

Making Sense of a World in Disarray

Does anyone still remember what were the main concerns in the world at the beginning of the last decade?

It was a turbulent time too, but compared with what we are facing today it was an almost blissful world.

The media headlines in those days were about the destruction of the environment, the pollution of air, land and water, the United Nations impotence in solving the world's conflicts, the recurrence of famines in Africa, and the rapid deforestation of the world's forests.

How long we have come from those days. Although many of those problems are still with us, they pale in comparison with what we are facing today: global terrorism, Global Warming, Global Deeming, oil crisis, and excesses of nature the likes of which humanity had never seen before. The planet is simply telling us that it can no longer cope with the burden human beings have placed upon it, and is fighting back vigorously.

One of the bright lights at the beginning of the last decade was the hope that with the end of the Cold War the world had entered a new age of peace, progress and prosperity. That dream is in shambles too. One only has to look at Africa, or anywhere else in the world for that matter, to see how little peace progress and prosperity has been achieved. Africa's famines are as bad as ever, if not worse, and are not merely the result of capricious acts of nature, but of ideologically minded dictators who subject their nations to social experiments that have failed people everywhere where they have been applied before. They have failed the people, but served the despots well.

This however is only one of many worldwide intractable problems. Gone are the days of carefree travel, of 'glorious multiculturalism', of the hope of a world without borders and without trade barriers. The age of peace, progress and prosperity that politicians so enthusiastically promised us at the beginning of the last decade is as far now as it has ever been. Instead, we have a world that has been turned up side down, in which no one is sure of his future anymore.

About two decades ago, I used to work as a broadcaster for a radio station that catered for the ethnic communities of NSW (a part time job in addition to my full time work as teacher/librarian), when news came that the Government had just passed legislation that enshrined multiculturalism in law. Every one in that large studio applauded and jumped with joy, except myself. I withdrew to my desk in silence, head in arms, wondering what would become of this wonderful country of ours. I could not believe that politicians could be so myopic at what they had done.

Prior to that, no one was prevented from congregating where people of the same language were more common. Nobody objected to people having their own ethnic clubs, as long as they were opened to other people as well. There were German, Greek, Russian, and other ethnic clubs, and nobody objected to their presence because they did not form the kernel of ethnic ghettos. Now there are suburbs in Sydney that are strongly identified with various ethnic groups, into which average Australians never dare to venture. Last year, the world saw a new side to Sydney in the form of race riots.

Prior to that legislation, we all had something in common that united us – the language and a nascent colorful Australian identity that borrowed from every culture and made us all proud Australians. Children of second and third generation lost their ethnic traits and blended in the wider Australian culture without anyone raising an eyebrow. Now, we have people who have been born and educated in this country who confess their allegiance to other cultures and religions, who openly advocate the destruction of the Australian society and the imposition of some kind of intolerant caliphate.

Is multiculturalism at fault for that? Not so much multiculturalism, as multireligionism. What politicians have not understood is that multiculturalism encourages multireligionism, and that is what makes this policy unworkable and dangerous.

The problem comes when people identify themselves with culture/religion first and with Australia second.

Cultures do not have emissaries that seek to impose their tenets upon other people in the manner that religions do. Politicians brought up in the liberal tradition of the West, never imagined that their policy would encourage migrants that come from intolerant societies to emulate and preserve that kind intolerant ghetto in the heart of Australian society.

Multiculturalism encourages opportunists to make a virtue out of preserving the old 'culture', and discourages those with more progressive minds from blending into the new culture and appearing to be less patriotic to the old one.

God loves variety and cultural differences. That is why He created nations and cultures that are different and colorful, but He put them far away from each other and created geographical barriers that separated them. Africa is separated from Europe by the Mediterranean Sea. Europe from Asia by the Ural Mountains. America from Europe by the Atlantic Ocean, and so on.

Whenever cultures intermingled in the past, they never lived in peace for very long. The missionaries of the "new world order", however, ignored the lessons of the past, and now the whole world pays for their ill-conceived experiments.

When God empowered the nations of Europe to conquer the world, they were supposed to do so in the name of Christianity, not in the name of multiculturalism. As long as that was the case, things went relatively smooth, but when they discarded Christianity, and embraced atheistic and polytheistic multiculturalism, things started going awry.

Make no mistake about it: multiculturalism is a brand, or branch, of communism. Under the guise of multiculturalism and human rights, every evil thing has become legitimate. This is why the law Courts have lost their compass and forgotten the meaning of justice too. The justice system does not even make a pretence of delivering justice anymore. Instead, it is geared towards upholding the rights of the defendant by any means, while the rights of the victims are seldom if ever mentioned.

Last year we witnessed an unbelievable spectacle that nearly embroiled Australia in an international incident. An Australian drug dealer, caught in Singapore with 400 grams of heroin, received the death penalty. Under that country's laws, anyone caught in possession of more than 15 grams of heroin, automatically draws the death penalty.

In the weeks and days leading to his execution, an unbelievable array of lawyers, barristers and government officials made their way to the Singapore Government seeking to overturn that verdict. When they did not succeed, they threatened to take the case to the United Nations, to the International Court of Justice, and other forums, but their efforts were cut short by that man's execution.

Our media noxiated us for weeks on end with 'news' of his plight. Huge vigils were held in his honor prior to his execution as if he were a great celebrity, and an unseemly array of church memorials were held for him after he was executed. Few seemed to care that of the 26,000 shots that would have resulted from that haul of heroin, at least 100 deaths would have occurred in the streets of Sydney. To cap it all, a certain actor who had the habit of going on set under

the influence of drugs, and was sacked for unruly behavior and unreliable attendance, was awarded A\$128 000 compensation for "unfair dismissal" by our judges. And they wonder that people have lost their faith in the justice system and in governmental institutions. Examples like these, which are merely the tip of an iceberg, show us that we now have a law profession that is a law unto itself. No one knows which way it turns, except that it is always to the lawyers' advantage.

But Australia is a mere microcosm of the rest of the world. For while we have our problems here, the rest of the world is virtually crumbling under an avalanche of lawlessness, terrorism, social upheavals, and horrifying excesses of nature. The world is in the midst of radical changes. The old age – given to man to learn that he cannot govern himself – is coming to a crushing end, and a new one, characterized by peace, prosperity and the law of God, is about to begin.

However, for that to happen, the world needs a complete overhaul of its systems, politics and religions. Unfortunately, it also needs an overhaul of its population. For unlike heaven, which is unlimited, this planet has reached its capacity. In a little over three decades, the world's population is supposed to double again. But many of the world's resources are already scarce (water, food and oil among them), and one third of the world's population goes to bed hungry. Leaving aside the question of whether the world can survive the current crises and reach that point, what would life be like if twice as many people need to be fed? God loves His creation too much to let it reach that unbearable point. Unfortunately, that requires painful measures now. This is what the current world upheavals and realignments are all about.

The problem with our leaders is that they do not know the ways of God. They like to do things their own way, and that is where the danger comes from. National leaders will be forced to take measures to ensure the survival of their people, but rather than turn to God and go about it the right way, they will use the only method they are familiar with – war. This time, however, it will be a war to end all wars, and all humanity. Here are the immortal words of Jesus Christ.

"Take heed that no one deceives you . . . "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many." And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.

