

# Where Was God?

#### Jan/Feb 2013 • Volume 4, Number 5

In This Issue:

From the Editor: .....2

**BIBLE STUDY NOW REVEALED The Plain Truth About Revelation 21 & 22**......6

**Excerpts from The Faithful Watchman** Compiled by Ron Chambers Comments by John Durrad .. 13



Publisher and Editor in Chief: Robert Ardis Managing Editor: Jon Ardis Assistant Managing Editor & Graphic Design: Laura Coldewey Editorial Assistants: Jan Rotunno, Karen Clinker

#### **Contributors:**

Robert Ardis Jon Ardis J R Cabangbang Ron Chambers Kurt Dohn John Durrad Wallace Lawton Reuben Lister Gerry Neenan John Wood Andy Yparraguirre

*The Midnight Cry* is published bi-monthly by the Church of God's Faithful, 136 Woodland Dr., Harleyville, SC 29448, USA. This magazine helps fulfill the Midnight Cry of Matthew 25:6 and purposes to warn the scattered members of God's Church (Ezek. 34). This publication, mailed free of charge, is made possible by tithes and offerings of the Church membership. Voluntary contributions are welcome and are tax-deductible in the United States.

### From the Editor ....



### Here a Little and There a Little...

A Magazine of Urgent Understanding

#### The Amazing New Truth Revealed in Revelation 21 and 22

By Robert Ardis

An explosion of NEW TRUTH, hidden from view in the pages of the Holy Bible, burst forth upon the Church of Jesus Christ as the *time of the end* finally came. It happened precisely as God had determined it would. As 6000 years allotted to mankind to go his own rebellious way came to an end, God's time—the DAY OF THE LORD—came *as a thief in the night*, and the Living Christ came *suddenly to His Temple*.

The Worldwide Church of God (WCG), under the teaching of Herbert W. Armstrong, agreed with many of the Bible scholars that the date 4004 BC was the likely time for the six-day re-creation of Planet Earth and the creation of our foreparents, Adam and Eve. Then God rested on the seventh day, establishing it as the Sabbath Day, and commanded that it be kept holy always.

Tradition holds that the creation week began on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of the sixth month of God's calendar, thus the seventh day would be the Sabbath Day and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the seventh month—the Feast of Trumpets! Therefore the Feast of Trumpets is an annual Sabbath and a memorial of creation.

Simple arithmetic shows that 4004 BC plus 1997 AD equals 6001 years. However, one year must be subtracted since there is no year zero; thus, on the Feast of Trumpets of October 1, 1997, 6000 years of man's allotted time came to an end, and God's time—the Day of the LORD—began.

The prophet Daniel in the Old Testament and the apostle John in the New Testament record HOW the "end" would come about.

And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end (Dan. 12:8-9).

Continued on page 11.

••••2•••• © 2013 Church of God's Faithful • www.setapartbytruth.org



## WHERE WAS GOD?

by Reuben Lister

Friday, December 14, 2012, started out just like any other day in the small United States town of Newtown, Connecticut. It was the week before Christmas and excitement was in the air, as people made their last minute preparations for the festive season. Just like most towns across the United States of America, there was nothing unusual or out of the ordinary.

The kids were ecstatic. They would have a break from school. There would be Christmas presents and family gatherings. They would have turkey, ham and Christmas cake, new toys or games. And their houses would most likely be decorated with tinsel and glitter. Generally speaking, happiness was in the air. But all this was about to change dramatically, in a moment of insanity, on this cold December day.

This peaceful country town, with a population of about 28,000 people, had their innocence taken away and their name etched into history as the site of one of the worst school massacres in the history of the United States. Prior to this atrocity, there had been only one homicide in Newtown in the previous ten years.

This was the second most deadly mass killing at a school in the history of the United States of America, the first being the Virginia Tech University massacre that saw 32 people murdered on April 16, 2007.

In the Newtown massacre, twenty very young and innocent children and six adults were mercilessly gunned down at their school in a matter of moments. Their lives were taken from them, leaving grief-stricken mothers, fathers and other family members stunned in disbelief, shock and horror.

The carnage began in a beautiful, idyllic country house not very far away, where 20-year-old Peter Lanza lived with his mother, Nancy. Peter apparently started his killing spree earlier that morning by murdering his mother at their home, before driving to the school at about 9:30 a.m. He later reportedly took his own life.

Those innocent little children did nothing to deserve this fateful attack, and we can only imagine the effect it will have on those who actually witnessed this carnage. They will suffer emotionally and be traumatized for the rest of their lives. So, if there is a God, where was He on that morning of the 14<sup>th</sup> of December, and, if indeed He does exist, why then didn't He prevent those twenty innocent kids and their teachers from being murdered?

