankind has asked through the ages but has never understood the answer till recently:

“And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders? And I heard the man clothed in linen... that it shall be for a time, times, and an half...” (Dan. 12:6-7)

Daniel had just witnessed a vision of the opening of the 7 Seals. The “end of these wonders” is referring to the resurrection. Every Christian religion in the world would love to know the answer to this question! Although not understood until recently, the answer is in the pages of our Bibles.

## A Time, Times, And A Part Of A Time

How long is this period of “a time, times, and a part of a time” (Dan. 12:6-7)? Notice that the words

“time” and “times” are used here, not “years”.

“ We have assumed that ‘a time’ was a year in duration; ‘times’ being two years; and ‘½ time’ as ½ year. Then we assumed that this equaled 1260 days, using 360 days as a year in prophecy. However, this assumption was in error! This was a preconceived idea that prevented a proper count of some very important times that lie directly ahead! (CGF booklet, *Whoso Reads Let Him Understand*, p.20)

In the Church of God’s Faithful booklet entitled *Whoso Reads Let him Understand*, you will find a simple, clear biblical explanation demonstrating that ‘a time, times and a half’ represents 1150 days. “How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?” (Dan. 12:6). “It shall be for a time, times and an half” (Dan 12:7). Daniel 8 asks a similar question and further explains: “How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice?...And he said unto me Unto two thousand and three hundred mornings and evenings” (Dan. 8:13-14), or 1150 days! The 1150 days end at the first resurrection when the daily sacrifice will also end. The event will take place on a Feast of Pentecost! Counting back 1150 days from a future Feast of Pentecost brings you to the day of the ‘setting apart of the lambs’ (Ex. 12:3). (Please ask for the CGF booklet entitled *Whoso Reads Let Him Understand* for a full

**The 1150 days end at the first resurrection...**

**These numbered days fit between God’s Feast days, or appointed times!**

biblical explanation on this subject).

**1290 Days**

“ And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days (Dan. 12:11).

Again we see portrayed an exact number of days. These 1290 days refer to the duration of rule of the Beast power.

**1335 Days**

The next verse in Daniel 12 is very exciting as it shows another set of numbered days including a reward for certain individuals which again points to a Pentecost resurrection: “Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days” (Dan. 12:12). There is a commencement of 1335 days to which those that wait and understand will be blessed. When do these 1335 days begin and when do they end? What is the blessing?

The final verse in Daniel 12 tells Daniel to go on his way till he shall rest and stand in his lot at the end of the days. The “end of the days” is the completion of 1335 days that also conclude at the first resurrection when Daniel will

be resurrected with all the other Firstfruits on the Feast of Firstfruits.

“ And he saith unto me, Write, *Blessed* are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, these are the true sayings of God (Rev. 19:9).

The 1335 days end at the resurrection and the blessing will be the calling into the marriage of Christ.

The First Resurrection occurs on Pentecost, which is the Feast of Firstfruits. This is what we are waiting for! Counting back 1335 days from a future Feast of Pentecost indicates that these numbered days begin on a prior Feast of Trumpets! These numbered days fit between God’s Feast days, or appointed times!

**God accepted Him (Christ) as the WAVE SHEAF FIRSTFRUIT on the WAVE SHEAF DAY!**

At the start of the 1335 days we will start a countdown to the return of Christ! As we wait for these events to unfold, we must realise

that the world does not know the details about the resurrection, but they will through the ministry of the two witnesses!

What is shameful is that the majority of God’s own people are languishing in various split-off churches of god including the very Laodicean Church of God who do not realise the significance of the numbered days of Daniel and how they relate to the return of Christ on Pentecost! If you would like to know more about this subject please request our booklet, *The Feast of Trumpets or The Day of Pentecost...Which?* As you read this

*Continued on page 16.*





# The Marriage of the Lamb

## Where Will It Take Place?

By Peter Moss

One of the most spectacular ceremonies in the last century was the coronation of Queen Elizabeth of England in 1953. The pomp and ceremony was viewed by millions of people, not only in Britain, but on television around the world. Millions listened on radio, as television was not available in many countries at that time. The British monarchy brought out the full depth of their grandest horse drawn carriages, a variety of bands and magnificently dressed troops. Royalty displayed their wealth of finery, dress and jewellery. The grand wedding ceremony was performed in Westminster Abbey where the words that were heard at King David's wedding echoed "God save the Queen (King)" followed by the parade through London as it made its way to Buckingham palace for the coronation feast. It was a grand and superb event which was reflected on by many for decades!