"Then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And **unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened** . . . "Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place." "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away" (Mat 24:4-7, 21-22, 34-35).

This is what the current world turmoil is all about: a warning from our Creator God that the much talked about Great Tribulation is upon us. But it need not be that way. It is certainly not going to be that way for the people of God. We have God's promise that His elect will be spared those trials, and that for their sake the life of this planet will be spared too.

God has not left the world in ignorance about those things. *The Christian Herald* has taken His messages to every corner of the world, particularly to national and religious leaders. This, however, is not a restricted work. Anyone can be part of it. Anyone can become an elect of God. Indeed, God is calling people everywhere to turn around from their destructive ways to His wholesome and dignified way of life. As the Apostles of Jesus Christ have said:

1 John 2:15 "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:16 For all that is in the world; the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life; is not of the Father but is of the world.

1 John 2:17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

1 John 2:18 Little children, **it is the last hour**; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.

1 John 2:19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.

1 John 2:20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things."

2 Pet 3:1 "Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder),

2 Pet 3:2 that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us,

2 Pet 3:3 the apostles of the Lord and Savior, knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their

2 Pet 3:4 own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation."

2 Pet 3:5 For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in

2 Pet 3:6 the water, by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water.

2 Pet 3:7 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

2 Pet 3:8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

2 Pet 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

2 Pet 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

2 Pet 3:11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and

2 Pet 3:12 godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

2 Pet 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

2 Pet 3:14 Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;

2 Pet 3:15 and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you,

2 Pet 3:16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.

2 Pet 3:17 You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness,

2 Pet 3:18 being led away with the error of the wicked; but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.

Oil – The Blessing and the Curse of This World

Oil brought unsurpassed prosperity to the world. Internal combustion engines revolutionized transport and brought people together from all corners of the world. Agricultural fertilizers, a product of the petrochemical industry, produced the green revolution that cut hunger in much of the developing world and transformed many impoverished nations into exporters of agricultural products. Now all these achievements are under a cloud, as much because oil also brought the greenhouse effect and the Global Warming, as because the known deposits of oil are fast running out.

“As petrol prices remain sky-high, Keith Sutter reports on a prophet of doom’s early warning”

“Is today’s high price of oil proof of a warning given half a century ago that the world would start to run out of oil by this time? The warning, by American scientist Dr Marion King Hubbert, was largely ignored at the time, but now, 16 years after his death it’s attracting much interest. Historians looking back over the past 150 years will call this the Age of Oil. Oil meets 40 per cent of the world’s energy needs and nearly 90 per cent of transport needs. Oil is also important for fertilizer, DVD’s, rubber, plastics and metals.

The US remains the biggest consumer but it is no longer the top producer; in fact, it has gone from being the top producer to the top importer. American motorists consume nearly half the world’s daily supply of oil.

China is now the second-biggest consumer, taking Japan’s position. The dramatic grow of the Chinese economy makes it difficult to predict global oil demand. India and other Asian countries are also rapidly industrializing.

Debate over how quickly oil is being exhausted is focused on the “Hubbert Peak”. According to this theory, oil production reaches a peak where about half the supply of the find is used, after which production becomes more difficult. There is a difference between actually running out of oil and no longer finding oil at the same rate as it’s being extracted. This is like getting apples of a tree – there may be apples right at the top but would you want to take all the effort to get there? Hubbert, a Shell geologist, produced this theory in 1956. He predicted that US oil production would peak about 1970 (he was right) and global output would peak in 1995 (he got that wrong).

There is continuing debate about when the earth does reach the Hubbert Peak. The basic question for the Hubert Peak theory is: has most of the world’s oil been found – or are companies not working hard enough to locate and drill? We don’t know what is happening in countries (for example in the Middle East) that control foreign involvement in their industry. For instance, do the oil suppliers exaggerate their reserves to discourage other countries from looking harder for alternative energy sources? There have been no major oil finds in recent years. The biggest one recently (in Kazakhstan in 2000) will produce only enough oil for the world to last four months.

Oil is being used much faster than new reserves are being found. Seventy per cent of the oil used today was found at least 25 years ago. On the other hand, the technology of exploration has improved considerably. Engineers are drilling in areas that would have been unthinkable a few decades ago (such as the depths of the North Sea). Meanwhile, the higher oil prices encourage greater attention to discovering new fields. Also, new countries are being opened up for exploration, such as the former Soviet republics in Central Asia (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan). Saudi Arabia remains the most important oil producer. The country has about 25 per cent of the world’s proven oil reserves. The oil used to be easy to obtain. The Ghawar field, discovered in 1948, remains the world’s largest.

The country plays a key role in moderating the international price because it can flood the market with a new supply and so prevent others from pushing up the price. But how stable is the regime? It knits together traditional tribal clans and conservative Wahhabi Islamic clerics. Ordinary Saudi subjects have an unusual life. They have a lifetime pension but are restricted by the Wahhabi police in how they spend their money. The society is wealthy and open to technology and new ideas, but there is a great control over citizens’ lives and so they can’t reap many of the benefits of globalization.

There is no democracy as such. Citizens don’t pay tax and so the ruling elite feels no obligation to be accountable. The elite consists of about 50,000 people; the precise number isn’t known because some men don’t know how many children they have. Osama bin Laden is one of about 50 children. The elite governs 22 million people (of whom 16 million are Saudi). The other six million have been recruited to do menial tasks (for example women aren’t allowed to drive and so about a million chauffeurs are brought from abroad to drive them).

Osama bin Laden, the black sheep of his billionaire family, wants to destroy the regime because he thinks it’s not conservative enough. Most of the September 11 hijackers were Saudi Arabians – rich, well-educated young men who, apparently, had much to look forward to and yet were bored. Bin Laden gave them a cause to die for. The Saudi problem is just the tip of the oil iceberg. China also wants oil from the Middle East and so protects the interests of Iran, which the US regards as part of the “Axis of Evil”. China is also encouraging Canada to build east-west pipelines to get oil to the Pacific coast (and not just north-south down into the US). China is, therefore, needling the US by getting at its traditional suppliers of oil. Hubbert was born in Texas on October 5, 1903. He excelled at university and spent most of his career in the oil industry. He was a brilliant scientist but his colleagues thought him short-tempered and abrasive. His major contribution to science was his application of physics to geological processes. He dealt with the mechanics of geological structures, the physics of underground fluids and the significance of the Earth’s resources for politics. He was controversial because most members of the oil industry couldn’t believe that the age of oil would end so quickly. The world’s first oil wells were in the US and Canada in 1859-60. In 1880, German engineer Nicholas Otto invented the internal combustion engine. Five years later, Karl Benz of Germany built the first car to be powered by an internal-combustion engine. The world’s love affair with oil was under way. But by 1956 Hubbert was already predicting the end of the oil era. Now scientists and financiers fear he may have been right after all.” (Keith Suter, *The Daily Telegraph*, Oct. 10, 2005).

The current oil crisis is different from the one the world faced in the early 1980’s, when the sudden increase in the price of oil was subsequently offset by a massive increase in the supply of oil. No such offset will occur this time, because the oil is not there anymore. Many countries have seen their meager reserves dwindle in recent years. Even Russia, which was thought to have almost inexhaustible reserves, declared recently that, “Our oil exports reach maximum, then decline starts in two years”. (Yuri Shafranik, head of the Russian Union of Oil and Gas Producers, *Interfax*, Nov. 9, 2004).