Does the Bible provide any answers? We will investigate and see if we can find any clues to answer the question. We are asking, "Where was God that morning? Why would a loving God allow these innocent little children to be murdered? Is there something we are not seeing? Is there something afoot that we may have over looked—a cause, perhaps, of our own making?"

So, as all decent people were shocked in disbelief at the callous murder of these young victims, and as we become outraged that such an event could take place in a civilised society, and as we reel in disbelief over the loss of so many innocent young lives, let's ask another very important question:

Where was God in the year 2008, when so many other young lives were also lost? In that year, 3,322 babies were aborted <u>each day</u> in the U.S. alone. That's 1.21 million for the year, according to the Guttmacher institute report. Also, according to that report, <u>50 million</u> abortions have been carried out in the United States since abortions **became legal** in 1973. So, where **is God**?

It seems the majority of the population have turned a blind eye to these innocent little ones, whose voices can't be heard. Not many people have raised a voice in protest for them. The majority of people in **authority** that could speak out in their defence are deafeningly silent in calling out to God for help over this mass holocaust.

Does the Bible have anything to say about those people who turn a blind eye to the defenceless, for

those that have no voice? And those people who are in authority, such as the lawmakers who could prevent these abortions—what does the Bible have to say about them?

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, Again vou shall say to the children of Israel, Whoever of the children of Israel or of the strangers who dwell in Israel who give any of his descendants to Molech, he shall surely be put to death. The people of the land shall stone him with stones. I will set my face against that man and cut him off from his people, because he has given some of his descendants to Molech, to defile my sanctuary and profane my Holy Name. And if the people of the land should in any way hide their eyes from the man, when he gives some of his descendants to Molech, and they do not kill him, then I will set my face against that man and against his family; and I will cut him off from his people, and all who prostitute themselves with him to commit harlotry with Molech (Lev. 20:1-5).

The people of ancient Israel actually offered up their children to be **burned** as a sacrifice to their god, Molech.

You shall not worship the Lord your God in that way; for every abomination to the Lord which He hates have they done to their gods: for they burn even their sons and their daughters in the fire to their gods (Deut. 12:31).

But that was millennia ago when this happened. We don't burn our children in the fire to our gods now, do we? There's no way our modern society would allow such a barbaric practice to happen—or would they? Even if they did allow such a thing, by turning a blind eye, it certainly wouldn't be supported by the law, would it?

The stark reality and truth is this: the "remains" of abortions are disposed of as "medical organic material." They are legally disposed of by a company that handles and disposes of aborted remains in a sanitary method, which is usually in an **incinerator!** So, there we have the cold facts. That is as sickening and as barbaric as can be. Their remains are in actual fact **burnt**, sacrificed on the altar of selfishness, want and greed.

Our collective conscience (as a nation) has been burned with a hot iron. 1 Timothy 4:2 says,

**GG** ....Speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron.

Church attendance usually increases following tragic events such as the Newtown massacre, as people seek comfort, solace and answers about why God allows such senseless acts. (However, it doesn't take long for the numbers to decline back to just the faithful few.)

But there has been no increase in church attendance or outpouring of grief over the murder of the thousands of babies killed each day by abortion, no nationwide sorrow shown for these little people with no voice.

These babies are not sacrificed to the god, Molech, as in ancient Israel. They are sacrificed to the god of money, the god of self—we don't want an unwanted pregnancy interfering in our lifestyle! Could there be a connection between these two examples of mass murder?

Why did God allow the massacre at a school attended mainly by little kids whose ages range from four to ten years old? Why was He not there to protect them? Where was God?

From the start of the United States until 1962, God was in our schools—we had prayer and Bible readings, and Judeo Christian values were taught each week in our public schools. Belief in God was the basis of the founding fathers' work and of the forming of the Constitution of the United States of America.

God was **formally put out** of our public schools when we began to teach the theory of evolution, and the belief that we were not created by a supreme God. We embraced the teaching that we just evolved over millions of years from monkeys, and that everything we see around us supposedly happened by chance.

We didn't just want God formally put out of public schools; we wanted to make it **legal**, just in case He may sneak back into the school system. By order of the Supreme Court of the United States, one anti-religious **ban** was carried out in 1962 and the other in 1963. Both **bans** were results of lawsuits against the teaching of religion and religious practices in public schools.

It was decided that publicly funded schools were an extension of the state, and therefore, prayer and Bible study were regarded as proselytizing. So both prayer and Bible study were banned. These lawsuits were supported by several organizations, but the main person behind them was a woman named

Madalyn Murray O'Hair, the founder of the American Atheists Society. (Strangely enough, she was later murdered by a former member of her own association.)

The United States Supreme Court, under pressure from the Atheists Society of America and others, had the teaching of God **banned** from our schools. The highest authority in America wouldn't allow the teaching of God, or the reading of the Bible, to continue in our public schools. So **we legally forced God out** of the classroom—and the **devil took His place**! That is exactly what we witnessed in the Newtown massacre.