This event, stupendous as it was, will be overshadowed by another coronation and wedding ceremony soon to happen: the wedding of Jesus Christ to His bride, the firstfruits. Planned and prepared for by God the Father, this wedding ceremony will be between Christ and the 144,000 firstfruits who were handpicked, chosen, selected and invited to be the bride.

This event will take place on the final Feast of Pentecost during the soon coming tribulation which will last for 1260 days. On that day, at the sound of the seventh trumpet the dead in Christ will rise first (1 Thess. 4:16). Immediately after, the faithful brethren in Christ who are still alive – protected in the place of safety – will

be changed "in the twinkling of an eye" from flesh to spirit, having no spot, wrinkle or blemish, and will become God beings (1 Cor. 15:52)! The two witnesses and the saints, starting with righteous Abel to the last of the Laodiceans who would have been martyred and given their

**Planned and prepared for by God the Father, the wedding ceremony will be between Christ and the 144,000 firstfruits who were handpicked, chosen, selected and invited to be the bride.**

lives in the Great Tribulation, will rise as the 144,000 Sons of God. These will be escorted to heaven by Jesus Christ who will present us to the Supreme God of Heaven and the Universe (Jude 1:24). This is when the ceremony of the marriage of the lamb begins, at

the very throne of God (Rev 14:5).



**Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us,**

that we should be called the Sons of God; therefore the world knoweth us not because it knew him not. Beloved now are we the Sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is (1 John 3:1-2).

The 144,000 firstfruits will bear the name of God! When this becomes a reality, the marriage of the Christ to the Firstfruits will be ready to commence.

The following scriptures tell us when the firstfruits will stand in God's presence:

“ And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps.... and they sung as it were a new song before the throne and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth (Rev 14:2).

“ And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues: for in them is filled up the wrath of God...and the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues... (Rev. 15:1, 6)

“ And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his im-

**Jesus Christ is represented as presenting the firstfruits to God the Father to be “accepted” as His bride on the day of Pentecost!**

age, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God (Rev. 15:2).

The events that take place are well described in the Church of

God's Faithful booklet entitled *The Feast of Trumpets or The Day of Pentecost...Which?* Following are some brief quotes from this booklet:

“ Here are people that: (1) are before the throne of God; (2) have the harps of God; (3) are singing a new song. It says in verse 1 that there are 144,000 of these and they are the firstfruits, undefiled, without spot, wrinkle, or blemish...and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women for they are virgins' (v3-4).

Jesus Christ is represented here as presenting, the firstfruits, to God the Father, to be “accepted” as His (Christ's) bride on the day of Pentecost! Now consider again, we are to be presented to God absolutely pure, spotless, forgiven. ‘These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men be-

*Continued from pg. 14 - Daniel's Numbered Days Prove the Pentecost Resurrection*

booklet, revealed new truth will astound you giving plain answers to questions that you may have asked for years. Proving when the First Resurrection will occur is worth your time!

In his booklet entitled *Set Apart by Truth*, Mr. Robert Ardis writes:

“ Fifty days from the weekly Sabbath during the Days of Unleavened Bread brings us to the day of Firstfruits, also known as the Feast of Weeks, or Pentecost. ...Christ is the FIRSTFRUIT! He was raised from the dead late on the weekly Sabbath, three days and three nights, exactly, from the Wednesday crucifixion that had occurred on the 14<sup>th</sup> Nisan, Passover day...He had fulfilled every detail of the Passover! Now he would fulfil every detail that pictured the WAVE SHEAF...

“ Pentecost is the Feast of Firstfruits! The Firstfruits will be raised from the dead, or if still living will be changed from flesh to Spirit in an instant at the First Resurrection. Christ fulfilled the true meaning of the Passover and the Wave Sheaf...God accepted Him as the WAVE SHEAF FIRSTFRUIT on the WAVE SHEAF DAY! In the near future, we will be symbolically *waved* before God by our High Priest, Jesus Christ. This will take place on the Day of Pentecost.

“ Doesn't it seem consistent with the plan of God that the First Resurrection would occur on Pentecost, the Day of Firstfruits –



instead of the Feast of Trumpets? (pgs. 112-116).