President Bush went to war in the Middle East with the avowed goal of bringing democracy to that region. But does he really think that a country like Saudi Arabia, with a fundamentalist Wahhabi regime, would survive under democracy?

Fundamentalism and democracy are incompatible. Changing those regimes to democracy is a social and demographic earth shift the likes of which only God can achieve. It so happens that He is about to do just that.

Zec 14:16 "And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

Zec 14:17 And it shall be that whicheckver of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain."

Zec 14:18 If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain; they shall receive the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

Zec 14:19 This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles."

Now why would Egypt refuse to come up to Jerusalem to honor the LORD and keep the Feast of Tabernacles?

Because it will be angry of what happened to the other Arab nations that fought against Jerusalem. They will soon discover that the God in whose name they launched global terrorism was not as powerful as the God of Christianity who defended the world against their terrorist acts.

When will these things happen? Well, dark clouds are already gathering on the skies of Jerusalem. UN and European troops are already 'guarding' Israel's borders to the north and south, Russia is arming the Palestinians, and the Arab nations and Iran are feverishly preparing for a life and death struggle with Israel. Now what might these have to do with the age of oil, one may ask. More than people realize, because the end of this age and the end of the age of oil are prophetically linked.

Rev 9:1 Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit.

Rev 9:2 And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace.

Rev 9:3 So the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit. Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

Rev 9:10 They had tails like scorpions, and there were stings in their tails. Their power was to hurt men five months.

Rev 9:11 And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon.

The angel of the 'bottomless pit' is none other than the angel of oil. This passage says that the age of oil, which began about the middle of the nineteenth century, will last for five months. Using the biblical principle of a day for a year, five prophetic months add up to one hundred and fifty years. That brings the end of the age of oil to about our time. What then?

Rev 20:1 "Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

Rev 20:2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit,

Rev 20:3 and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while."

The end of the age of oil comes about one hundred and fifteen years after it begins, when its angel is locked up again into the bottomless pit. Oil cannot be allowed to run out altogether at this time, because at the end of the Millennium Kingdom there will be another short-lived age of oil.

Rev 20:7 Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive

Rev 20:8 the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle,

Rev 20:9 whose number is as the sand of the sea. They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.

Rev 20:10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

This passage tells us that the angel of the bottomless pit is none other than the Devil. Any wonder that oil began as a great blessing, and ended up as a curse that is destroying the world. Only the Devil's gifts have a sharp edge to them.

This brings us to the question of the origin of oil. Scientists say that oil comes from fossils that have been buried deep in the ground over millions of years. However, animals do not transform themselves into oil when they die. If they are left exposed to the elements of nature, they putrefy and dry out, leaving behind nothing but bones.

If the amount of oil that has come out of the ground in the last century and a half was formed from fossils, mountains of animals would need to have been buried alive suddenly. But how could that happen when the same scientists say that no upheavals of the likes of Noah's Flood, which turned the world up side down, ever occurred, that geological times have always run smoothly like they do these days? No, oil has not come out of buried fossils under pressure and heat, but put into the ground by the Creator at the time of the creation. He knew exactly how much oil was needed for the two ages of oil that humanity would experience in the course of time.

It is interesting to note that at the end of the Millennium, during the second and short lived age of oil, the people of Gog and Magog are gathered again against Jerusalem, not from the far north where they are found before the Millennium, but from the four corners of the earth. Now how did they get spread out like that? Obviously during the Great Tribulation. We warned President Putin that unless he stopped trampling under foot his weaker neighbors, his nation faces catastrophe, but he did not listen. When we pointed out that although he has a nation that extends over nine time zones he still took land from the weakest and smallest member of the Commonwealth of Independent States, he issued a statement saying that he took land from the Republic of Moldova not for the sake of land, but for "political reasons". Extraordinary! He thinks that "political reasons" give him the right to trample weaker nations under foot and behave like a bully towards his neighbors.

During the First World War, when Romania was in danger of being overrun by enemy forces, the Romanian Government whisked away its treasure and stored it in good faith with Russia, its friend and ally at that time. To this day, the Russians have refused to return it. They just do not get it that people cannot build their happiness on iniquity and other people's unhappiness. What Russia has suffered since then should be ample proof of that, but obviously, its leaders still have not learned that lesson. Prophecy tells us that they are leading the country to an even greater catastrophe now.

We will have more to say about that shortly, but first this is what God has to say about that kind of behavior.

Exo 22:7 "If a man delivers to his neighbor money or articles to keep, and it is stolen out of the man's house, if the thief is found,

Exo 22:8 he shall pay double. "If the thief is not found, then the master of the house shall be brought to the judges to see whether
Exo 22:9 he has put his hand into his neighbor's goods. "For any kind of trespass, whether it concerns an ox, a donkey, a sheep, or clothing, or for any kind of lost thing which another claims to be his, the cause of both parties shall come before the judges; and whomever the judges condemn **shall pay double to his neighbor.**"

If Mr. Putin refuses to return that treasure to Romania, with whom he does not have the best of relations these days, he could return it to the Republic of Moldova, currently his ally, but then part of Romania, and therefore just as entitled to that treasure, or at least to part of it. Otherwise it will surely burn his fingers and his pockets, and unfortunately those of his people. It is a universal principle that cannot be broken – upheld by none other than God Himself. Those who try to break it, will themselves be broken.

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Heb 10:31), says the Word of God. Pity those who do not believe in God. They always learn the lesson the hard way. For if the size of a nation determined the happiness of its people, the Russians would by far be the happiest people on earth, while people of countries like Luxembourg, Switzerland, Austria, and others, the most unhappy. The whole world knows that the opposite is true, except the Russian leaders.

Poor Romania, it was robbed by the Ottomans, robbed by the Russians, robbed by the Nazis, robbed by the communists, and now it is being robbed by the "democrats". For centuries, it never had more than two decades of peace and stability in which to recover from the vicissitudes of history. It was widely reported in the media that within four months of taking power, the Prime Minister's wealth ballooned by multiples of millions of dollars. He was very keen to take care of himself, but not so keen to take care of the country.

Last year the European Union granted the Romanian Government 1.3 billion euros to prepare the country for accession to the EU. The Government could spend only one sixth of that amount. Such gross incompetence would have drawn the resignation or the sacking of the Prime Minister anywhere else, except in Romania. Why could they not spend it? Because they like to keep a tight hand on the till, and cannot bear to think that the poor, with whom the country has been so bountifully blessed, might benefit without them.

There are few countries that are as endowed with natural resources and beauty as Romania, yet there are fewer people that are as unhappy as the Romanians. When you read the reader's comments in the media, you get the impression of a greatly confused and demoralized people. How could it be otherwise when they see the caliber of the leaders that the country produces these days? Every leader in Romania's modern history has been accused of dubious real estate transactions and questionable business dealings. European Parliamentarians, however, seem to have woken up to what is going on in that country. They demand a closer supervision and tighter accounting on how Romanians in general, and Romanian leaders in particular, go about their business. None too soon.

"The European Commission, said that inadequate financial control, inappropriate accounting, and the lack of qualified personnel, which it described as "critical", will affect important projects after Romania's accession to the Union." (*Adevarul*, December 10, 2005).