God said in effect,

**GG** You have, by an order of the Supreme Court, had me forcibly thrown out of the classroom and into the dustbin of folklore, and there is no mention of me in the classroom except in **profanity**.

You take My name in vain every day and night. You kill thousands by abortion each day and never ask me to intervene. But when twenty very innocent children are killed, you then accuse me of not coming to your rescue.

You had the teaching of My very existence forcibly removed. When you ordered Me out of the school system, My hedge of protection for you and your children was also removed.

We read in Deuteronomy 28:2-4:

And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God. Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country. Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, the produce of the ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks.

God pronounces blessings upon blessings for those that obey Him, and on the fruit of your body your <u>children blessed</u>. Verse 7 says that He will even protect us from our enemies:

**GG** The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.

God wants nothing but blessings upon blessings for people who obey Him. He shows us that in Deuteronomy 28:2-13.

What happens to the nation that once knew God, such as the United States of America, that based its laws and constitution on the laws of God, freedom to practice religion, etc., and then later rejected God?

The Bible makes it very clear that to reject God and His multiple blessings will bring untold misery; instead of blessings, there will be curses.

Deuteronomy 28:15-18 says:

But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you. Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the country. Cursed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. Cursed shall be the <u>fruit</u> of your body and the produce of your land, and the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks.

We have choices to make. To make the right choice brings with it tremendous blessings, but the wrong choice brings curses. The choice is up to us, whether to follow God's ways or not. He doesn't force us; He gives us the freedom to choose. But He wants us to choose life.

**GG** I call heaven and earth <u>as witness</u> today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants [children] may live (Deut. 30:19).

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge I will also reject you from being priest to me; because you have forgotten the law of your God, I will also forget your children (Hos. 4:6).

Two questions were asked earlier: (1) Is something afoot that we have overlooked—a cause perhaps of our own making? And (2) Where was God?

Have we **also overlooked the answer** that we just read in Hosea 4:6?

Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I will also forget your children.

That, unfortunately, is the answer. The choice was and still is ours to make.

God says, "I have set before you life and death...therefore **choose life**."

A Magazine of Urgent Understanding

# Now Revealed The Plain Truth About Revelation 21 and 22 Part I

#### By Robert Ardis

This presentation is in a Bible study format to help you more easily grasp the fantastic understanding of these two amazing chapters of Revelation.

The Midnight Cry

#### Study Notes on Revelation 21 and 22

#### **Points to Remember**

### 1. Jesus taught mostly in parables to cloud the meaning to the world.

Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them (Matt. 13:13-17).

Also, as the Church of Jesus Christ, and bearing the sixth candlestick of Philadelphia, the CGF has the blessing of the OPEN DOOR as stated in Revelation 3:7-8:

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he [Jesus Christ] that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David [the knowledge of the TRUE GOSPEL], he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth [Christ continually OPENS NEW TRUTH to His Church, II Pet. 3:18]; I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door [Christ is the OPEN DOOR, John 10:7], and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name."

The TRUE CHURCH of JESUS CHRIST is SET APART is IDENTIFIED—by TRUTH from the WORD OF GOD! CHRIST IS THE LIVING WORD, AND THE BIBLE IS THE WRITTEN WORD OF GOD.

2. The Bible reveals truth here a little and there a little (Isa. 28:10). God's true Church is set apart from all others by TRUTH! What is TRUTH? Jesus Christ declares that He, Himself, is TRUTH. He is the Living Word of God (John 14:6)! In John 17:17 it is stated

that *THY WORD* (the Holy Bible) *IS TRUTH!* The understanding of TRUTH (God's Word) is *WISDOM* (Prov. 4:7). The American Heritage Dictionary defines wisdom as: "Understanding of what is true, right or lasting" (See II Pet. 3:18).

**GG** Wisdom [the understanding of TRUTH] is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding (Prov. 4:7).

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her. Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She [wisdom/truth] is <u>a tree of life</u> to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is every one that retaineth her" (Prov. 3:13-18).

#### **3.** God knows the end from the beginning (Isa. 46:10).

4. To correctly understand many sections of scripture, the time setting must be understood.

5. The time setting can change abruptly within only a few sentences.

### 6. The Person can be changed within a sentence, for example:

And he [God the Father] that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he [Jesus Christ] said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. And he [Christ] said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely [when?] (Rev. 21:5-6).

In verse 5 the Father and Christ are both referred to as *HE*. The context of the two clauses must be carefully examined to determine who the subject really is. (What has **been done**, and **when** it will **be done**, will be explained as we proceed.)

