



The Midnight Cry

MAY/JUNE, Volume 7, Number 3

A Magazine of Urgent Understanding

God's Grand Gift



The Holy Spirit



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From the Editor ...

I'm sure each of us, especially as we get older and search back in our past, can think of something we had that was of great monetary or sentimental value, but the longer we possessed this item, the less it was appreciated. Over time, it may have gotten lost and you began to think, "Oh, wow! Look what I had and didn't appreciate." Or maybe it was something you had strongly desired, worked hard to get it, and then after some time, the newness of it just wore off.

Do you remember your first car? Mine was a 1978 Toyota Celica. I loved that little car. I was a typical teenager, buying every accessory I could afford, like shiny new rims and bigger tires. I was your average American boy, so of course the tires didn't fit well and I had to spend more money to lift it with air shocks. It was so nice to have my own car, it didn't matter much what it looked like. After a couple of years, the car started to wear out little by little, and parts began to fail. The door wouldn't shut correctly and I had to stop every 30 miles or so to fix it. On one hot, humid, South Carolina afternoon, as I was driving home from work, a lady pulled out right in front of me, and my car was totaled, gone! But the fact is, by the end of that car's life, I didn't appreciate it very much. I should have, because there were plenty of 19-year-olds at that time who didn't have a car to drive at all.

Were you excited about your first car? How long did it take for the newness to wear off? Or maybe it was your first house, or an expensive piece of jewelry. What have you possessed in your life that you didn't appreciate like you should have? As we get older, how about our health, our eyesight, our hearing? My eyesight was something that I definitely took for granted until my eye was injured. And now at 51 years old, I have noticed my hearing failing—my family has noticed, too. Do you remember, as a teenager, playing that music too loudly? Or operating the lawnmower without the proper ear protection? Or maybe some of us who are hunters haven't considered ear protection as we zero in our rifles or practice for the upcoming deer season. During the summers after high school, at the local cement plant where Dad worked, I worked with a 100-pound jackhammer, hammering concrete. Hard hat, steel-toe boots, long sleeve shirts in 105 degree weather, eye protectors, ear protectors—I thought it was all so bothersome. But it was all for my protection. (And that wasn't really enough—that big jackhammer was so loud, even with ear plugs it made your teeth hurt when you accidentally hit a piece of rebar.)

Car, jewelry, house, health...now consider the people—parents, children, brothers, sisters or other family members, and friends—that we have lost over the years. We didn't really appreciate them like we could have, did we? Just a few hours ago, I learned that another friend may pass away very soon. In fact, it's almost certain without God's intervention. And in these situations, we usually ask ourselves, "What type of friend was I? Did I do

enough? Was I there for them, or did I take them for granted?”

Have you ever possessed something, took it for granted, lost it and then found it again? That’s a pretty good feeling, isn’t it? Many years ago, my sister’s boyfriend lost her high school ring. He knew exactly where he lost it, but no one could find it. They were married a few years later. After several more years, my parents bought a metal detector and in a matter of minutes, my brother-in-law found the ring! What a great feeling for everyone involved.

Do you have a similar story in your life? Have you ever lost something of value and later found it? Losing the ability to walk due to a sprained ankle or a broken leg can leave one feeling powerless and frustrated. However, with these injuries you know that in a few weeks or months you can ditch the cast and crutches and slowly regain the use of your leg. And how thankful you are to have that injury healed! When you don’t have any health issues, you really take your body for granted, especially when you are young. But when you do have an issue and you are healed, it feels so wonderful. You appreciate it—for a time. Unfortunately, that appreciation gradually decreases.

Have you taken your health for granted, not appreciated it like you should? Each of us could make a list of the things we are thankful for and don’t want to take for granted.

As we look at the wonderful Feast of Pentecost and all that it represents, we get very excited and inspired, knowing we are part of a special commission that God the Father, Himself, has called us to take part in. It is only through

God’s Holy Spirit that we can appreciate the magnitude of this great calling. We must take great care to protect our appreciation of this calling, meditating on and considering our current relationship with God the Father and Jesus Christ. Is it possible that even in the short time since the Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread that we have taken them, the Church, our calling, or God’s most gracious gift, His Holy Spirit, for granted? Or do we have a godly appreciation for it all?

Do we see God clearly in our lives? Do we have a clear vision of our calling? Do we understand why God has given us His Spirit, and are we accomplishing His purpose? Do we understand that this calling is all about God’s purpose?

How Are Your Prayer Life And Bible Study?

We get excited about the day of Pentecost and what it means for us, but we really should put it in the correct perspective and understand what it means for the Father and Jesus Christ. We have made some huge sacrifices, but it is They who really have sacrificed. Are we taking for granted God’s purpose for our calling? We can answer that question with another question to determine how we are doing: How are your prayer life and Bible study?

Our prayer life and our Bible study reflect our relationship with God and tell us whether we are taking God’s purpose for granted or not. We could probably narrow down the answer with one question, “How is your prayer life?” The Church of God’s Faithful is so small, we can pray for each member every day. Are we doing it? Sincere, fervent prayer for the

brethren and their families who have asked for prayers builds a deeper relationship with the Father, with Christ and with those for whom we are praying. This is brotherly love, bonding us as spiritual brothers and sisters in Christ.

How personal are you with God? Have you ever apologized to Him for not taking the time to get down on your knees and properly praying in a formal, respectful manner? When you do so, you are building a respectful relationship with God. He knows all without your telling Him, but He notices when you don’t make time to spend time with Him or when you don’t really want to pray.

How long do we pray each day? It’s not a contest, but the time you spend in prayer is a great device for measuring your closeness with God. And that in turn tells you if you are taking God, your calling and God’s Spirit for granted.

“Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee (1 Tim. 4:14-16).

These are instructions for the ministry, but they apply to all Church members. Paul tells Timothy not to neglect the calling that God gave him. God is telling us, through these scriptures, to not take any spiritual gift for granted. Do not take God for granted. Verse 15 says to give yourself “wholly” to your calling and God’s Spirit, so

you can be an example to everyone. Are we doing these things? Are we giving ourselves **wholly**?

Is this your number one priority—to give yourself wholly to God's purpose?

“Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him (Heb. 2:1-3).

“More earnest heed”—these are three powerful words! Abundantly, more exceedingly, much more frequently—this means not just to pay attention, but to pay very, **very close attention**. Really pay attention to what God is doing in our lives! Verse 1 says, “...lest at any time we should let them slip.” Are we letting things slip? Perhaps because we have other things going on?