"The chief of the European Commission Delegation, Jonathan Scheele, also spoke critically of a lack of vision in the administration of the Capital. "Romania does not have a Capital which deserves to be integrated into the European Union. Infernal traffic, grossly deficient urban planning, lack of vision, and dilapidated buildings, make of Bucharest a capital that does not deserve to be included among other European capitals." (*Evenimentul Zilei*, December 10, 2005).

Infernal traffic, grossly deficient planning, dilapidated buildings, and yet the Government wasted one billion euros. One dreads to think what Jonathan Scheele might have found if he ventured beyond Bucharest. Fortunately for the government, Romania's provincial roads (or what passes as roads) will not allow him to stray too far from the capital.

We waited ten months for the new government to take roots before we contacted it about the murder of my mother, which occurred in 1991 under the regime of Ion Iliescu, and which has never been investigated. Not knowing whom we should address, we sent e-mails to all ministers, hoping that at least one would take up her case and raise this question with the relevant authorities. Instead, we received a reply from the Minister of Communications who told us that what we have done is spam, and punishable under Romanian law. Seeking justice for the murder of your mother is spam in Romania. Europe, here we come, with justice Romanian style.

When my mother's assailants heard that I was planning to revisit the country, they sent word that if I returned I would have the same fate. Apparently, "unforeseen accidents" still occur in Romania these days. Since her death occurred at the hands of people connected with the Securitate, we must conclude that they do not want us in their country. Well, Romania happens to be my country too, and if that must be the place of my "perfection", so be it. As Jesus said, "I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how distressed I am till it is accomplished!" (Luke 12:50). The country will get the chance to get a renown that will stay with it forever. However, the children of Dracula should know this:

1 John 4:4 "You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

We reported in previous editions how during communism, the Securitate had infiltrated and decimated Romanian exile communities. Now, apparently in a show of strength, to prove to us who is still in charge, they have destroyed the one and only organization that maintained its independence and fought for the community spirit during those dark days – the Romanian Australian Cultural Society. How did they do it? By tricking its members into believing that those who were once Securitate agents have changed their color and are now democrats. Those impostors have taken hold of its leadership and have virtually dismantled it. Along the way, they have thrown with mud in the decent members that have kept the organization alive for decades through countless sacrifices. And guess which organization is flourishing again? The same that was once considered a hotbed of Securitate agents and informers, which they called church. There is nothing sacred with those people anymore. As they say, old habits are hard to break. Or as the Scriptures say:

Isa 57:20 "The wicked are like the troubled sea, When it cannot rest, Whose waters cast up mire and dirt.

Isa 57:21 "There is no peace," Says my God, "for the wicked."

Isa 58:1 "Cry aloud, spare not; Lift up your voice like a trumpet; Tell My people their transgression, . . . "

This is what this work has been all about. We have cried aloud the sins of the world, and shall continue to do so to the very end, in the hope that people may turn around from their wicked ways, repent, turn to God, and be saved.

Now we must return briefly to Russia once again, for we have not quite finished with that country. Earlier we presented a passage from Revelation (20:7-10), which said that Gog and Magog would be gathered from the four corners of the earth against the holy city of Jerusalem at the very end of time. Now why are Gog and Magog in the four corners of the earth at the end of the Millennium, when at the beginning of it they were in the north in the furthest parts of the earth? This is what the prophet Ezekiel wrote.

Ezek 38:2 "Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him, and say,

Ezek 38:3 "Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal.

Ezek 38:4 "I will turn you around, put hooks into your jaws, and lead you out, with all your army, horses, and horsemen, all splendidly clothed, a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords.

Ezek 38:5 "Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are with them, all of them with shield and helmet;

Ezek 38:6 "Gomer and all its troops; the house of Togarmah **from the far north** and all its troops; many people are with you.

Ezek 38:7 "Prepare yourself and be ready, you and all your companies that are gathered about you; and be a guard for them.

Ezek 38:8 "After many days you will be visited. **In the latter years you will come into the land of those brought back from the sword and gathered from many people on the mountains of Israel**, which had long been desolate; they were brought out of the nations, and now all of them dwell safely."

"In the later years", when oil is on the wane, Gog and Magog will come "from the far north" with a company of nations, that includes Persia (Iran) and the Arab nations, against the people that have been brought back from many nations.

Is it a mere coincidence that this alliance has the largest reserves of oil, the fuel of the Devil, and that they are largely responsible for unleashing the angel of death, the angel of terrorism, upon the world at this time?

And how did Gog and Magog end up in the four corners of the earth from their place in the far north? Clearly, an upheaval of unprecedented proportions will occur during the Great Tribulation. How far are we from that event? The current oil crisis is another indicator that we are on the brink of it. Here are transcripts of programs that expose the truth behind the current oil crisis.

'Real Oil Crisis'

"What would happen if the world were to start running out of oil? Conventional wisdom says we've got 30 years, but there's a growing fear amongst petroleum experts it's happening much sooner than we thought – that we are hitting the beginning of the end of oil now. So how soon will the oil run out, and can we stop our economy collapsing when it does? How prepared are we for the real oil crisis?"

Narration: What would happen if the world started running out of oil?

Jeremy Leggett: It's going to be very difficult to get gasoline for transport. Food is not going to be getting through in enough quantities to the shops.

Narration: Conventional wisdom says that's at least 30 years away. So why does a growing group of petroleum experts believe it's coming within three?

Eric Streitberg: Ah. I think it's happening now frankly.

Peter Newman: It gives me nightmares when I think about what we're headed for. Narration: Are they just scaremongers or have the rest of us been asleep at the wheel. Are we about to hit the real oil crisis?

Jeremy Leggett: Really when the crisis dawns I think people are going to be looking back in anger. How have we allowed ourselves to get into this mess?

Narration: In just a century, we've allowed our lives to become entirely dependent on cheap oil.

Jonica Newby, Reporter: And it's not just that 90% of our transportation is fuelled by oil. This shopping centre is literally full of petroleum products. Look: the fabric in these clothes – petroleum based. These plastics, petroleum based. It takes on average 6 barrels of oil just to bring one cow to market.

Narration: Yet who of us stops to think oil is a finite resource - the lifeblood of our modern world is steadily pouring away.

Jeremy Leggett: We just take it so much for granted that cars drive around, the pumps are always full. I talk to people in financial institutions who are investing on the assumption that oil supplies are going to grow and grow into the 2030's. I hardly ever meet anyone who knows about this problem outside a relatively elite group of whistleblowers inside and around the oil industry.

Narration: Dr Jeremy Leggett is part of an international splinter group of petroleum geologists convinced a tipping point on oil is imminent. This former oil industry insider, now alternative energy advocate, has written a new book outlining the case. It makes startling reading. The most oil ever discovered was way back in 1965.

Narration: This graph traces world oil discoveries. Since 1965, the amount of oil discovered each year has inexorably plunged - despite all our advances in technology.

Jeremy Leggett: The last time we discovered a whole new province was the North Sea in the early 1970's and really you know these days the average size of an oil field that gets discovered is about 50 million barrels. It's nothing, it's a drop in the ocean. We're using 84 million barrels a day. The last year we discovered more oil than we consumed was 1981. We use 2 barrels of oil for every barrel discovered. I've been talking to people who I know because of my past in these big oil companies and they tell me there are no more big oil fields left to find. Narration: So if we've found nearly all the world's oil, how long before it runs out? Surprisingly, that's not so important. The real question is when will we reach half way – it's known as 'peak oil'.