### Time Periods that Occur in Revelation 21 and 22

- 1. The present time—WITH A WARNING TO THE READER—in the Day of the Lord
- 2. The 111-day period immediately after the First Resurrection
- 3. During the new heavens and new earth of Isaiah

Why is God not healing those who really do Fantastic, miraculous, spectacular believe today? healings occurred in the first century through the ministry of Is the rarity of true healings today due to a Jesus Christ—and by His apostles lack of faith by the people of God? disciples. and Were those Hain Do God's people really understand and apply astonishing healings only for that time in history? all of the Biblical instructions regarding true healing? "And these signs shall follow them The wonderful answers to these questions are that believe; In my name shall they joyfully presented in the pages of this booklet cast out devils; they shall speak and come directly from the Word of God! This with new tongues; They shall take is NEW TRUTH given by the grace of God our up serpents; and if they drink any Father and from the knowledge of Jesus Christ deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; our Lord and Savior (II Peter 3:18). they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" (Mark 16:17-18). Download or call for your FREE copy of The Plain Truth about God's Healing and "Prove all Are we not believers today? Yet, so many are sick and need healing—and some have died—just as I Corinthians things." 11:29 states. What does "not discerning the Lord's body" mean?

65:17 that must be created for the World Tomor-

4. The 1000 years of the Last Great Day

row to begin!

- 5. Another new heaven and new earth that Christ will create AFTER He has "DONE" all things in preparation for the "COMING OF THE FATHER" (Rev. 21:1)
- 6. The Father's arrival and the amazing meaning of what is meant by "ALL THINGS WILL BE MADE NEW"! (And what is the meaning of the statement, "NO MORE SEA"?)

Revelation 21 and 22: Reading as it is written—OUT of TIME ORDER.

**Label Revelation 21:1-5 as time period #6.** How interesting that the events described in these two wonderful chapters "begin at the end"!

#### #6

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the *first* [Strong's #4413-former] heaven and the first [#4413-former] earth [created at the beginning of the Millennium, Isaiah 65:17] were passed away; and there was no more sea (Rev. 21:1).

There is much information packed into the statement, "*there was no more sea*"! We will conclude this study later with what can be determined from that statement AND the proclamation in verse 5, "*Behold, I make ALL things NEW*." The Greek word for *sea* numbered by Strong's is 2281, meaning *sea* as we use it today in English. The Sea of Galilee, the Red Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, and the sea of glass before the throne of God each come from #2281.

Acts 4:24 refers back to the re-creation in Genesis 1:

And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, LORD, thou art God, which hast made <u>heaven, <sup>G3772</sup> and <sup>G2532</sup> earth, <sup>G1093</sup> and <sup>G2532</sup> the <sup>G3588</sup></u> <u>sea, <sup>G2281</sup></u> and all that in them is.

Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea [2281], and the fountains of waters" (Rev. 14:7).

God, through Christ Jesus, the WORD, created all things visible and invisible. The angels shouted for

joy at the original creation. However, Lucifer rebelled and attempted to take the throne of God (Isa. 14:12-15). That foolish endeavor resulted in Lucifer being cast out of his position ("Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so," Ezek. 28:14) and the destruction of the beautiful earth and parts of the solar system. Thus the re-creation is described in Genesis 1. Isaiah 65:17 depicts the next re-creation of the heavens and the earth. This re-creation must be done to cleanse the earth from the condition of TOHU and BOHU (Jer. 4:23) at the end of the Great Tribulation and the Wrath of the Lamb, and make it livable for the wonderful World Tomorrow to begin. We will notice that the scriptures indicate that this re-creation in Isaiah 65:17 will be a longer period of time than the recreation week in Genesis 1.

This second re-creation must also *pass away with great heat* after the Last Great Day has been completed:

Looking for and hasting unto the coming of <u>the day of God</u>, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and <u>the ele-</u> <u>ments shall melt with fervent heat</u>? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for NEW HEAV-ENS AND A NEW EARTH, wherein dwelleth righteousness (II Pet. 3:12-13).

And, again in Revelation 21:1, John saw *no more sea*! What does this convey to our minds?

Now continue with Revelation 21:2:

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as *a bride* adorned for her husband. [Remember, this is 2000 years after the First Resurrection and the marriage of the Lamb.] And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God [THE FATHER] is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former [Strong's #4413; the same as 'first' in verse 1] things are passed away. And he [God, the Father] that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new (Rev. 21:2-5a).

Notice, everything is already NEW—a new heaven and a new earth and the NEW Jerusalem. So WHAT will the Father do to make ALL THINGS NEW? We will save this fantastic meaning for the conclusion of this study!

Next, block off the end of verse 5b through verse 8 and label it as time period #5! These verses clearly express the time of the Second Resurrection—the Last Great Day!

#### #5

And he [Christ] said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful (Rev. 21:5b. See also Rev. 3:14, 19:11, 22:6).