Prior to the revealing of the new truths, it was impossible to put all the 'appointed times' together. It was not God's time for us to understand how to correctly do this until recently! The calculations of the 1335 days and other numbered days found in the book of Daniel could not be figured out before God revealed it to the Church of God's Faithful. We now wait, and will be blessed for doing that (Dan. 12:12). The Church of God's Faithful is Set Apart by Truth. Spiritual Truth is growth in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Spiritual Truth is the understanding of the Word of God which we are told to understand (Matt. 24:15).

The Church of God's Faithful has been given understanding on how to calculate the "times". Now it is in God's Hands as to when they will be fulfilled. When we begin counting the 1335 days, we shall know the exact day of Christ's return and the First Resurrection. Whatever year that will be, it will occur on the wonderful Feast of Firstfruits – The Day of Pentecost! ❖

ing the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb' (v4).

This is the first resurrection and it says these are the firstfruits! The scripture does not say this was "some" or "part" of the firstfruits. No! It says they are the firstfruits; 144,000 of them! That is plainly what the scripture states!

As we take up the story flow again, we need to remember the following:

The seven last plagues have not yet been poured out and will take time to accomplish this.

From the Day of Pentecost and the Feast of Trumpets is an average of 111 days.

The resurrection has taken place.

The Firstfruits are now God-beings and are pictured standing before the throne of God in Heaven, presented to, and accepted by God. Can our minds grasp just a tiny bit of this? Can we get this in our minds? Can we see this?

God the Father has planned the marriage of His Son! Imagine the most grand and splendid, magnificent event; the pageantry of a worldly coronation,

or the most inspiring wedding ceremony ever complete with the highest quality music and

thrilling singing. Any extravagant event this world can produce would pale into insignificance compared to that which God has planned for His Son - and for the Firstfruits!

God in all His Glory will perform His Sons wedding ceremony! The Holy Angels will sing – Christ will be magnificent!

Revelation 19:1 states: "and after these things....." After what things? Most likely, the presentation of the Firstfruits unto God (Jude 24), the coronation of Christ (Dan 7:14), the marriage of Christ to the Firstfruits, the Church, the Bride... (us included), the Great Wedding supper...and the pouring out of six of the Seven Last Plagues during 111 days of our orientation in heaven! Continue verse 1:

**“...I heard a great voice of much people [3793: multitude, company, people] in heaven saying, alleluia, salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: for true and righteous are his judgements: for He hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. And again they said, alleluia [the plagues are being poured out during this time]. And her smoke rose up forever and ever. And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God**

***The place is at the throne of God in His Temple in Heaven.***

**that sat on the throne, saying, amen; alleluia. And a voice came out of the throne, saying, praise our**

**God, all ye servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude [3793], and as the voice of**

*Continued on page 22.*

The Feast of Trumpets  
OR  
The Day of Pentecost...  
WHICH?

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By Frank Borg

Recently, the Philadelphia Church of God purchased the “Swans in flight” sculpture which has for decades dominated the entrance to the Big Sandy campus. The sculpture will soon adorn the grounds of the PCG headquarters campus in Oklahoma.

No doubt, this is an exciting prospect for the PCG membership – after all, the sculpture is unique, beautiful and has a certain amount of history attached

to it. In a sermon given on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 2009, Mr. Flurry referred to Amos 9:11 and stated: “God has given us these gifts to RAISE UP THE RUINS and He’s even giving us some of the TREASURES He gave to Mr. Armstrong”. This is an interesting quote indeed, most notably because Mr. Flurry connects the purchase of this sculpture, (and other bits and pieces that have been acquired such as an Ambassador Auditorium piano, candelabras and the copyrights to a number of Mr. Armstrong’s booklets) as being significant and symbolic of “raising the ruins”.

This is what Amos 9:11 states:

**“ In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches**

**thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old.**

This is the scripture that is used by the PCG to support their claim of a commission to ‘raise up the ruins’. It is presumably also the scripture used to support the Jerusalem dig-

ging projects, where they are expecting to ‘find and raise up the tabernacle of David’.