Jonica Newby, Reporter: So what exactly is peak oil, and why is it so serious? That's what I'm heading to the west Australian oil fields to find out.

Narration: My guide is a geologist from deep within the oil industry. Eric Streitberg is managing director of Australian oil company, ARK energy. He's just decided to go public with his fears.

Streitberg: The reason I feel strongly about this is that people don't understand the underlying causes of why petrol prices are going up and what the effect that could have on our lives. Narration: Eric is about to show me what happens when oil field reaches peak oil.

Eric Streitberg: This oil field was discovered in 2001 and is now on full production doing about 6000 barrels of oil a day which is about 10% of Western Australia's consumption. Jonica Newby, Reporter: Wow: 10%. Narration: When oil is first pumped, it's under pressure and comes out easily – production rises. But over time, oil pressure drops. Water is pumped in to maintain pressure. At the half point, it reaches peak oil, and then it starts to decline.

Eric Streitberg: We're holding on to peak oil production at the moment but we'll be going into the inexorable decline of oil fields very shortly.

Jonica Newby, Reporter: Really, and there is nothing you can do?

Narration: To ram home the point, Eric takes me to an oil field which passed peak oil in 1992.

Eric Streitberg: Jonica this is what we are getting out of this oil well. It's 99% water and 1% oil. Narration: All oil fields follow the pattern of rise, peak then fall – even if they encompass an entire nation. The US hit peak oil in 1971. The UK with its North Sea oil peaked in 1999. Australia peaked in 2000. So when will planet earth reach peak oil? That depends on what's really happening here. The place that provides a quarter of the world's oil – the Middle East.

Jeremy Leggett: These governments have not let anyone in to verify how much oil they have for getting on for a quarter of a century and in the 1980s there were some suspicious treatment of oil reserves data. Most of the Gulf countries increased their national proved reserves supposedly by in some cases up to double, and then ever since the quoted figures have not gone down very much at all. I don't believe that for a minute. Narration: The dissident geologists went back to original surveys to estimate total Middle East oil. They added world reserves, and projections of all future oil to be discovered. That's how they calculated the world will reach peak oil in the next three years – if we're not there already.

Jeremy Leggett: 2008 maybe 2009, certainly no later than 2010. That's the point at which we will no longer be living in a world with growing supplies of generally cheap oil but instead living in a world of rapidly shrinking supplies of ever vastly more expensive oil and that point of realization is going to come as a real shock. The we will word record oil prices. Who knows how high they can go.

Narration: So what does the mainstream think? The world's largest oil company is Exxon Mobil – Esso. It employs 20,000 scientists to generate their own exhaustive data sets. In their Melbourne 3D seismography room, I met head of exploration, geologist Dr Doug Schwebel.

Dr Schwebel: OK this is a three dimensional image of the geology offshore Bass Strait in Victoria.

Narration: Doug acknowledges oil will run down eventually, he just vigorously disputes when.

Doug Schwebel: Well, people have been predicting for over a hundred years that we're going to run out of oil. It hasn't happened. We don't think it is going to happen in the near term. Narration: Exxon calculates twice as much oil left in the world as the so called 'early peakers' - placing peak oil decades away.

Doug Schwebel: I mean we are talking at least out to 2030 with what we know today. And then potentially another 20 – 30 years beyond that with technologies that we can envisage might exist. You know if we can improve technology by only 10% then we can recover an additional 600 – 800 barrels of oil.

Narration: if this majority view is correct, we have plenty of time for a smooth market driven transition to alternatives via hybrid cars. Cruising in the balm of this reassuring future, is tempting to dismiss the 'early peak' camp entirely, as a small bunch of vested interests doomsayers. But it's not that easy. Petroleum giant Chevron is now running these startling advertisements. And here in Australia, some surprising people have come out in the 'early peak' camp. Earlier this year, Eric Streitberg asked an extraordinary meeting at the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Conference.

Eric Streitberg: I asked them to put up their hands if they thought that we had reached peak oil. Fifty per cent of the people in the audience put up their hand saying they believe we're at peak oil and these are practicing petroleum industry professionals.

Narration: So what if they're right? This is what the early peak camp are terrified of – an apocalyptic gap between dwindling supply and rising demand from the voracious east.

Jeremy Leggett: It's panic that causes collapses in markets. People start selling their shares. That's what happened in 1929.

Eric Streitberg: Rationing – people having to queue for three days to get a tank full of petrol, not being able to heat their houses.

Peter Newman: Getting 2 to 3 to 4 dollars a litre you really are grinding to a halt.

Narration: But couldn't we just switch to alternatives – like solar cars or hydrogen? Professor Peter Newman should know. He's been trying to prepare his home town of Perth with post-petroleum transport system, which includes Australia's first hydrogen busses.

Peter Newman: This is a transport that can't be done overnight. Hydrogen technology is being developed but it's a 20 year program.

Jessica Newby, Reporter: Twenty years? Peter Newman: Yeah, the next 20 years are an absolute critical point where we don't know that we can make it. I just feel we haven't started soon enough.

Narration: The trouble is, if peak oil is imminent, other mooted oil substitutes, like biofuels, tar sands, shale oil, could only yield a fraction of the world's needs. And no one can think of an alternative fuel for aeroplanes.

Jeremy Leggett: So I've looked at it all and I don't see a way of closing the gap quickly enough. That's the honest and depressing answer. It's all about renaissance. How quickly we can repair the problems and get an alternative infrastructure after the crisis breaks.

Narration: Whether we reach the end of cheap oil in 3 years or 30, it will be a defining moment for human society. Even if there is only a one in ten chance the early peakers are right, with the lifeblood of our economy at stake, shouldn't we listen just in case.

Eric Streitberg: If people like myself are taking the view that they need to speak out, I think it's time to start taking it seriously.

Peter Newman: We have lots of preparedness for terrorist attacks; but where's the plan for peak oil? We don't have one.

Jeremy Leggett: I think the interesting thing about the problem is that we'll find out. We'll find out who's right really soon, within a few years it will happen and play out on our watch." (Jonica Newby, *ABC, Catalyst*, "Real Oil Crisis", 24 November 2005).

IEA says world's energy policy is not sustainable

PARIS/LONDON (Reuters) - The world must change its energy habits or struggle with choking fumes, runaway oil demand and a growing dependence on the volatile Middle East for fuel, the International Energy Agency said on Monday.

Energy demand and greenhouse gas emissions will soar by more than 50 percent by 2030 if consumers keep burning oil unchecked, the IEA said in its World Energy Outlook. That would blow a hole in the Kyoto protocol aimed at cutting developed nations' emissions five percent below 1990 levels by 2008-12. To keep pace with booming demand over the next 25 years, top producer Saudi Arabia and its neighbours would have to spend an annual \$56 billion on rigs and refineries or oil prices will race higher, said the IEA, adviser to 26 industrialized nations. "These projected trends have

important implications and lead to a future that is not sustainable," said IEA Executive Director Claude Mandil. "We must change these outcomes and get the planet onto a sustainable energy path." The message had added resonance coming from an agency whose members include the world's top polluter and oil user the United States, which quit Kyoto in 2001. The IEA was set up after the 1973-74 Arab oil embargo to oversee Western energy needs. "This is a grim prognosis based on business as usual," said Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director of the U.N. Environment Programme. "So it must be a clear signal that, in order to avoid such a disaster, we must deploy technologies and adopt economic measures that are already available and feasible."