And he [Christ] said unto me, <u>It is done</u> (Rev. 21:6a).

Let's add I Corinthians 15:23-28 which explains what has been DONE;

But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

ALL of these events will be completed—then Christ will turn everything over to the Father.

Continue in Revelation 21:6:



#### I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

Clearly, this pictures the Last Great Day—see John 7:37-39 and Joel 2:28-32, copied below; and let's include time period #4 at this point.

#### #4

This section of scripture is also out of chronological order. Time period #4 is the 1000 years of the Last Great Day with its opportunity for qualifying for the Family of God—or perishing forever in the Lake of Fire! If you have not known that the last Great Day will last for 1000 years, we invite you to request our booklet, *The Deep Things of God*, which thoroughly explains WHY there is another 1000 years in God's great plan.

We need to review Revelation 20:12-15 at this point:

And I saw *the dead, small and great,* stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the *dead* were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the *dead* which were in it; and *death* and *hell* [the grave] delivered up the *dead* which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And *death* and *hell* were cast into the lake of fire. *This is the second death.* And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Now let's look at more scriptures that provide additional detail:

And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another *[month to month]*, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD. And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcases of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh (Isa. 66:23-24).

**GG** Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into <u>everlasting fire</u>, prepared for the devil and his angels (Matt. 25:41).

By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings [Yes! The firstfruits as kings and priests will witness thisjustice shall be donel, that they may behold thee. Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a FIRE from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. [I must say—I look forward to witnessing this!] All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never

shalt thou be any more (Ezek. 28:16-19).

**GG** In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified (John 7:37-39).

e Michight Cry

And it shall come to pass afterward [AFTER the Millennium], that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh [during the Last Great Day]; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come (Joel 2:28-31. In reading the book of Joel, remember that, unlike the book of Revelation, it is written in a step-by-step, chronological order).

Remember, this is AFTER the Millennium! This is the time of Gog and Magog and the deceived nations of

the earth (Rev. 20:8-9) attempting an attack on the headquarters of Christ—the "beloved city"—the city of Jerusalem. It should be rendered "A" great and terrible day of the Lord—NOT "THE" great and terrible day.

And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call (Joel 2:32).

Continue in Revelation 21:

**GG** He that overcometh [during the Last Great Day] shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son [see Isaiah 9:6]. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in *the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone* [during the Last Great Day]: which is *the second death* (Rev. 21:7-8).  $\diamondsuit$ 

Look for Part II of this exciting Bible Study in our next edition of The Midnight Cry.



Yes! All the miraculous visions including: the ride of the four horsemen, the heavenly signs, the greatest time of trouble ever to befall mankind, the resurection, the thousand year rule of Christ and the Saints, the last great day, the coming of God the Father to set up Earth as the headquarters of the universe, and beyond all occur within The Day of the Lord!

Write for or download our booklet THE DAY OF THE LORD, 6000 years HAVE ended to find out more, but don't delay. We are already fifteen years into The Day of the Lord and the end of the first 19 year time cycle! It's time to hear His voice!

#### •••• 10 •••• © 2013 Church of God's Faithful • www.setapartbytruth.org

### the Midnight C

A Magazine of Urgent Understanding

Continued from page 2, From the Editor. Here a Little and There a Little...

The prophecies could NOT be understood until the time of the endthey were closed and sealed!

And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer (Rev 10:5-6).

Six thousand years came to an end, and man's TIME would be no longer. Now it was God's TIME—the Day of the Lord! This happened as a "thief in the night" on the Feast of Trumpets, October 1, 1997! And at that time a new 19-year time cycle began on the Hebrew (sacred) calendar. Man had come to the "end" of his allotted TIME. Now was the Church given 19 years in the Day of the Lord to be ready to be the Bride of Jesus Christ? We do not know for sure, but we do know that we are now in the 16<sup>th</sup> year of this TIME CYCLE!

Time IS short! We are living in extremely dangerous times. No one that I am aware of will argue this point! Even Satan the devil knows his time is short (Rev. 12:12). The recent massacre in Connecticut has caused many citizens of the United States to cry out in horror and dismay, "Where Was God? Why did He allow the cruel deaths of 20 innocent children?" The plain TRUTH and answer to these questions is contained in the pages of the Holy Bible. In this issue of *The Midnight* Cry, Mr. Rueben Lister presents the stark answer from God's Word in his article titled, "Where Was God?"

From history and prophecy to the cause of worldwide sorrows, the Head of the CGF, the Living Jesus Christ, is increasing the frequency of revelation of NEW TRUTH to His Church. Amazing and thrilling information long hidden in the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> chapters of Revelation have now been opened to the Church of God's Faithful. Beginning with this issue, we are presenting this latest NEW TRUTH in a Bible Study format to help you understand the fantastic details of a portion of God's plan never known before.