How Invested Are We In The World?

Exodus 20:3 says, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” Are we placing anything or anyone before God? That includes family, work, school...anything and everything. And it brings us to our second question to determine if we are taking God, our calling and His Spirit for granted: How invested are we in the world?

Matthew 6:33 states, “Seek you first the Kingdom of God.” It sounds simple, but it is hard to

do in this world where we have so much to distract us. The world has everything you can possibly imagine ready for you to check out and enjoy. How invested are you? And this ties right in with the first commandment, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”

Do we lead a simple life, or is it so fast-paced and complicated that we are stuck in it? Does our lifestyle have us so caught up in the world that it's dragging us deeper and deeper into it, and further from God? If this happens, it affects our moral judgment! As we creep deeper into the world, our moral compass is affected, and it is impossible to make godly choices and decisions. Remember Proverbs 14:12, “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”

Do we compromise when making decisions? We may have a decision to make about something, and deep down we know the decision that should be made through godly wisdom, but then we begin to compromise.

Is Fruit Being Produced In Your Life?

And this brings us to question number three to determine if you are taking God for granted: Is fruit being produced in your life?

Are you happy? Is your family happy? Do you have a happy marriage? Is it easy for you to build friendships and relationships, or is there always drama going on within these relationships? Do you get a good night's sleep; is it easy for you to fall asleep? Do these questions have anything to do with your relationship with God?

God gave us days to look forward to: Sabbath to Sabbath, beginning

of month to beginning of month, and holy day to holy day. From each of these days to the next, are we growing spiritually and producing fruit that we can feel deeply in our hearts? Is God's Spirit increasing in our lives? Can others see fruit being produced?

Do you cringe a bit when the Passover comes around because you know you should have done better during the past year? If we feel that we have taken God, our calling or God's Spirit for granted, then what can we do to do better?

“And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou? And he answering said, **Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind**; and thy neighbour as thyself. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live (Lk. 10:25-28).

All Thy Heart

When we love God with all our heart, we put God before anything and everything! Nothing takes precedence over God, not our spouse, not our children, not our desires or plans. God is always first. This isn't selfish on His part. He has a plan for our future, and it is simply a fact that, if we put God first and follow His laws, everything else falls into place for the good of all.

“Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. By this we

know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous (1 Jn. 5:1-3).

God's commandments are not grievous or burdensome. They are there for us.

All Thy Soul

We are to love God with all of our soul. All of us would be ready and willing to die for our family, would we not? Even more than for family, we must be ready and willing to die for Him. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Rom. 12:1).

All Thy Strength

What do we do to love God with all of our strength? In the CGF, we see members loving God with all of their strength. Sometimes you are just so tired when you pray or study, or when you prepare a message or

work on the website, sometimes at all hours of the night or throughout the weekend. Maybe you are one of those who use your break time at work to find news for the website. The majority of our members are elderly, and we can feel your prayers and the things you are doing with all of your strength. It may not seem like much to you, but God appreciates the effort and sacrifice. When you do something for God, the Church or the brethren, when it would be much easier to go to bed or do something entertaining, then you fulfill the command to love God with all your strength.

All Thy Mind

“Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ (2 Cor. 10:5).

This is loving God with all of our mind: bringing every thought into captivity so we can obey exactly like Christ. It is also seeing God in everything we do throughout

the day. Seeing God clearly in our lives and living our lives for His purpose—this is why we are called.

As we meditate on the Day of Pentecost, let's make sure we are loving God with all of our heart, soul, strength and mind. If we do it God's way, we will not take God, our calling or His Spirit for granted. We can practice appreciating God on a daily basis by thinking of and thanking Him for all that He has given us.

“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ (Phil. 1:6).

Let's appreciate everything and everyone around us, especially God the Father and Jesus Christ. Let's not take anything for granted, and as we approach this wonderful Feast of Pentecost, let's do all we can to be like God. Let's always place God in the very front of our minds and our lives. He has called us for His purpose, so let's fully appreciate God, our calling and God's Spirit dwelling within us. ❖

**The Feast of Firstfruits Fast Approches.
But Do You Truely Understand the Incredible Meaning of It?**

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

**Call the Church of God's Faithful today for your
FREE copy or download it at setapartbytruth.org.**

Contact information on page 20.



The Feast of Trumpets

Seven mighty trumpets blow in the year of God's vengeance during the "greatest time of trouble" ever to come upon the earth.

For years The Church of God has taught that the Imminent return of Jesus Christ and the resurrection of the Saints will take place "at the last trump" on the Feast of Trumpets. Is this correct?

1Co 15:52 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.

It is certainly obvious that Christ does return at the last trump, but is it The Feast of Trumpets?

It is possible that the first trump of that most terrible and frightening year, is on The Feast of Trumpets, and the last trump is on The Feast of FIRSTFRUITS...

Or The Day of Pentecost

Yes!

You must understand that this is a possibility and that you must "prove all things, hold that fast WHICH is good!"

WHICH?



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

See page 20 for information on how to obtain your FREE copy today. Or download from our website at www.setapartbytruth.org



God's Grand Gift **The Holy Spirit**

by John Durrad

“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38).”

This scripture is basic, and yet awesome at the same time. It explains how God makes it possible for mankind to achieve the very purpose of life. It explains how individual human beings can receive the Spirit of God. And it is only through the Spirit of God that we can understand the reason God created us, and then fulfill this purpose by growing to think and act and become more like our Creator.

Why go through the mental strain of repentance? Why take the time to be baptized? Why even bother with understanding the name of Jesus Christ? Why seek the remission of sins?

There is one simple answer to all these questions: We make the ef-

fort so that we may qualify to receive the gift of God's Holy Spirit. Nothing could be more spectacular, more magnificent, or more awesome. But what is God's Holy Spirit? The basic definition is that it is GOD'S POWER! It is the power of the Almighty Creator. “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you” (Acts 1:8). Here is the great promise of God's Holy Spirit—POWER!

So, let's get this right. God wants us to have, as a gift, His great power! The question is – Why? Why do we need such awesome power? Power can be defined as “the ability to act,” or more technically as “the capacity to do work.” This certainly applies to the power of God's Holy Spirit. By this power God created the heavens and the earth (Gen. 1:1), and it is by this power that God has continued to sustain the universe in perfect order from that time until now.