Under the IEA's reference scenario, a likely but undesirable outcome the agency said, Middle East and north African producers must double annual investment on oilfields to satisfy consumers' thirst for fuel. Failure to spend enough over the next 25 years could slap an extra \$13 a barrel on the projected oil price.

"If investments do not come in a timely and sufficient manner, there will be higher oil prices, and global economic growth will suffer," said IEA Chief Economist Fatih Birol. The IEA also outlined a deferred investment scenario, where producers delay spending -- inadvertently or deliberately -- and a world alternative policy scenario, where importing nations take action to cut demand and change the pattern of fuel use. "Consuming countries have realized there has to be a policy response to these prices and that process has begun," IEA Deputy Executive Director William Ramsay said. We would be quite happy to see our reference scenario made irrelevant by good policy decisions." The combined emissions of countries that have signed up to Kyoto are well below half the world total. Apart from the United States, which accounts for about 25 percent of all emissions, the other big emitters outside Kyoto are China and India.

"The Kyoto protocol doesn't amount to much in terms of emissions reductions but at least it breaks the curve (of rising emissions) among countries that have accepted its targets," said Steve Sawyer, climate policy expert at Greenpeace.

"We have to work out the trick of how to get the United States and the rapidly industrializing developing countries to break the curve as well," he said. China raised its targets for increasing its use of renewable energy on Monday but acknowledged that coal would remain its primary energy source for decades. Core producers must pile cash into global refining to rid the energy system of bottlenecks that helped drive prices to a record high above \$70 in late August, the IEA said. The United States has not built a refinery on its soil in three decades. It was drastic spending cuts on oilfield expansions in the late 1980s and 1990s that have left the world stretched for supplies as demand explodes in Asia and the United States. The Paris-based agency says it is high time Middle East and north African producers "reinvest with confidence". Saudi Arabia would have to shell out \$174 billion on oil and gas projects through 2030 under the IEA's reference scenario. For its part, Riyadh already has a \$50 billion oil and gas expansion project in train.

Even if world governments got tough on tackling the environment and energy security, demand in 2030 would still soar by 37 percent and the Middle East and north Africa would be pumping much more oil than now.

"This will add to the vulnerability to a disruption and to the risk that those countries will seek to use their dominant market position to force up prices at some point in the future," said the IEA. In the reference scenario, global dependence on Middle East fuel would rise as oil demand grows 1.4 percent per year -- from 79 million bpd in 2003 to 92 million bpd in 2010 and 115 million bpd in 2030. Developing countries would account for more than two-thirds of the increase in demand. Asia looks especially vulnerable in the IEA's reference scenario -- with the region's reliance on Middle East oil and gas growing from 83 percent in 2004 to 90 percent in 2030.

North America would become the Middle East's biggest importer in 2030 when imports hit 11 million bpd, a quarter of the region's total exports of 39 million bpd." (Marguerita Choy and Peg Mackey, *Reuters*, November 7, 2005).

Global Warming

For a decade and a half, we have warned humanity that it would come to this, but no one listened. Now everybody is talking about it. All of a sudden, Global Warming is on everybody's lips. People, who hardly react to warnings about catastrophe, until they experience it on their skins, are outraged that it has come to this without warning.

Hardly a week passes by without another report about the seriousness of the Global Warming. Yet, the general population is still largely oblivious to the magnitude of this problem. Our leaders plead with people to be more energy conscious, to buy cars that are more energy efficient, to put accent on recycling, etc., yet factories are still churning out vehicles that can carry tons when they seldom need to carry more than one person, and travel at speeds that far exceed the speed limit.

Leaders of the nations that have signed the Kyoto protocol have renewed their efforts in trying to induce the remaining countries to sign that protocol as well, as if that is the salvation of the world.

As we have said from the beginning, and will say it again, Kyoto is nothing, and will amount to nothing in the end. It is like tinkering at the edges of a huge tank that is leaking everywhere. By the time you fix one little hole up at the top, there is no longer any water to save down below. If people think that human conventions such as Kyoto protocol amount to much in term of Global Warming, they are grievously deceiving themselves. Does this mean that nothing must be done? No! What it means is that they should have been aware of this coming catastrophe decades ago, and done something about it then. What it means now is that human beings can no longer solve this problem by themselves. The world has passed the point of no return. Only our Creator can save humanity from annihilation now. Only a return to God in heartfelt repentance and worship can save humanity from a fate worse than death. What could be worse than death? Being half-alive and half-dead, which is what unconverted human beings will feel like for a good while in the aftermath of the Great Tribulation. Only the elect of God, whose hope transcends this miserable existence, and for whose sake God will intervene and put an end to those dreadful days, can look forward to a wonderful new world under Jesus Christ.

The world has turned its back on our messages, and now it pays the consequences. Speaking about the Bible and the Word of God is sure to make one an outcast these days. What human beings like are prophets and preachers who speak of good news even when the world is crumbling around them.

Isa 30:9 "That this is a rebellious people, Lying children, Children who will not hear the law of the LORD; Who say to the seers,
Isa 30:10 "Do not see," And to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us right things; Speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits.
Isa 30:11 Get out of the way, Turn aside from the path, Cause the Holy One of Israel To cease from before us."

Any wonder that Jesus Christ said the world will be taken by surprise by the most destructive event in its history. We spoke with confidence about those things long before they occurred because we trusted the Word of God, but our nemesis lulled the world into believing that ignorance is virtue, and knowledge is 'fundamentalism'.

For hundreds of years the people of God paid with their lives for speaking the truth of God, a truth which the world did not want to hear. This time however, ignorance is no longer a refuge. It will hear and obey that truth, or it will die.

Rev 16:5 "And I heard the angel of the waters saying: "You are righteous, O Lord, The One who is and who was and who is to be, Because You have judged these things.

Rev 16:6 For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, And You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due."

Rev 16:7 And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments."

Rev 16:8 Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and **power was given to him to scorch men with fire.**

Rev 16:9 **And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.**

Rev 16:10 Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain.

Rev 16:11 They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds."

This prophecy has been in the Scripture for two millennia, yet few people have ever thought that it might occur in their lifetime. They always think of it as a prophecy for an indeterminate future. That future, however, has caught up with us.

We tried to breach this subject with two evangelists who were once conducting a seminar on the prophecies of our time. We asked them to comment on the above Scripture, but they quickly retorted, "When we will come to that we will worry about it then." It seems that it is all right to talk about prophecies of our time as long as you do not believe them, or not taking them too seriously.

The Catholic Church is even punishing its priests if they dare look into, or comment upon, the prophecies of Revelation. Yet that book is now more important than ever. Without it, we would never understand the times in which we live, and the meaning of the events that are taking place around the world.

I was walking past the Anglican Cathedral of Sydney at lunchtime one day when I noticed crowds of people going inside. It was a weekday, and I was curious what was going on, so I walked in too. The Anglican Archbishop of Sydney was holding a lunchtime Bible study. People were munching and listening, while he was expanding the Bible to them. I suppose that is one way of teaching the Bible, and of saying that people are coming to your church in droves.