Please read and study carefully. Look up every scripture reference. Try to remove any preconceived ideas you might have, and drink deeply of the glorious revelation that the Mighty Christ has for you.

Your brother in Christ.



#### **A Correction:**

In last month's Midnight Cry, in the short article on page 5 titled A Possible Scenario; I allowed a mistake to be printed that must be corrected. The closing paragraph at the end of the article states: "There are 1335 days (Dan. 12:12) from the 24th day of the sixth month in 2016 to Pentecost of 2020—and the possible First Resurrection." That statement is in error! It should read: "There are 1336 days from the 24th day of the sixth month (on the Hebrew Calendar) in 2016 to Pentecost of 2020—and the possibility of the First Resurrection (Dan 12:12)!"

The Editor

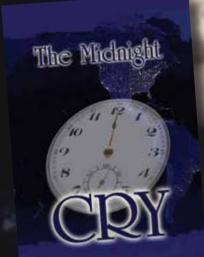


And At Midnight There Was A Cry Made...

A Magazine of Urgent Understanding

Will You Be Wise?

The Midnight Cry



•••• 12•••• © 2013 Church of God's Faithful • www.setapartbytruth.org

A Magazine of Urgent Understanding

### This Month's Top Articles from The Faithful Watchman Newsletter of the Church of God's Faithful

Through *The Faithful Watchman*, we endeavor to keep ourselves abreast of how our Lord Jesus Christ is orchestrating the ride of the 4 Horsemen as He sets the scene for the Two Witnesses to begin their 1260 days of prophesying and for the Great Tribulation to begin. Read daily updates to *The Faithful Watchman* online at setapartbytruth.org.

#### Geneticists Discover a Way to Extend Lifespans to 800 Years

There is now a way to extend the lifespan of organisms so that humans could conceivably live to be 800 years old. In an amazing development, scientists at the University of Southern California have announced that they've extended the lifespan of yeast bacteria tenfold — and the recipe they used to do it might easily translate into humans.

It involves tinkering with two genes, and cutting down your calorie intake.

Tests have already started on people in Ecuador.

#### http://io9.com/...

Comment: There is a way that seems right to a man, but what is always the end—death! No matter how long it takes, death is the ultimate conclusion to physical life, and that will be the case until God grants us life eternal as spirit beings. Certainly men have lived to an incredible age, we are told that the first man Adam lived for 930 years, (Gen5:5) and Methuselah to 969 years. (Gen 5:27) But think of the logistics of living 800 years today. We can't even look after our old people now. No, God does not intend that we live that long today. Just 1000 years after the flood Moses tells us that our years are around 70-80.

"The days of our years are threescore years and ten: and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away! Psa 90:10

Men will try all ways to circumvent what God has planned, but live to 800 years; it's not going to happen. First of all we need a change from physical to spiritual. That change is in the hands of our Creator.

#### Inauguration Poster Likens Obama to Jesus

Street vendors and souvenir stores across Washington, D.C. are selling posters depicting President Obama as Jesus Christ — and one national news publication called him the "Second Coming."

The poster, which does not have the official endorsement of the White House, features an image of the president in prayer with the headline, "Prophecy Fulfilled."

"Barak is of Hebrew origin and its meaning is 'flash of lightning," the poster notes, referencing a passage in in the Old Testament book of Judges.

Hussein, they allege, is a Biblical word meaning "good and handsome."

"So you see, Barak was destined to be a good and handsome man that would rise like a flash of lightning to win victory in a battle against overwhelming odds," the poster read.

This week's cover of Newsweek depicts President Obama as the "Second Coming" – a biblical reference to the return of Christ.

It's not the first time that Obama has been deified by his supporters. Actor Jamie Foxx called President Obama "our Lord and Savior" during a recent television appearance.

"It's like church over here," Foxx told the audience. "First of all, give an honor to God and our Lord and Savior Barack Obama."

"Barack Obama," he shouted as the audience cheered.

Florida A&M professor Barbara Thompson published a book titled "The Gospel According to Apostle Barack." The book likens Obama to Jesus Christ and Martin Luther King, Jr.

http://radio.foxnews.com/...

Comment: It may be Mr Obama's second term in office but to link him to the second coming of Jesus Christ is farcical. Of course it's not official, but it shows how people are thinking. It contrasts with the fact that when Jesus Christ actually walked the earth He was not accepted by the majority of the population.

C Michight

"And when the Sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the Synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying...Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?

And they were offended at him." Mark 6:2-3

Let's hope that those who applaud Mr Obama today will not be offended by Jesus Christ when He does actually return.