God used His Spirit to make the physical universe. Something that cannot be seen made something

that is seen! God used His Spirit to accomplish His creative works. So what Acts 2:38 means is that God's grand gift to us is His Holy Spirit. This is the very power by which God begets His sons and enables them to keep His Law. God's power, His Holy Spirit, is unlimited. But the spiritual creation of man will prove to be the crowning glory of achievement by God's Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is also the essence of the mind of God. We humans are not born with this Spirit. God must give it, as a gift; but faith, repentance and baptism are required. Without God's Spirit we cannot obtain salvation. Without it we cannot even claim to be a Christian.

“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his (Rom. 8:9).”

In the first chapter of Genesis, God states the reason He created man: “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness” (Gen. 1:26). Man was designed with a physical human body resembling God's body, and a human mind resembling God's mind. But this was just a start.

“Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ (Eph. 4:13).”

Every man and woman, individually, must grow spiritually in order to be like Christ, and that can only be done by living the Law of God.

In the Old Testament, God made a covenant with His people, Israel. He told them that they could become a treasure to Him. All they had to do

was obey God, keep His Covenant and follow His Law. The making of the Old Covenant was the marriage ceremony of Jesus Christ to Israel. And Israel sincerely wanted to obey.

“ And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the LORD hath said, we will do and be obedient (Ex. 24:7).

But as we know, neither ancient Israel nor Judah ever kept God's law consistently, and as a direct result, both nations were exiled. God can be very hard on His people when they do not keep His Law. But why were God's chosen people unable to keep His Law and fulfil their part of the Covenant? The answer is given in Hebrews chapter 8.

“ For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them... (Heb. 8:7-8).

The fault was with Israel in not keeping the Law. There was nothing at all wrong with the Law. It was the people of Israel, not God, who were responsible for the failure of the first covenant.

“ I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah...I will put my laws into their minds, and write them in their hearts (Heb. 8:8,10).

How can God put His laws into our minds and write them in our hearts? In precisely the same way that God can be our Father and we can be His sons—by giving us His Holy Spirit! This is the essential ingredient of the New Covenant. The Holy Spirit is the wonderful reason why the New Covenant can offer

better promises.

Without God's Spirit, the human mind is carnally focused. The dictionary says that carnally minded means “pertaining to the desires and appetites of the flesh, worldly or earthy.” The Bible says the carnal mind is against God, not subject to the Law of God, and indeed cannot be subject to His Law (Rom. 8:7). So, humanly speaking, we are hostile to God and His Law, and we cannot obey God in the way He wants us to. But with God's Spirit, the human mind is spiritually focused—it becomes a converted mind, now no longer hostile to God. Put very plainly, God's Spirit gives a person the power to obey God's Laws.

God will not allow anyone into His kingdom who will not accept His rule. But God supplies the means—the very POWER—to obey Him. The only determination of an individual as a real Christian is the presence of God's Holy Spirit in him.

Being a Christian brings blessings. Obedience to God makes possible a more abundant physical life. Christ said,

“ I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd gives his life for the sheep...I am come that they may have life, and that they might have it more abundantly (Jn. 10:11,10).

Even more important than physical blessings is the increased capacity of one's mind to know and to comprehend spiritual things, which we receive with the Holy Spirit. God's Spirit generates the hope of God, the quiet confidence of the certainty of the Resurrection. At the Resurrection we will receive eternal life. The Spirit quickens, or makes alive. God has self-existent life, life

within Himself. Man has a physical, chemical existence, and physical things wear out. We have a shelf life! But God gives us HIS LIFE—real life, but...only a small amount to start with.

“ ...after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance (Eph. 1:13-14).

An “earnest” is a down payment, a small portion of a whole to be received in the future. We start with a small portion of God's Holy Spirit, but then we need to grow in the knowledge of Christ, God's Word! During this life, we must daily renew our supply of God's Spirit. Notice what Paul said to Timothy:

“ Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind (2Tim. 1:6-7).

The end result of this is the Resurrection. At the First Resurrection, at the last trumpet, those who died with God's Spirit and those who will be living with God's Spirit, shall have their mortal physical existence changed instantly for an immortal, spiritual existence.

As we know, the First Resurrection occurs on the day of Pentecost, the Feast of Firstfruits, fulfilling the symbolism that the holy day depicts. Notice what Mr. Robert Ardis wrote in his book, *The Feast of Trumpets or the Day of Pentecost...Which?*

“ The Church of God's Faithful, baptized members, who will be protected in the Place of Safety will become SPIRIT at the Last

Trump on the Day of Pentecost along with all the Firstfruits resurrected from the dead. Revelation 12:14 informs us that the Place of Safety will be needed for 1260 days of protection from the 'face of the serpent.' Who will be there in the Place of Safety for that entire 1260 days? OUR CHILDREN WILL BE THERE! From young children to older teenagers who are not yet old enough for baptism, they will still need the protection until we return. And...it seems obvious that the 144,000 Israelites will be brought there at the beginning of the Day of His Wrath, so they will be there until the final year ends. Isn't this just a wonderful, fantastic PLAN God has revealed to us!" (Ardis: The Feast of Trumpets or the Day of Pentecost... Which? 2002, p. 28).

God's Spirit is a gift from God; we can't earn it. But God will not give us something we don't want—certainly not His Holy Spirit, the most precious commodity in the universe. We must fervently want it, and we must demonstrate this by asking for it. ASK, and you shall receive. Sounds simple, and it is, but if these were the only conditions, then the unlimited power of God would be available to anyone. That power could be terribly misused.

Therefore, in order to build harmony and control into His overall system, God added another condition. That is, of course, obedience! God will give His Holy Spirit, with all the powers and abilities involved, only to those who have shown by both attitude and actions that they want to obey God and His laws. God first demands this wholehearted sincere desire to obey His laws. Then, and only then, will He give us the power to truly obey these laws.

When the authorities ordered Peter and the apostles to stop preaching in Jesus' name, Peter replied that we ought to obey God rather than men. This was a brave thing to say to those who could severely punish them for disobeying men, but Peter knew which power he came under.

Throughout the Bible, God shows that we can never earn the right to have the Holy Spirit. We can earn death! That is the wages of sin. But the gift of God is eternal life. Peter had to severely rebuke Simon Magus who thought he could purchase the Holy Spirit with money. The Holy Spirit is available, but it is not for sale. One can do some work for someone and then demand wages, payment. Not so with God's grand gift; it is not wages earned. However, we do need to be obedient to God's Law.