The Archbishop touched on a number of subjects, but mostly of the main one about salvation: God is good, man was good once too, but fell and needs redemption, which he could obtain by turning to Jesus Christ. Nothing wrong with that, except that given the recent upheavals in the world I was hoping he might touch on the prophecies of our time and whether Global Warming and the horrible excesses of nature might be part of it. But not a word.

At the end of his Bible study, people were queuing up to talk with him. As I had time on my hands, I joined that queue too. When my turn came, I asked him whether the condition of the world might indicate that we are close to the return of Jesus Christ. He gave me a loud, quick and sharp answer: "No, no one knows the day or the hour of Jesus' return. He could return tonight, or He could return a thousand years from now. No one knows when." And with that he shoved me aside and turned to the next person. Silly me to think that I could have gotten a different answer. Everybody knows that Jesus said that no one knows the hour or the day of His return, but no one remembers that He also said this:

Mat 24:32 "Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves,

Mat 24:33 you know that summer is near. "So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near; at the doors!"

When you have a comfortable job right in the heart of Sydney, why bother with prophecies that could wreck your world. It is better to put your head in the sand like the ostrich when it sees danger, and hope for the best. I would have liked to tell him that Jesus Christ could return neither tonight, nor in a thousand years from now. Why not tonight? Because we have the countdown of Daniel's prophecies, and that is still running. And why not in a thousand years? Because this world will not last that long.

The question is, if we cannot not convince church leaders that the world is in the midst of the end time prophecies, who could we convince? There is a story in the Bible about two people who witness the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world in the end time, who are so hated for their message that they are killed for it. Do you think that this could happen in our time? If we are living in those times, it will. It must, for "the Scriptures cannot be broken".

Global Warming is supposed to be caused by the greenhouse effect, which is caused by air pollution and the warming of the oceans. However, as the above passage from Revelation 16 shows, God say that Global Warming is caused by human sins, disobedience, and blasphemies. This is why trying to solve this problem by physical means alone, without addressing the deeper spiritual malaise, will never achieve anything. Not only that, but it will aggravate humanity's condition even further.

Humanity is already on a slippery slope, and the only power that could save it now, is its Creator.

In December 2005, the United Nations held a conference on the environment in Montreal, Canada. Up until the last day, there was an air of gloom in the air, because nothing had been achieved. Then suddenly, everybody was up in arms, hugging and jumping for joy. A miracle had occurred: They managed to extend the Kyoto protocol beyond 2012, and got the United States to agree to a non-binding agreement on lowering its air pollution. Humanity is saved, Global Warming is on hold, and the world can breathe easy. Or so they think. When will they learn that Global Warming is beyond the human resolve, that without the Creator they will achieve nothing? Here are media reports that show, as in the case of the oil crisis, how serious a problem the Global Warming really is for the world.

'Survey finds glaciers are retreating more rapidly as the local climate becomes warmer'

"Nine out of 10 marine glaciers around the coast of the Antarctic Peninsula have retreated over the past half century, according to a study published today. As the local climate warms, the rate of disappearance is accelerating. The mountainous peninsula will look more like the Alps and will harbor more plants and wildlife if the warming continues. Despite the changes, the melting glaciers will contribute little to rising sea levels. The results from the study by researchers

at the British Antarctic Survey and the US Geological Survey, the first of its kind, are published today in the journal *Science*. The peninsula region is the best studied of the vast continent. Previously unknown patterns of change in the rivers of ice have been revealed by the analysis of more than 2,000 aerial photographs dating from 1940 and more than 100 satellite images from the 1960s onwards, said the lead author Alison Cook. The glaciers - around two thirds of those in the region - flow from the mountains to the sea at a speed of about a metre a day and are about 2,000 metres wide and several tens of kilometres long. Most are on the west coast, the east of the peninsula being dominated by an ice shelf.

"Fifty years ago, 62 per cent of the glaciers that flowed down from the mountains to the sea were slowly growing in length, but since then this pattern has reversed," she said. In the past five years, the majority were shrinking rapidly. The worst affected is the Widdowson Glacier, which has retreated by more than a kilometre a year. The retreat began at the northern, warmer tip of the Antarctic Peninsula and, broadly speaking, moved southwards as atmospheric temperatures rose. But there are anomalies. The movement south is more rapid than would be expected if temperature were the only factor. The rate of retreat slowed in the 1990s for reasons that are unclear. And there is no geographic pattern to the glaciers that have advanced, though only 32 of the 244 glaciers studied showed an advance. Overall, this region - unlike the rest of the frozen continent - has experienced dramatic and localised warming, about 2C in the past 50 years. The co-author and BAS glaciologist, Dr David Vaughan, said. "These glacier retreat patterns combined with dramatic ice shelf break-ups leave us in no doubt that the Antarctic Peninsula ice sheet is extremely sensitive to recent warming."

Although global warming looks increasingly likely to be the cause, the evidence is not straightforward because there were similar local warmings between 2,000 and 10,000 years ago, and the recent warming trend cannot be reproduced with computer models. "What we still need to determine is whether or not the warming in this area has its roots in human-influenced global warming," he said. (Roger Highfield, Science Editor, *The Daily Telegraph*, May 1, 2005).

"Ice collapse, global warming link" "The collapse of a huge ice shelf in Antarctica in 2002 has no precedent in the past 11, 000 years, according to a study to be published today that points the finger at global warming. Measuring some 3250sq km in area and 220m thick, the Larsen B iceshelf broke away from the eastern Antarctic Peninsula in 2002, eventually disintegrating into giant icebergs. By chance, a US-led team of geologists had gathered a rich harvest of data around the iceshelf just before the spectacular collapse, including six cores that had been drilled into marine sediment. The cores contain the remains of plankton and algae imbedded in layers of minerals, and their radiocarbon and oxygen isotopes provide clues about ice cover and climate change over the millennia. The researchers, reporting in *Nature*, the British science weekly, said that since the end of the last Ice Age, some 11,000 years ago, the iceshelf had been intact but had slowly thinned, by several dozen metres. Its coup de grace came from a recent but decades-long rise in air temperature, they said.

"The modern collapse of the LIS-B (Larsen B ice shelf) is a unique event within the Holocene," they write. "The LIS-B eventually thinned to the point where it succumbed to the prolonged period of regional warming now affecting the entire Antarctic Peninsula region."

The Holocene is the period of relatively balmy weather that followed the last Ice Age. The research is the latest in a series of studies to sound the alarm about the effects of climate change in Antarctica, where the bulk of the world's freshwater is locked up. The Antarctic Peninsula, which juts northwards out of West Antarctica, is considered a warming hot-spot. Over the past half century, temperatures in the peninsula have risen by around two degrees Celsius. In recent years, the peninsula has lost ice shelves totaling more than 12,500sq km, equivalent to four times the area of Luxembourg.

Of the 244 glaciers that drain inland ice and feed these shelves, 87 per cent have fallen back since the mid-1950s, according to a British study published in April. Global Warming, also called the greenhouse effect, is caused by carbon gases mostly discharged by burning oil, gas and coal, that trap the Sun's heat. But Earth's climate also goes through natural oscillations of warming and cooling, resulting in Ice Ages and the milder interglacial periods in between. The new study does not say that global warming caused by human activity was responsible for the Larsen B's demise. However, it refers to a steep rise in the temperatures over the past several decades, a phenomenon that climatologists concur was unleashed by fossil fuels. (*The Daily Telegraph*, August 4, 2005).