### North Korea to carry out third nuclear test 'aimed at US'

Defying a resolution issued by the United Nations Security Council on Tuesday that condemned Pyongyang for test-firing a missile in December and tightened existing sanctions on the regime, North Korea's National Defence Commission said the new nuclear test would be part of its action against the "sworn enemy of the Korean people".

North Korea also vowed to push ahead with launches of more long-range rockets.

"We do not hide that a variety of satellites and longrange rockets which will be launched by the DPRK one after another and a nuclear test of higher level which will be carried out by it in the upcoming allout action, a new phase of the anti-US struggle that has lasted century after century, will target against the US, the sworn enemy of the Korean people," the commission said.

"Settling accounts with the US needs to be done with force, not with words, as it regards jungle law as the rule of its survival."

Describing the UN Security Council as "a marionette of the US," North Korean state media claimed the resolutions are "products of its blind pursuance of the hostile policy of the US.

"The UNSC should apologise for its crime of seriously encroaching upon the independence of a sovereign state ... and repeal all the unreasonable 'resolutions' at once," KCNA reported.

Pyongyang also declared that no further talks on removing nuclear weapons from the Korean peninsula are now possible and that a "nuclear test of a higher level" would be carried out.

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/...

Comment: The world seems to be getting more and more aggressive and much of the aggression against America. North Korea defied the United Nations Security Council by going ahead with this test as part of its action against the "sworn enemy of the Korean people."

North Korea's National Defence Commission went on to say, in a very chilling statement, "settling accounts with the US needs to be done with force, not with words, as it regards jungle law as the rule of its survival."

As a nation loses God's protection, it has to take up the sword. A nation has to defend itself, but the problem with this is that someone always has a bigger sword!

"He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints." Rev 13:10

Those on God's side will always win. He has the biggest sword!

#### Inauguration Day or Judgment Day?

In the early morning hours of Jan. 21, the day President Obama is scheduled to be inaugurated, the Presidential Inaugural Prayer Breakfast will be sounding a powerful warning to Washington, D.C., to – in the words of its keynote speaker – turn from its prideful ways or face the judgment of God.

Rabbi Jonathan Cahn, the controversial author of "The Harbinger" – the startling New York Times bestseller that claims the U.S. is receiving the same divine warnings ancient Israel once did ... and following the same path to destruction – has been chosen to deliver the keynote address of the Presidential Inaugural Prayer Breakfast, to be held from 7-11 a.m. at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park.

Other distinguished guests – including Rep. Michele Bachmann, R-Minn., Dr. Pat Robertson, Jan Crouch, Pat Boone, WND Editor and CEO Joseph Farah, Rosemary Schindler, Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo., and others – are also scheduled to appear at the prayer breakfast.

http://www.wnd.com/...

Comment: "The bricks are fallen down, but we will build with hewn stones: the Sycamores are cut down, but we will change them into cedars." Isa 9:10

What a prophecy! We all know what happened on 9/11, or September 11th, 2001 But what is interesting is that Rabbi Jonathan Cahn was invited as a keynote speaker at President Obama's inauguration meeting. Notice the contrasting messages.

*Mr* Obama says we should honor "gay" rights and the stonewall uprising as a great American event we should honor.

Mr Cahn said that what we once knew to be immoral,

we celebrate. What we once knew to be right, we war against.

America gets warning after warning about its moral dilemma. Some may listen, but nobody seems prepared to do anything about it. As individuals we can do very little to change the world, but we can determine to change ourselves.

If we turn to God and His Way of Life we will have protection against what is to come upon this world. Mr Cahn is right to warn us. Ignore his message at your peril!

#### David Cameron speech: UK and the EU

David Cameron and Ed Miliband have clashed over Mr Cameron's forthcoming speech on Europe.

Mr Cameron will speak in the Netherlands on Friday and is expected to announce plans for a future referendum on the UK's relationship with the EU.

Labour leader Mr Miliband said a future referendum would "hang a closed sign" around British business.

But the PM said it was right to negotiate a better relationship.

Mr Cameron has faced pressure to hold a referendum on Europe and has been criticised by some in his own party for not doing more to get powers back from the EU to the UK.

In his speech he is expected to support a loosening of the UK's relationship with the EU, to be endorsed by a referendum.

'Divided and weak'

Critics have suggested this could raise the prospect of the UK leaving the EU and harm UK business interests.

Mr Cameron told MPs the "massive changes" taking place in Europe following the eurozone crisis allowed the opportunity for countries to renegotiate a better relationship with Europe.

#### http://www.bbc.co.uk/...

Comment: Daniel chapter 2 tells of a dream by King Nebuchadnezzar that was interpreted by Daniel. In the dream was an image with a head of gold, arms of silver, thighs of brass, and legs of iron. In Daniel chapter 7, Daniel was given a vision of four beasts, very different from one another, coming out of the sea, or from an area of major population of the earth.