Acts 2:38 directs us to repent and be baptized. Repentance means turning from disobedience to obedience to God and His Law. Yet even the obedience we need comes from God! Through God's Holy Spirit, a man becomes a new creation.

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new (2Cor. 5:17).

When a person truly repents and is baptized, he becomes a new spiritual baby, nurtured by the Church. Like a mother with her unborn baby, we must grow to full maturity within the Church. Mr. Herbert Armstrong explains:

“NOW MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL –what is the REAL PURPOSE for the Church? Why did God have Christ raise it up?

The CHURCH is the spiritual

MOTHER of human converts. They are the spiritual embryos and fetuses as yet UNBORN, although begotten by God's Holy Spirit—already children of God.

The CHURCH is God's spiritual ORGANISM, well organized, for feeding on spiritual food, training and developing in spiritual righteous CHARACTER the future GOD BEINGS – sons of God the Father!" (Armstrong: Mystery of the Ages, 1985, p.265).

We are not yet born again. We are begotten of God as Firstfruits, but not yet born into the God family. We could, as spiritual babes, be aborted. Leaving the protection of the Body of Christ, the Church, is spiritual abortion (2 Pet. 2:20-22).

We came out of the mire; we don't want to go back there. David said, "Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not sink" (Ps. 69:14). Spiritual abortion can be avoided by a healthy spiritual diet. The diet includes fellowship with the brethren as often as possible, and the four tools of a Christian: prayer, Bible study, meditation and fasting.

We should be in awe of God's grand gift to us. Jesus Christ referred to the Holy Spirit as a comforter. The Holy Spirit leads us into all truths. Certainly, having the answers to life's major questions is a great comfort to us. Let us always be excited about what God gives us. It is a precious commodity, and yet most people today would reject this precious gift, as our original parents, Adam and Eve, did. When they took it upon themselves to decide what was right and what was wrong, God, from that point, cut mankind off from His Holy Spirit. Access to the Holy Spirit, except for a few individuals, was not restored until after Christ had been glorified. Then the New Testament

Church of God was started on the day of Pentecost.

God's grand gift, the Holy Spirit, is very precious. It's not that it is in short supply! It's just that very few human beings have been selected to receive it at this time. We have been given access to the family of God. How do we feel about this? Are we excited beyond excitement? Mr. Robert Ardis, in his book, *The Feast of Trumpets or the Day of Pentecost – Which?*, explained Jesus Christ's feelings about His glory:

“ As He walked this earth in the flesh, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, possessed the Spirit of God without measure. Through the Spirit of God, He was able to reflect back and remember how it was to be God. He greatly desired that glory once again, the glory that He had before the world was. That memory, the vision of God-hood, was a driving force in His mind. His last will was that He exceedingly desired His disciples to be able to see Him in His GLORY. He intensely wants us to grasp this vision of glory also. He inspired the Apostle John to write these encouraging words:

'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' (1 Jn. 3:2).

Christ wants us to be inspired, motivated, filled with the same desire he had, that we too may become a part of the God Family. To accomplish this he is revealing to His Faithful Church more plain truth of the fantastic and exciting events that lie immediately ahead of us here in

the Day of The Lord. He wants us to be so enthused that nothing will deter us in our journey toward our goal of the kingdom of God! This greater vision and depth of understanding that our Lord is pouring upon us concerning the near future and the imminence of the kingdom of God stimulates this desire in our minds – and helps us to endure unto the end (Ardis: *The Feast of Trumpets or the Day of Pentecost – Which?*, 2002, p. 1).

At Christ's return we will become spirit. We will then be completely composed of God's grand gift, God's Spirit of Power.

“ Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you. For which cause we faint not; but through our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day (2 Cor. 4:14,16).

This is what Acts 2:38 is all about. So continue to put the power of God's Holy Spirit to work in your life, and begin to look forward to the day when this same Holy Spirit will transform you into a spirit being, an eternal member of the God family!

We have so much to be thankful for and to appreciate, especially God's grand gift to us – HIS HOLY SPIRIT. ❖

FREE LITERATURE

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**“Prove all things;
Hold fast that
which is good.”**

1 Thes 5:21

Why the Church?

by Reuben Lister

Imagine that you are in a beautiful botanical garden full of red and yellow flowers and well-manicured lawns. Strategically placed around the grounds are rose beds filled with beautiful perfume and delicate colors, and, amongst all this beauty, peacocks strut with their tail feathers proudly held high.

As you observe this tranquil setting, the sound of horses catches your attention, and a beautiful carriage drawn by four white horses comes to a standstill nearby. A bride, dressed in all of her glorious white splendor, alights from the carriage.

Before you know it, another beautiful carriage pulls up and out comes another bride all dressed up and ready to be married. As you are taking all of this in, another carriage pulls up and, low and behold, yet another bride-to-be alights, and then still another bride, and another—they just keep coming!

It is like a scene from a comedy movie—surely this has to be some kind of joke! Your attention is drawn toward an open field nearby and, to your total surprise, the sight of hundreds of ladies greets you, all of them also dressed to be married! Is this some kind of mass wedding?

The scene that we have just imagined would be comical, laughable indeed, if it were not so tragically true, as this is exactly what we see being enacted by the three

hundred or so “Churches of God” today. Thinking about the crazy scene that we have just imagined, the obvious question is—would a sane man marry such a group? And, more importantly, would Jesus Christ marry all of these brides (or churches) when they don’t agree?

The Whole World Is Deceived

What about the hundreds of Protestant churches? If we include them with the churches of god, then there are thousands of churches all over the world that claim to represent God’s work on Earth. Satan, who has deceived the whole world, has a religion or belief for every individual on earth! He leaves us with multiple choices, so we can pick and choose whatever we fancy. No one is left out.

In Revelation 12:9 we read,

“So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who *deceives the whole world*; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

This deception involves all of us—we have all been deceived at some point!

Jesus Christ Marries Only One Bride

In the September 1979 issue of the *Plain Truth* magazine, under the

heading “Seven Proofs of God’s True Church,” Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong wrote:

“Or what about the one who follows a MAN because of that man’s personality, charisma or attractiveness, or some other group? Stop and THINK! Is Christ going to marry a number of differing groups, not in complete harmony with each other—yet all professing CHRIST? Jesus Christ is going to marry THE ONE AND ONLY TRUE CHURCH—not a number of scattered groups or scattered individuals” (herbert-armstrong.org).