It is quite evident that the commission to ‘raise up the ru-

ins’ in this end time is NOT a commission coming from God. Trying to fulfill this endeavor prior to Christ’s second coming will prove to be futile. Time continues to prove that this work will not bear the fruits that are hoped for because the Bible clearly shows that

this is not a commission for our time today! The sad thing is that the PCG leadership is blinded to the real commission of God and those following are simply being led down the wrong path as we shall see as we proceed.

Let us again take a look at the first

phrase of Amos 9:11. It states: “In that day...” The PCG leadership has a terribly mistaken understanding on what this phrase actually means. Here is what Mr. Flurry states on page 39 of his booklet entitled “The Lion has Roared”:

“‘In that day’ *always* refers to the end time.”

Is that a biblically correct statement? The bible states that it is not! In fact Mr. Flurry’s statement grossly misrepresents the biblical meaning of the phrase ‘in that day!’ And because of this clearly mistaken interpretation of the meaning of this phrase, the PCG has erroneously taken it upon themselves to try and “raise the ruins” before Christ’s second coming!

The Church of God’s Faithful has been given clear understanding on the meaning of the phrase “in that day”. God has shown the CGF that this phrase is referring to ‘the Day of the Lord’: In that day! Which

day? The Day of the Lord! As clearly proven in our booklet entitled “The Day of the Lord”, this day actually does begin in this end time *before* the tribulation but extends beyond the return of Christ.

Let us take a few scriptures to clearly demonstrate this fact:

**It is quite evident that the commission to ‘raise up the ruins’ in this end time is NOT a commission coming from God.**

**The PCG has erroneously taken it upon themselves to try and “raise the ruins” before Christ’s second coming!**



**1** And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, *in that day* when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him (Mal. 3:17).

“In that day” in this scripture refers to the *end-time* when Christ will make up His jewels and will spare them from the fires of the great tribulation.

**2** And it shall come to pass *in that day*, saith the Lord God, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day: And I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; and I will bring up sackcloth upon all loins, and baldness upon every head; and I will make it as the mourning of an only son, and the end thereof as a bitter day (Amos 8:9-10).

As can be understood from this scripture, “in that day” refers to a time during the *tribulation*.

**3** *In that day*, saith the Lord of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbor under the vine and under the fig tree (Zech. 3:10).

The phrase “in that day” is here clearly referring to the time during *the millennium* after Christ returns! Joel 3:18 is another good example, but there are many more.

This is undeniable biblical proof that “in that day” does not *always* refer to the end-time as Laodicea

would have us believe, but refers to a time period which begins in the end time and extends well beyond Christ’s second coming. This

**... this is proof that the PCG is blinded to the full meaning of the phrase “in that day” which has given them a false supposition on which they have built a commission to “raise up the ruins”.**

is proof that the PCG is blinded to the full meaning of the phrase “in that day” which has given them a false supposition on which they have built a commission to “raise up the ruins”.

Curiously, there seems to be a glaring omission in the PCG

teaching regarding their commission of ‘raising the ruins’. It seems that they omit to use the scripture in Acts 15 which states:

“After this I [Christ] will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I [Christ] will build again the ruins thereof, and I [Christ] will set it up (Acts 15:16).

This scripture leaves no doubt as to *who* will raise the ruins and *when* they will be raised! It clarifies the phrase “in that day” used in Amos 9:11, clearly indicating that the ruins will be raised up during the Day of the Lord in the time period *after* Christ’s return.

The question is, why doesn’t Laodicea see this? Why do they omit to connect Acts 15:16 with Amos 9:11? This omission and misrepre-

sentation of scripture is identical to their theory on That Prophet and other subjects. They insist a man is “That Prophet” in this end time even though John 6:14 and John 7:40 clearly state that Christ is That Prophet. Again, why don’t they see what scripture clearly states?

“Because thou sayest, I am rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked (Rev. 3:17).

Scripture tells us that the Laodiceans are miserable, poor, naked and *blind* – spiritually speaking! They don’t understand the ‘Day of the Lord’ or ‘the Pentecost resurrection’ or any of the other many New Truths which God has given to the CGF! I was recently speaking to someone and it was stated that the CGF has been given so much New Truth and so much deeper understanding since 1997 that the PCG and other splinter groups can hardly be seen through the CGF’s rear view mirror! God has given His Church so much understanding that He has sped His Work so

**Curiously, there seems to be a glaring omission in the PCG teaching regarding their commission of ‘raising the ruins’.**

far ahead! This is not a boastful statement but an honest evaluation based on fact which is supported by scripture! Please ask for, or download our booklet entitled

*Set Apart by Truth* to prove this for yourself.