We read of the same vision in Revelation chapters 13 and 17. Bible students know these images represent the Roman Empire through the ages, church and state, up until the very end-time. The final revival of this empire will in fact be the EU countries led by Germany, and no matter what Mr Cameron says or does Britain will not be a part of it.

Having said that, many Europeans believe in the EU and what it can do for them in their lives. The EU will certainly become a Superpower; however it won't be kind to those who do not totally embrace its doctrines. This empire will be very extreme in forcing people to accept its religious beliefs by political force.

"And he causeth all both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." Rev 13:16-17

Those who believe this superpower will be a benevolent organisation are going to have a rude awakening in a very short time. Rev 17:5

#### Satanists Rally For Rick Scott

A group of Florida-based Satanists will be holding a rally in support of the Sunshine State's Republican Governor Rick Scott on January 25. According to a press release for the event, the Satanic Temple, which organized the rally, will be showing "solidarity" with the governor for his "unwavering fortitude and progressive resolve in his defense of religious liberty," specifically his approval of a legislation that will allow students to vote on whether or not to include prayers in graduation ceremonies and other school assemblies.

"The Satanic Temple embraces the free expression of religion, and Satanists are happy to show their support of Rick Scott who–particularly with [Senate Bill] 98–has reaffirmed our American freedom to practice our faith openly, allowing our Satanic children the freedom to pray in school," the group said in a statement announcing the rally.

In its statement, the Satanic Temple also said they hope to "raise awareness of their compassion-based religion, which has traditionally been grossly misunderstood and maligned."

#### http://politicker.com/...

Comment: In defence of religious liberty people are allowed to worship Satan. Of course freedom to choose what you believe in is all important. Although a little knowledge and understanding of the Bible would not go amiss for those who hold Satan in such high regard.

"To open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me." Acts 26:18

Satan represents darkness, an adversary, an accuser. God represents light and truth. In fact the Bible records that the god of this world, Satan, has actually spiritually blinded those who would follow him.

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, (the gospel) lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ who is the image of God, should shine unto them." 2 Cor 4:4

Satan was created, and it is worth mentioning that he was created by God, as a light bringer. But iniquity was found in him (Ezek 28:15) and he became Satan the devil. To follow someone who has gone from perfection to iniquity is surely folly. Why not follow God who is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. (1 John 1:5)

#### Fully Mechanized Warfare

BERLIN: German government advisors in Berlin are urging utter restraint in acquiring drones for the German Bundeswehr and pleading that fully automatic weapons platforms be internationally outlawed.

The use of so-called combat drones in fighting insurgency is already fraught with dramatic repercussions, according to a recent paper published by the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP). Restraints imposed by the laws of war are being dismantled.

Because wars using drones can be waged without sacrificing one's own soldiers, there is a worldwide threat of an inflation of military interventions. However, one must especially take into account the continued technological development of drones. With the increased complexity of their capabilities, the human factor will no longer be in command, but merely serve, at best, to confirm or reject suggestions produced by the machine. Under such circumstances, "factual autonomy of human decision making" will no longer be ensured in combat, warns SWP.

The think tank envisages, in light of the continuing barbarization of the use of military force, a new type of arms control for drones.

However, the German government is pursuing the path leading in the opposite direction, contemplating acquiring combat drones for the Bundeswehr.

http://www.german-foreign-policy.com/...

Comment: I've always thought it rather odd to have laws of war. How can you kill or injure in a right way according to the law? Jesus Christ said that even if we are just angry with someone without a cause we would be in danger of God's judgement. (Matt 5:22)

Nevertheless if mankind insists of having wars then there should be some sort of restraint. Now because of the combat drones and the high level of technology involved, it makes it easier to destroy your enemy without risk to your own soldiers. As the report states, "Restraints imposed by the laws of war are being dismantled." When man goes so far down the wrong path God has to step in.

"And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do." Gen 11:6

That time God stepped in and confused the languages to slow progress down. God is going to step in again before mankind destroys the entire earth which is what will happen if left to his own devices. Fortunately, for the elects sake these days will be shortened and God's Kingdom will begin!

#### HEADQUARTERS

#### & CANADA

Mr. Jonathan Ardis 136 Woodland Drive, Harleyville, SC 29448, USA. (843) 462-7977. jardis@setapartbytruth.org

#### USA

Mr. Gerry Ardis 136 Woodland Drive Harleyville, SC 29448, USA. Work Tel: (+1) 843-922-1125 Home Tel: (+1) 843-922-1460 gardis@setapartbytruth.org

#### UK, IRELAND, EUROPE & AFRICA

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

#### PHILIPPINES, AUSTRALIA, FIJI & NEW ZEALAND

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



•••• 16•••• © 2013 Church of God's Faithful • www.setapartbytruth.org