There Is Only One True Church

Notice, also, what Mr. Armstrong wrote in an article titled, “Is God’s Church Composed of Many Separate Groups?” in the *Good News* magazine of December 18, 1978:

“The CHURCH is the BODY OF CHRIST. And Jesus pictured Himself as THE VINE, and we of His Church are the BRANCHES on that vine. Notice it — study it — in John 15. Jesus is not SEVERAL SEPARATED VINES — He is *one vine*! The members of the BODY OF CHRIST are the BRANCHES! — but *not separated, isolated* branches. ALL ARE JOINED TO THE ONE VINE — the BODY OF CHRIST! Separated ‘Christians,’ or ‘groups’ are branches *broken off* from the VINE — the BODY OF CHRIST! ...Also branches of a grapevine cut off cannot bear fruit. They DIE SPIRITUALLY” (hwalibrary.com/magazines).

The Bible states that there is only one true Church, and yet churches everywhere seem oblivious to the

obvious fact that they are not all in one accord and in one body. They offer convoluted arguments to justify their way around very clear scriptures.

How Did This Happen?

Since the apostasy in the Worldwide Church of God (WCG), there are now over three hundred split-off churches, which could be called “churches of god.” Their members acknowledge the need for an organization where they can have services or fellowship. Others reject that need and stay at home. They reason that, if they keep the Sabbath, the holy days and the Commandments, they are still a part of the Church of God.

From a human point of view, who can blame anyone for not knowing which church to attend? The main blame falls squarely on the ministers responsible for teaching the truth. We rely on them to do so, and, except for a very few, they are derelict in this God-given responsibility.

“My people have been lost sheep. Their shepherds have led them astray; they have turned them away on the mountains. They have gone from mountain to hill: they have forgotten their resting place (Jer. 50:6).

God says that the shepherds, i.e., *the ministers*, have led His people astray.

Most of God’s people are deceived also because they did not receive the love of the truth.

The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous

deception among those who perish, [Why?] because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie (2 Thess. 2:9-10).

They Believed the Lies

People left the WCG in droves. Many of them had been long-term members. They had followed the teachings of the Church for twenty, thirty, even forty years or more, obeying the Commandments and keeping the holy days instead of man’s holidays. They were faithful through thick and thin, until Mr. Armstrong died in January 1986. Then, we heard messages delivered with *power, signs and lying wonders* coming out of the WCG every week, under the guise of being “just clarifications, not changes.”

Later, as these false ministers became more emboldened, brazen and intoxicated with their power, we were told that if we did not like the changes, “There’s the door.” That was after we were told there were no changes, remember?

Many people who left the WCG went the wrong way; some even returned to the false religious practices they previously had.

Many Failed to Heed All the Instructions

1 Kings 13 tells us about a “man of God” who did not regard all the instructions that he was given by God. He was told not to return back the way he had come and not even to eat or drink water in that place after he had carried out his mission. He carried out the first part of his duty as instructed (vers-

es 1-16).

The man of God recalled exactly what God had instructed him to do—he did not suffer from memory loss, as he was able to repeat God’s instructions:

“For I have been told by the word of the Lord, You shall not eat bread nor drink water there, nor return by going the way you came (1 Kgs. 13:17).

But, this man failed to heed all of the instructions God had given him. He listened to a false prophet instead, and disobeyed the direct command of God. He went back with the false prophet and ate bread, drank water and listened to lies. This was only a few hours after God had used him to perform spectacular miracles. He had no excuse, and going back sadly cost him his life.

A similar event happened to the WCG after Mr. Armstrong died. The one entrusted to keep the Church on track, Mr. Joseph Tkach, took the members back into this world’s teachings, back to the way we are told not to return to. This minister and his co-deceivers told lies similar to the lies of the false prophet in 1 Kings. Mr. Tkach even told the Church that Mr. Armstrong, on his deathbed, had told him that he wanted the changes made.

This fairy tale was related to the Church months later, after Mr. Tkach had repeatedly said that there were no changes, just clarifications. He told us that “the Sabbath is not being done away with.” But he lied—the WCG has done away with the Sabbath, as well as the holy days! Mr. Armstrong’s most requested book, *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, was discontinued, and every doctrine

that God had revealed to His one true Church was abolished. If these are not “signs and lying wonders,” what is?

We were warned that this would happen:

“The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan with all power, signs, and lying wonders (2 Thess. 2:9).

A false prophet led the Church back the way it had come. He acted *as though he was God* by doing away with all that God had restored to His Church.

A Test from God

Deuteronomy 13:1-3 also warns us:

“If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or the wonder of which he spoke to you comes to pass, saying, Let us go after other gods which you have not known, and let us serve them, you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the Lord your God is testing you to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

In other words, even if a prophet or a minister makes a prophetic statement and the prediction comes to pass exactly as he said, but he also says, for instance, that it is fine to work on the Sabbath or keep Christmas, then God instructs us that we are not to listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams. Unfortunately, when this exact thing happened in the WCG, people either stayed and believed the lie or they left the Church in

confusion.

God’s True Church Still Exists

In Matthew 16:18 Christ says,

“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

And we read in Ephesians 4:4-5,11:

“There is one body and one spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism...And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers.

In verses 12 and 13 we are told *why* there is one body and one faith, with people in various roles to lead and teach us:

“For the equipping of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Till we all come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

These scriptures tell us plainly that God’s Church is united and organized—just the opposite of the confusion and division we see in the churches of God today. Can anyone honestly say that the confusion in these competing churches, no matter what they call themselves, could possibly be God’s one true Church being led by the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit, we are told, will guide us into all truth.

“However, when it, the spirit of truth, has come, it will guide you into all truth (Jn. 16:13).

God Is Not the Author of Confusion

Where does all this confusion come from? It certainly is not from God!

“For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints (1 Cor. 14:33).

The chaotic mess we see in these scattered churches is just the opposite of peace. Where there is confusion, there are lies and deception. And Satan is the author of lies and deception (Jn. 8:44).

We are in training to be kings and priests in the Kingdom of God, but this does not happen overnight. We need to be taught, and we need someone to teach us. This is one of the main tasks that God’s true ministers perform; they teach us, so that we are able to teach others. Malachi 2:7 tells us:

“For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge, And people should seek the law from his mouth; For he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts.