Being blinded to their real commission, and to so many other Truths of God, is a huge problem for the Laodiceans. Notice:



And He spoke a parable unto them, Can the blind lead the blind? Shall they not both fall into the ditch? (Luke 6:39).

God labels the Laodiceans blind (Rev. 3:17)! Being blind indicates that the Laodicean leaders walk around in spiritual darkness when it comes to understanding the deeper things of God. Although we continue to knock on the Laodicean door, most refuse and reject God's New Truth! They are essentially saying "we are rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing", not realizing that they are miserable, poor, blind and naked spiritually speaking (Rev. 3:17). It seems like God's attempt to reach them is being rejected. Where does all this lead to?

Luke 6:39 states: "Can the blind lead the blind? Shall they not both fall into the ditch?" This tells us that the blind leaders and the blind that follow them will "both fall into the ditch"! Scripture tells us over and over to prove the ministry, prove what they are teaching, and follow them *only* as they follow Christ. Is "raising the ruins" in this end time really a commission coming from God? Is it following what Christ is asking or is it a disregard and misrepresentation of scripture? Doesn't scripture so clearly state that Christ will raise the ruins *after* He returns (Acts 15:16)? Additionally, is That Prophet a man who comes on the scene in this end time? Doesn't scripture so clearly state that Christ is 'That Prophet' (John 6:14; John 7:40) etc? God's

begotten children must perceive who is teaching biblical knowledge and who is not! This is serious to God!

Proverbs 14:7 states:



Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceiveth not in him the lips of knowledge.

Scripture places a heavy duty upon God's begotten children to prove all things and test their leaders and if they do not have the 'lips of knowledge, then scripture commands "Go!" or "Flee from him!" There is no profit in sitting under ministers that don't have God's knowledge on their lips. In fact, there is great peril in doing so! Luke 6:39 tells us that those who follow a ministry that lacks understanding will end up in the ditch which is symbolic of the great tribulation or worse! Proverbs 14:7 is admonishment to "get away" from the presence of the leaders that do not perceive or recognize God's knowledge!

Referring to the "swans in flight" and stating, "God has given us these gifts to raise up the ruins and He's even giving us some of the TREASURES He gave Mr. Armstrong", resonates with what is said in Rev. 3:17 where it talks about the Laodiceans being 'rich and increased' with physical goods. Certainly, Laodicea is increasing in physical wealth - they now even have the Big Sandy 'Swans in flight' which Mr. Flurry refers to as 'treasures'! But what is more important to God, physical treasures such as

these or deeper understanding of God's precious Truth?



Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal (Matt. 6:19-20).

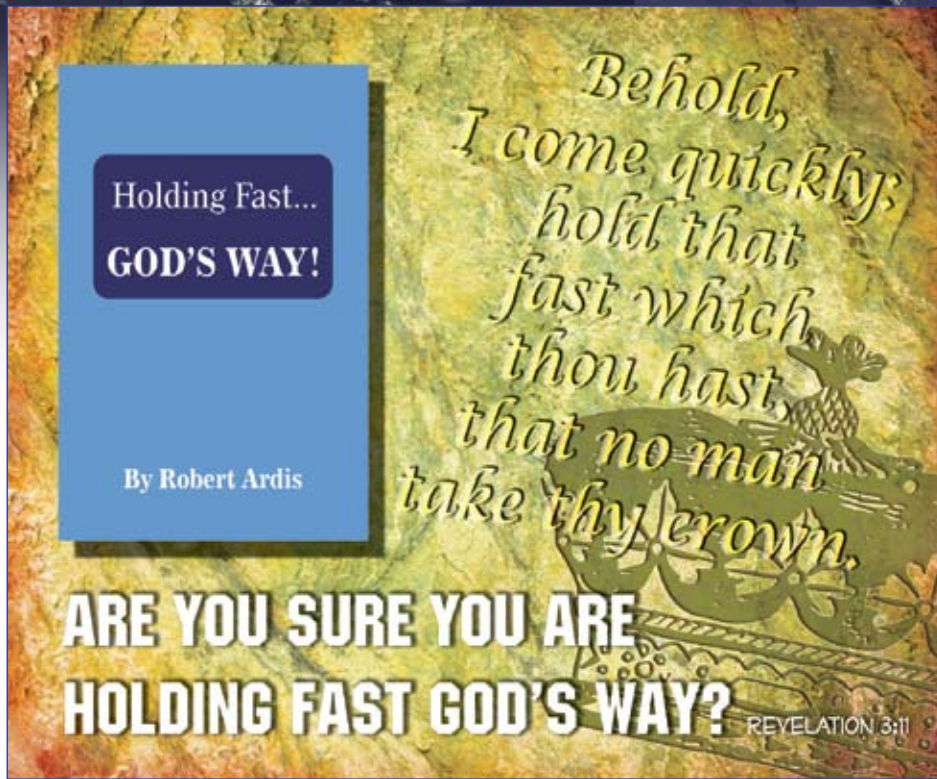
God is concerned with *spiritual* treasure. This is what God's begotten children should be focusing on!