The Church Is Like an Orchestra

God’s one true Church is like a well-rehearsed orchestra, with each person playing his part and following the human conductor as he leads. If it is not done this way, we have the situation that we see in the churches of God today—chaos and confusion.

Imagine the cacophony of noise that God hears from all of the different churches of god as they march and play to the beats of different drums. And, as they march, they are completely out of step with one another and with God. These churches think they are playing a melody for God on their feast days, but God says they are merely making a noise that He does not want to hear. As a matter of fact, He wants the noise stopped:

“ Take away from me the noise of your songs, for I will not hear the melody of your stringed instruments (Amos 5:23).

At this point in time, the Church is shattered and scattered, but not for much longer. In Revelation 3:9 we read:

“ Indeed I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie— indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and know that I have loved you.

In other words, God promises that those people who claim to be His Church, and are not, will be made

to come and be taught by His one true Church, and to worship God under its authority.

God’s Message to the Lost Sheep

At this moment, the Church of God’s Faithful is very small and almost powerless. Not many know of our existence and very few respond to our wee, small voice. But soon the sleeping virgins of Matthew 25:1-7 will awaken and seek Christ’s Spirit of truth.

The lost sheep (the churches of god) will be taught the message found in Matthew 10:6-8:

“ But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as you go, preach, saying, The Kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

The virgins will soon have the veil of confusion removed from their eyes, and God will bring them to His true end-time Church. They will be taught once again by God’s faithful ministers that there is only

one true Church. Then they will become the very bride of Christ.

At the start of the Millennium, the wife of Christ (the Church) will be able to teach those people who have survived the Great Tribulation, just as God’s ministers have taught us. We will teach all Israel God’s ways for a thousand years, and the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea (Is. 11:9).

Those Israelites will then be trained fully in God’s laws and ways, so that when the Last Great Day (the Second Resurrection) finally arrives, God’s one true Church will be ready to teach and guide the millions.

So, Why the Church?

Back to the question that was asked earlier: “Why the Church?” The answer is summed up in Ephesians 4:13. The Church, with Christ as its head, is to bring us to:

“ ...the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. ❖



“The world will not fall away from truth—they have no truth to fall away from.” But many of those who have been invited to the Wedding Supper certainly can ... AND HAVE!

Take off the blindfold and clean your wedding garment before it is too late!

Call, write for, or download your FREE copy today. See pg 20 or www.setapartbytruth.org.

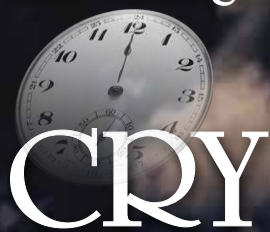
And At Midnight There Was A Cry Made...

Will You Be Wise?

And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

Rev. 3: 7-12 &
Matt. 25: 1-13

The Midnight



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136 Woodland Drive
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THE FAITHFUL WATCHMAN



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.

‘SPECTER OF BREAK-UP HAUNTING EUROPE’: EU CHIEF TUSK BLASTS ‘ILLUSIONS’ OF BLOC’S UNITY

DONALD TUSK – RT – MAY 31, 2016

European Council President Donald Tusk has sounded the alarm, warning that Eurosceptic movements are gaining momentum in the EU because the dream of a federation-like union being pushed by EU leaders is out of touch with the views of ordinary Europeans.

“The specter of a break-up is haunting Europe. A vision of a federation doesn’t seem to me like the best answer to it,” Tusk said at a meeting of the European People’s Party, the biggest bloc in the European Parliament, Reuter reported.

<https://www.rt.com>

Comment-John Durrad

Looking a little further ahead in time we see the emergence of a super power the Bible labels as “MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH” Rev 17:5

This colossus will also fail in a great way and God also implores His people to not be a part of it.

“And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen. is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, (demons) and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird...And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.” Rev 18:2,4

Europe will break up, but not before great power is given to its leaders to control the population absolutely!

Whether or not Britain will be a part of this empire we will have to see, but the present 28 member nations will be whittled down to 10 major nations that make up the Beast power, the soon to come MYSTERY BABYLON

THE GREAT!

PROPOSED BILL IN NY LEGISLATURE WOULD ALLOW MEDICALLY-ASSISTED SUICIDE

MICHAEL WARE – MAY 25, 2016

No one likes pain. For most of us, the one thing we fear the most would be a prolonged painful death. No one wishes to have to endure some illness that will take us from our family while in the process costing us significant amounts of money to treat.

Is a way out of such suffering the correct answer? Yes, if there is a cure we should take it, but is death a cure? And if it is, then who makes that decision? Well, New York State will be debating such questions soon.

<http://constitution.com>

Comment – John Durrad • www.setapartbytruth.org

There is a way that seems right to a man and yet suicide is self-murder and against the 6th commandment. Job commented:

“And said, Naked I came out of my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken way; blessed be the name of the LORD.” Job 1:21

We are bought with a price. The price was the death of our creator!

U.S. NAVY BOOSTS PRESENCE IN MEDITERRANEAN AHEAD OF NATO SUMMIT

ANDREA SHALAL – JUNE 8, 2016

(Reuters) – The U.S. military will have two aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean Sea this month ahead of a NATO summit in Warsaw, as Washington seeks to balance Russia’s military activities and accelerate its fight against Islamic State militants.

The USS Harry S. Truman aircraft carrier will hand off to the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower when it arrives en route to the Gulf, allowing the Truman to head back to the United States after an extended eight-month deployment, Navy officials on board the Truman said.

<http://freebeacon.com>

RUSSIA DEPLOYS TROOPS WESTWARD AS STANDOFF WITH NATO DEEPENS

ANTON ZVEREV – JUNE 8, 2016

Russia is building an army base near its border with Ukraine, the latest in a chain of new military sites along what the Kremlin sees as its frontline in a growing confrontation with NATO.

While there have been no clashes between the former Cold War rivals, Russia is building up forces on its western frontiers at a time when the NATO alliance is staging major military exercises and increasing deployments on its eastern flank.

<http://www.reuters.com>

‘FRIGHTENING’: 2 IN 5 US UNEMPLOYED HAVE STOPPED LOOKING FOR WORK

RT – JUNE 9, 2016

Almost half of unemployed Americans are no longer looking for work, and the numbers are even grimmer for those who have been out of the workforce for a longer period of time.

A new Harris Poll released Thursday found that 43 percent of Americans without jobs have given up looking for employment. And for those who have been out of the workforce for at least two years, a startling 59 percent stopped looking for work. More than half – 51 percent – haven’t had a job interview since 2014.

<https://www.rt.com>

FIRST RIGHT-TO-DIE CLINIC OPENS IN CALIFORNIA

BRADFORD RICHARDSON – JUNE 9, 2016

For the tidy sum of \$2,000, terminally ill Californians can now pay a doctor to help them commit suicide.

Dr. Lonny Shavelson, who heads Bay Area End of Life Options, said he charges \$200 for an initial evaluation and \$1,800 in other fees to help patients kill themselves.

The medical practice began offering the service Thursday, after a law permitting physician-assisted

suicide officially went into effect.

<http://www.washingtontimes.com>

INDONESIA ROCKED BY ANOTHER EARTHQUAKE SPARKING TSUNAMI FEARS

SEAN MARTIN – JUNE 9, 2016

Following a huge earthquake measuring 6.5 on the Richter scale which hit Ternate in North Maluku, another 6.2 tremor occurred 145 miles off the coast off the south Indonesian island of Lombok.

The quake struck 18 miles beneath the surface, but was still felt by locals on land, sparking fears a tsunami could hit the coasts of Indonesia.

The tremors lasted repeatedly for three to four seconds, according to locals, which sparked something of a frenzy.

<http://www.express.co.uk>

RESPECTED SCIENTIST SAYS HE FOUND PROOF GOD EXISTS

VERONICA NEFFINGER – JUNE 7, 2016

One of the world’s most respected scientists has said that there is scientific proof that points to the existence of God.

According to the Geophilosophical Association of Anthropological and Cultural Studies, scientist Michio Kaku, who is known as one of the developers of the revolutionary String Theory, stated, “I have concluded that we are in a world made by rules created by an intelligence.”

In a video Kaku explains, using physics and mathematics and referencing String Theory, how science points to the existence of God.

<http://www.christianheadlines.com>

SOMETHING BIG THAT ALWAYS HAPPENS RIGHT BEFORE THE OFFICIAL START OF A RECESSION HAS JUST HAPPENED

MICHAEL SNYDER – JUNE 6, 2016

What you are about to see is major confirmation that a new economic downturn has already begun. Last Friday, the government released the worst jobs report in six years, and that has a lot of people really freaked out. But when you really start digging into those numbers, you quickly find that things are even worse than most analysts are suggesting. In particular, the number of temporary jobs in the United States has started to decline significantly after peaking last December. Why this is so important is because the

number of temporary jobs started to decline precipitously right before the last two recessions as well.

<http://theeconomiccollapseblog.com>

CREATION OF EURO ARMY MAY REMOVE RAISON D'ETRE FOR US FORCES IN EUROPE

SPUTNIK NEWS – JUNE 8, 2016

As Europe faces a deteriorating security environment the issue of creating a European armed forces has recently acquired a new meaning. However, experts note that a Euro Army could remove the *raison d'être* for US forces in Europe.

The forthcoming EU Global Strategy is likely to revive the idea of Europe's own defense force, Sophia Besch, a research fellow at the Centre for European Reform, remarks in her article for Politico.eu.

<http://sputniknews.com>

BILDERBERG 2016: WHAT ARE THE GLOBAL ELITE PLOTTING THIS TIME AROUND?

MICHAEL SNYDER – JUNE 8, 2016

Later this week, dozens of the most important men in the world are going to gather at an ultra-luxury hotel in Dresden, Germany to discuss the future of the planet. What will happen at this meeting will not be televised, and the mainstream media in the United States will almost entirely ignore it, but decisions will be made at this conference that will affect the lives of every man, woman and child on the entire globe. Of course I am talking about the Bilderberg Group, and for decades you were labeled a "conspiracy theorist" if you even acknowledged that it existed.

<http://endoftheamericandream.com>

COPS NOW USING A NEW DEVICE ALLOWING THEM TO STEAL CASH FROM INNOCENT CITIZENS LIKE AN ATM

ACTIVISTPOST – JUNE 8, 2016

As if civil asset forfeiture, where police can seize your property without having to prove you actually committed a crime, wasn't contentious enough already, a new device allows the Oklahoma Highway Patrol to steal money directly from your bank account — on the spot. And it's already in use.

The Electronic Recovery and Access to Data Machine, known by the acronym ERAD, can scan your bank account and prepaid cards, giving OHP instant access to the balance — and the funds — if a trooper believes the money is tied to a crime. OHP rolled out 16 ERAD

devices in May, and unsurprisingly, has already employed the technology.

<http://www.activistpost.com>

TALIBAN SURPASSES ISLAMIC STATE AS WORLD'S MOST PROLIFIC TERRORIST GROUP

EDWIN MORA – JUNE 6, 2016

Taliban jihadists replaced their Islamic State (ISIS/ISIL) counterparts as the world's chief perpetrators of terrorist attacks last year, with 1,093 individual attacks, according to the U.S. Department of State's Country Reports on Terrorism 2015.

However, ISIS's 931 terrorist attacks in 2015 were reportedly much deadlier than those carried out by the Taliban, resulting in 6,050 deaths compared to the 4,512 fatalities linked to the Taliban, notes the State Department's annual reports, a congressionally mandated analytical and statistical review of global terrorism.

<http://www.breitbart.com>

MORE DANES WANT REFERENDUM ON EU MEMBERSHIP

LISBETH KIRK – JUNE 8, 2016

Support for a Danish referendum on EU membership is on the rise, according to an Epinion poll conducted for DR News, the national TV broadcaster.

Forty two percent of Danes now want a vote on whether Denmark should continue to be a member of the EU. That is five percent more than just three months ago. In February, only 37 percent said they wanted a UK-type referendum.

<https://euobserver.com>

BETSY MCCAUGHEY: OLYMPICS IN BRAZIL WILL SPREAD ZIKA 'AROUND THE WORLD'

TRENT BAKER – JUNE 5, 2016

Former New York Lt. Governor Betsy McCaughey warned against attending the 2016 Rio Olympics due to concerns about the Zika virus Sunday on New York AM 970 AM radio show "The Cats Roundtable." "If you were going to design a method to take a very severe disease and spread it worldwide really quickly... you would hold an event at the epicenter of that disease, Brazil, and invite 500,000 people to attend," McCaughey told host John Catsimatidis.