Where is the spiritual treasure today? Where is the New Truth of God? Where has God given deeper biblical understanding? Who is fulfilling His commission of knocking on the Laodicean door (Rev. 3:20) and seeking after the lost sheep (Ezek. 34:1-6)? We are not referring to a so called 'commission' or 'revelation' that can be biblically disproved in a few minutes, just like the theories we have discussed. We refer to the true commission given to God's Church (Rev. 3:20), and the important deeper understanding that has clarified God's plan such as the Pentecost resurrection which has thoroughly and extensively been discussed in the current issue of this magazine. Brethren! The CGF has had deeper understanding on the Passover and Christ's sacrifice, on the Feast of Pentecost and the resurrection, on the Feast of Trumpets that Christ's bride will return with Christ already married, on the Day of Atonement goats representing Satan and his system, on the Feast of Tabernacles and that only the Israelites will be given God's Holy...

**Where is the spiritual treasure today? Where is the New Truth of God? Where has God given deeper biblical understanding?**

*Continued on page 24.*





Continued from pg. 12 - Irrefutable Proof of a Pentecost Resurrection

- e) The coronation of Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Dan 7:14)
- f) The marriage of the Lamb takes place (Rev. 19:7)
- g) The firstfruits bride is arrayed in *fine linen, clean and white* (Rev 19:8)

Evidently, the seven vials will take **four months** (or 110 days) to be fulfilled. (It is logically impossible for these to be fulfilled in one day as we previously believed). The effects of these seven vials will end the following Feast of Trumpets, at the end of the Day of the Lord's Wrath, when Revelation 19:13 and Zechariah 14:4 will be fulfilled with Christ coming to the Mount of Olives already married to His wife. Notice:

“ And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean (Rev 19:13-14).

This scripture states that the “armies” followed Christ to earth, clearly referring to His firstfruits wife (Rev. 14:4). We are also told that the armies were ‘clothed in fine linen, white and clean’. Scripture shows that these garments are worn by Christ’s bride (see Rev. 19:8). Verse 14 also states that the ‘armies’ that followed Christ ‘were in heaven’ again indicating that the resurrection must occur before Christ returns on the Feast of Trumpets. These scriptures prove beyond doubt that the resurrec-

Continued from pg. 9 - The Two Wave Loaves and Their Prophetic Significance

**up in the clouds of heaven. Every eye shall see Jesus Christ coming in the clouds for His Firstfruits (Rev 1:7).**

Daniel 7:13 describes this event in more detail:

“ I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

Although the title *Ancient of Days* may refer to both the Father and the Son, it is obvious that it here refers to the Father, the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe Who dwells in His Temple in Heaven. Please read and study the rest of this chapter, especially noting verses 14, 18, 21-22.

Jesus Christ will present the

144,000 Firstfruits to the Father in Heaven, where *the Greatest Wedding Celebration ever* will take place, before Jesus Christ returns to Earth with His Bride as King of Kings and Lord of Lords on a future Feast of Trumpets (Rev. 19:11-16).

The Church, represented by the two wave loaves, will be offered to God *on that same day and at that very time* that the priest waved the two prepared Wave Loaves before God in ancient Israel.