<http://www.breitbart.com>

WORLD BANK DOWNGRADES ITS FORECAST FOR 2016 ECONOMY

ASSOCIATED PRESS – JUNE 7, 2016

WASHINGTON — The World Bank is reducing its forecast for the global economy this year — again.

The aid agency predicted Tuesday that the world economy will expand 2.4 percent this year, down from the 2.9 percent it expected in January and unchanged from a tepid 2015. “The global economy is fragile,” said World Bank economist Ayhan Kose, who helped produce the forecast. “Growth is weak.”

<http://www.sfgate.com>

HONG KONG CULLS THOUSANDS OF BIRDS OVER AVIAN FLU

BREITBART LONDON – JUNE 7, 2016

AFP — Hong Kong culled 4,500 birds on Tuesday after the deadly H7N9 bird flu virus was discovered in a chicken at a local market.

Health officials in white hazmat suits and masks dumped the chickens into green plastic bins at a wholesale poultry market in central Hong Kong Tuesday morning.

The bins were then pumped with carbon dioxide to kill the birds.

<http://www.breitbart.com>

CHRISTIANS TOLD TO ‘PRAY IN SILENCE... DON’T DISTURB THE MIGRANTS’

VIRGINIA HALE – JUNE 6, 2016

Parishioners visiting a church in Italy were told they must “pray in silence” so as not to disturb African migrants being housed there.

Some of the faithful hoping to practice their Christianity at the church of St. Anthony in Ventimiglia were surprised when they were told by Caritas volunteers they couldn’t recite the rosary and would instead have to pray in silence out of respect to migrants who are living there.

<http://www.breitbart.com>

EPISCOPAL PRIEST: LGBTQ PEOPLE WILL ‘REVITALIZE CHRISTIANITY’

THOMAS D. WILLIAMS, PH.D – JUNE 5, 2016

In a recent essay in Salon Magazine, the Reverend Elizabeth M. Edman argues for the power of “queer virtue” to combat “heteronormativity” and revitalize a Christianity that is too wedded to traditional ideas

of human sexuality and marriage.

An Episcopal priest and a political strategist, Edman attempts to redeem the concept of “Pride” as central to the LGBT movement and integral to an authentically Christian life.

<http://www.breitbart.com>

NYC SPENDS \$265K ON AD CAMPAIGNS ABOUT BATHROOMS

SARAH FISHER – JUNE 7, 2016

New York City’s Commissioner on Human Rights will spend \$265,000 on a bilingual ad campaign to educate the city about the choices they have when they need to use the bathroom.

One of the ads features an African-American man wearing women’s clothing and a blond wig, with the caption: “Look past pink and blue. In NYC, you can use the bathroom consistent with who you are.” Another ad features the same language but uses a bearded woman instead of the man.

The bottom of each ad reads: “It’s the law, no questions asked.”

<http://www.truthrevolt.org>

PACIFIC NORTHWEST PREPARES FOR MASSIVE EARTHQUAKE, TSUNAMI

CAYLE THOMPSON – JUNE 6, 2016

CAMP MURRAY, Wash. – The next great Cascade earthquake and tsunami are coming. Scientists say the event could happen at any time, and emergency response teams admit the Pacific Northwest is currently unprepared. “I wish I could say we’re totally ready, but we’re not,” says Robert Ezelle, Emergency Management Director for Washington State.

<http://komonews.com>

WA STATE TO TEACH KINDERGARTNERS ABOUT TRANSGENDERISM

SARAH FISHER – JUNE 2, 2016

Under new health education learning standards, Washington state schools will teach transgender expression to kindergartners. The new standards include sexual health as a “core idea” of K-12 education.

The Daily Caller explains, “While some aspects of sexual health aren’t taught K-12 (HIV prevention begins in fourth grade), one component of sexual health titled ‘Self-Identity’ begins in kindergarten, where students will be expected to ‘Understand there are

many ways to express gender.”

<http://www.truthrevolt.org>

THE STOCK MARKET CRASH OF 2016: STOCKS HAVE ALREADY CRASHED IN 6 OF THE WORLD'S 8 LARGEST ECONOMIES

MICHAEL SNYDER – JUNE 16, 2016

Over the past 12 months, stock market investors around the planet have lost trillions of dollars. Since this time last June, stocks have crashed in 6 of the world's 8 largest economies, and stocks in the other two are down as well. The charts that you are about to see are absolutely stunning, and they are clear evidence that a new global financial crisis has already begun. Of course it is true that we are still in the early chapters of this new crisis and that there is much, much more damage to be done, but let us not minimize the carnage that we have already witnessed.

<http://theeconomiccollapseblog.com>

AHEAD OF BREXIT VOTE, SUPPORT FOR EU FALLS ACROSS EUROPE

DW – JUNE 8, 2016

A survey by the Pew Research Center suggests that support for the European Union has fallen in several EU states. In Germany, the EU's popularity has fallen eight points to 50 percent in just a year.

The Pew survey revealed that 48 percent of British voters had an unfavorable opinion about the EU, compared to 44 percent who were in favor, a similar figure to recent national opinion polls.

But the research went further than simply polling the UK public, ahead of their referendum on EU membership on June the 23. It revealed that voters elsewhere in the 28-member bloc are also losing faith in the European project.

<http://www.dw.com>

MOSCOW CALLS NATO BUILDUP IN E. EUROPE 'UNJUSTIFIED' AS LARGEST DRILLS SINCE COLD WAR KICK OFF

RT – JUNE 6, 2016

Over 31,000 troops from 24 countries are taking part in NATO's Anaconda-2016 war drills in Poland – the largest war games in eastern Europe since the Cold War. Moscow says that the NATO military presence is unjustified.

The Anaconda -2016 NATO military exercise involve 24 NATO and “partner nations,” including the US, the UK, Germany, Canada, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and others.

<https://www.rt.com>

The Midnight Cry Has Begun!

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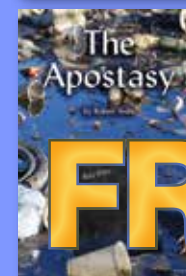
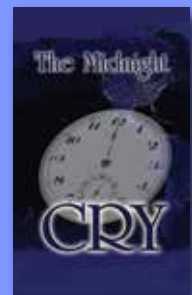
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