The two wave loaves were baked with leaven – a symbol of sin. Likewise, both those few called out prior to Jesus Christ’s first coming, as well as the New Testament Church will not be perfect as Christ is perfect. This emphasises the fact that we have a tough job in making our garments clean and white as Jesus Christ’s bride must indeed do.

The good news is that, with Christ living in us, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE and the Bride DOES make herself ready! Rev 19:7-8. ❖

## Has the Day of the Lord Begun?

Rev. 1:10 says, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day..." Why would this statement be in any way relevant to John's vision depicted in Revelation unless it were discussing *the* Day of the Lord. You must prove the TRUTH before the 6th Seal is opened to usher in the worst time of trouble man has ever known. Call or download your free copy NOW!



tion occurs on Pentecost with the marriage taking place in heaven (Rev 19:7) before Christ returns to this earth with His firstfruits bride on the Feast of Trumpets:

“ And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south (Zech 14:4).

How plain and clear scripture is when we allow it to interpret itself! This New Truth on the Pentecost resurrection, with ample biblical support, has been given to the Church of God's Faithful! Doesn't this deeper understanding and New Truth clearly show where God is working? This Truth on the Pentecost resurrection is certain, precise and accurate! (Please ask for, or download our booklet entitled *Feast of Trumpets or Pentecost... which?*) The truth of the Pentecost resurrection together with the supporting irrefutable proof comes from the Word of God through the Church of God's Faithful. It should help you recognize and prove the location of God's one true Church.

It is now the responsibility of each begotten member of God's Church to prove it (1 Thess. 5:21), believe Him (Heb. 11:6) and follow Him (John 12:26)! ❖

*Continued from pg. 17 - The Marriage of the Lamb, Where Will It Take Place*

**many waters, and as the voice of many thunderings, saying, alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come...**

(Rev. 19:1-7). Verse 9 reads:

“ And he saith unto me, write, blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the lamb...

Now let's stop right here. The marriage of the Lamb has come! We are not told whether the coronation of Christ takes place before or after the wedding. However, as we read beyond verse 10, Christ does not appear as the Lamb of God but as King of Kings and Lord of Lords (vv. 11-16). Also, it appears from the wording of verse 7, the Wedding ceremony and the Wedding Supper have already taken place:

“ ...and his Wife [#1135 wife, not #3565, bride] has made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints (Rev 19:8).

As you read the description of the Wife, do you think about a crown, a beautiful wedding

dress and a long train? That is not the way she is arrayed. As we proceed you will see what this actually means (*The Feast of Trumpets of The Day of Pentecost...Which?* pgs. 24-25).

God will have arranged a Wedding and coronation for his Son and chosen Bride that will be of spectacular proportions. This is the God who created the universe! How awesome is the universe around us, the beauty of the galaxies brought to us through ever more powerful telescopes and photography from satellites - breathtaking in size, scope, brilliant colour and awesome number. Look around at the beauty of the earth, the towering mountains, deep lakes, blaze of colour from the trees, forests and flowers...the music and singing which God has created in man, animals and birds. Think of the clapping sounds of thunder accompanied by electrifying displays of lightning that make man's fireworks displays pale into insignificance! With all this power and creativity just imagine what God has in store for his Son's Wedding. Imagine the pomp and ceremony with the orchestra in Heaven ac-



accompanied by the choirs of Angels singing and all the other events God is planning right now for this most awesome occasion! This event will be the first of its kind and unmatched in the history of mankind!

We had read of the seven Angels with the Seven Last plagues inside the Temple of God. Now let's read verses 5-6 & 8:

“And after that I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of testimony in heaven was opened. And the seven Angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues...And the Temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man [Strong's #3762 oudeis, meaning, 'No one, none, nobody, no being'] was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven an-

gels were fulfilled.' Why could no one enter into the temple until the Angels had completed their task?

The reason WHY no one could enter is the fact that there was already the most breathtaking, exquisite, sophisticated, and exclusive occurrence taking place inside the temple that could possibly be. To be invited required the most unique of all invitations. The INVITATION was from GOD ALMIGHTY. The OCCASION is the MARRIAGE of HIS SON. The PLACE is at the THRONE of GOD in His Temple in HEAVEN. The Firstfruits are before the Throne of God as the BRIDE of Jesus Christ. No ONE else is allowed at this greatest of occasions. Can you imagine this? Christ wants us to be filled with ardent zeal with this vision, which John is describing to us:

“And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten

the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God (v. 2).

Here pictured are victorious Firstfruits. These are Laodiceans and those of the Synagogue of Satan who gave their lives in overcoming during the Great Tribulation. God mercifully has them described here and in chapter 20:4 as OVERCOMERS. This is written especially for them for the encouragement they will need as they face the Beast and give their physical lives as they refuse his mark and his number. They are there in HEAVEN, along with the other FIRSTFRUITS praising God. And this is before the Last Plagues are poured out” (*The Feast of Trumpets or The Day of Pentecost...Which?* (pg. 23)

You have the chance of being a part of this most glorious event! Don't miss it! ❖

comes to the 1335 days  
**WHOSO READS,**  
1290 Days  
1260 Days  
**LET HIM UNDERSTAND!**  
& Mornings  
2300 Evenings  
1150 Days

by Robert Ardis

### We Live In A Violent World!

Wars and rumors of wars everywhere are the news of the day. International Terrorism plagues the earth. Yet, Life goes on! Especially here in the Western World, eating, drinking, living it up, marrying, starting families—just as it was in the Days of Noah! Violence and wickedness is everywhere, but Life goes on.

But how long can Life continue on as usual? Where are we in Bible prophecy? Can we really know?

Matthew 24:15 states: “When you therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso reads, let him understand).

Today many understand that the amazing prophecy of the “man of sin sitting in the Temple of God” has already been fulfilled. But do you realize “the abomination standing in the Holy Place” has also been fulfilled—NOW! And do you understand what happens next in prophecy? Do you understand the prophecies of the 1335, 1290, and 1260 days?

These are the urgent subjects of this booklet! Please call for or download your FREE copy, then read carefully and **UNDERSTAND.**

Continued from Pg. 20 -  
Raising the Ruins

Spirit during the millennium, and more understanding on the Last Great Day! Through the Church of God's Faithful, God has refined and built on what He gave the Church through His end time Elijah! God gave us a solid foundation through Mr. Armstrong and has continued to build through His loyal remnant

(2 Peter 3:18).

This is not the time to be hypnotized by the various leaders of *any* of the splits and splinter groups, or to give in to any of their manipulative vices. It is now up to each of God's begotten children to prove God's Truth, see where He is working and have the faith and courage to join Him and His Work! It is time to make a firm stand for God! ❖

## HEADQUARTERS & CANADA

Mr. Jonathan Ardis  
PO Box 279,  
Eutawville, South Carolina 29048,  
USA.  
Tel: (+1) 803-492-9061  
jardis@setapartbytruth.org

## USA

Mr. Gerry Ardis  
136 Woodland Drive  
Harleyville, South Carolina 29448,  
USA.  
Work Tel: (+1) 843-462-7977  
Home Tel: (+1) 843-563-3238  
gardis@setapartbytruth.org

## EUROPE, AFRICA & ASIA

Mr. Daniel Frendo  
P.O. Box 28,  
St. Julian's STJ 1000  
Malta.  
Tel: (+356) 2135 7807  
(+356) 2137 3222  
Mobile: (+356) 79 779779  
(+39) 333 9376405  
dfrendo@setapartbytruth.org

## UK & IRELAND

Mr. John Durrad  
19 Lansdown Close  
Daventry, Northants NN11 OGP  
England.  
Tel: (+44) (0) 1327 706930  
Mobile: (+44) (0)7815 900003  
jdurrad@setapartbytruth.org

## AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND & FIJI

Mr. Wallace T. Lawton  
Tel/Fax: +649-5371464  
Mobile: +642-188-2929  
Pager +649-5371463  
wlawton@setapartbytruth.org

## HISPANIC AREAS & CARIBBEAN

Mr. Frank Borg  
P.O. Box 31135  
Edmond, Oklahoma 73003,  
USA.  
Tel: (+1) 405-340-5122  
fborg@setapartbytruth.org

## Why does Christ "stand at the door and knock"?

Could it be that the end time, Laodicean ministry has the door locked up tighter than a fortress?

Do your leaders *forbid* you to read and test them by "dissident" literature?

Is Christ trying to remove you from that *final* Church era and place you *back* with those of the faithful Philadelphian remnant before it's too late?

Christ said, "...and the sheep follow Him: for they know His voice"

John 10:4.

## Open the door!