To give you an idea how quickly Global Warming has entered the world's consciousness, compare those reports with the one we published in 1994, in *The Christian Herald No 4*. At that time, we merely had the first mutterings about Global Warming. Few people took them seriously then, and fewer still imagined that within a decade the whole world would be gripped by it.

"The First Proof: Our Weather's Gone Mad" "Australian climate researchers believe they have found the first sure sign that the warming of the planet is having an effect on extreme weather events, but it is a surprising one - the world is having fewer severe frosts. Scientists now have no doubt that the world has been getting slowly warmer recently and many forecast that if this continues as expected due to the greenhouse effects, events such as floods, droughts and cyclones will increase or become severe..."

The new findings by the Bureau of Meteorology Research Centre, in Melbourne, that frosts have gradually declined over the past 40 years fits that pattern. Major cities are already known to have fewer frosts than rural areas, because they create 'heat islands' that tend to keep overnight minimum temperatures a little above normal.

Although a full global analysis will not be available until the end of the year, the centre's studies so far show that this trend is also affecting non-urban areas in many countries...

The environmental group Greenpeace found evidence that since 1990 'the number of extreme weather events is increasing dramatically'. The Group cites 500 reports of such events and related incidents around the world - including the January bushfires in eastern Australia, ocean warming in the Pacific and the coral reef bleaching in Tahiti - as 'real evidence that climate change has begun and the effects are already being felt.'" (*SMH*, June 2, 1994).

Notice carefully, "The environmental group Greenpeace found evidence that since 1990 'the number of extreme weather events is increasing dramatically'". Why was that year so important? That is when we began this work and told the world that the troubled times of the end time are upon us. We saw what the Bible said about our times, and since no one was doing anything about it, we began publishing *The Christian Herald* for this purpose. We knew that the world was in deep trouble, but no one believed us then. Would they believe us now if we told them that even bigger troubles are ahead, that no one will escape them unless they turn to God? Here is further of what Global Warming means for the world.

"Global warming linked to increase of hurricanes" As the world warms the tempests rage harder.

Global warming could be behind as dramatic rise in the number of ferocious hurricanes and tropical cyclones, a new research suggests. As the oceans have warmed, the incidence of Category 4 and 5 storms like Katrina has almost doubled.

"What we found was rather astonishing," said Peter Webster, of the Georgian Institute of Technology in Atlanta, whose team studied the number, duration and intensity of hurricanes worldwide in the past 35 years.

In the 1970s there were, on average, 10 intense storms with winds above 200 kilometres an hour each year. Since 1990 this figure has risen to 18. Professor Webster said the findings established a link between surface temperature, which has risen by about half a degree since 1970, and increasing storm intensity. Their results were published yesterday in the journal *Science*. (SMH, Sept. 17, 2005).

And here is a transcript of a program that shows how quickly the climate is deteriorating around the world.

"Climate expert says storm intensity may increase"

TONY JONES: (ABC Reporter): Dr Vicky Pope is the head of the Climate Prediction Program at the Hadley Centre in Britain. She joins us from Exeter to discuss just what's causing this wild weather and what the future may hold. Vicky Pope, thanks for being there.

DR VICKY POPE: Good evening.

TONY JONES: Now, the US research I referred to at the start of the show shows that the number of Category 4 and 5 hurricanes has nearly doubled worldwide in the past 35 years. Do you know why that's happening?

DR VICKY POPE: Well, there's evidence that, as you say, the storms have increased. I think it's not really that well understood why that is. Certainly in the Atlantic, temperatures of the sea surface have increased as well and you would expect that stronger storms would result from that, because there's more energy to feed the storms. However, there's also natural variations that occur in the climate system and in the Atlantic, for example. Some of these natural variations occur on the time scales of 10 or 20 years, so that could partly explain some of these results, but, also, obviously, climate change could be a contributing factor.

TONY JONES: Yes. What's the balance of evidence then between natural causes and man-made climate change, because this is, in the end, the nub of a huge scientific debate?

DR VICKY POPE: Well, I think there's still more work that needs to be done before we can really assess that and there's still a lot of discussion going on in the scientific community. What we're also doing is using models to look forward to what might happen in the future and our models suggest that the number of storms may not change very much but that the intensity of the stronger storms may increase. So that would be consistent with what we've seen over the last 30 years.

TONY JONES: And why is that happening? What do your models actually indicate? Because if the intensity of the storms change and, yet, oddly enough, there are fewer of them worldwide, something strange is going on?

DR VICKY POPE: Well, the way that the tropical storms develop doesn't just depend on the surface temperature, which of course will increase in the future due to global warming and has, indeed, increased over the last 50 years. It also depends on the conditions in the atmosphere, so, for example, if you have windshear, which means you have stronger winds high up in the atmosphere and weaker winds lower down, that will tend to disperse the storm before it gets really strong. And that's what is changing in the future - that those winds will change as well, and it just depends in which direction that happens. Certainly the temperatures increased, but the circulation patterns change, too.

TONY JONES: All right, let's go back, if we can, to what's happening in the Gulf of Mexico right now, with Hurricane Rita heading towards Texas. Do you know what it is, or do scientists know what it is, that have caused the water temperatures in the Gulf of Mexico to be so high right now - 32 degrees, I think, in large parts?

DR VICKY POPE: Well, there have been, over quite a long period, warmer temperatures in recent years. But, obviously, this year is unusual in the sense that temperatures were warm and, in fact, they were predicting a strong hurricane season because of this.

TONY JONES: Can you explain what happens when the hurricane passes over a large body of warm water like this?

DR VICKY POPE: Well, essentially, you get more evaporation, so more water coming out of the surface of the ocean. And you get more convection, which is the process that raises the water up into the atmosphere. And then you get very strong circulation patterns associated with that, which gives you this very strong spinning motion and the very strong winds.

TONY JONES: And that appears to have turned Hurricane Rita in a very short space from 4 to a very serious Category 5 storm?

DR VICKY POPE: That's right. The conditions are just right in that case for it to become a very, very strong storm.

TONY JONES: Now, do we know for sure, and is there concrete evidence across the world, of rising surface temperatures?

DR VICKY POPE: Yes, we have - there's a lot of careful work being done to look at the records of temperature, particularly at the surface where we have better records going back certainly 150 years and in some cases much longer than that. Of course, the records we have as we go back in time are less complete, so we have to take account of these gaps in our knowledge and also in the way that measurements have been made in the past. And so we have to take account. For example, ships make measurements and they might have different heights of masts on the ships and that might make a difference to the temperature and we have to correct for those. But these very careful assessments have been done of observations to make sure we have a clean record and we can show that over the last 150 years the global mean surface temperature has increased by 0.7 degrees centigrade.

TONY JONES: And what would you have to know to work out whether man-made global warming was actually responsible for a higher rate of increase that's happening at the moment?

DR VICKY POPE: Well, in terms of the temperatures, we use our models to look at whether we can reproduce that increase in temperature by including just the natural forcing of the climate system - so things like variations in the solar cycle, volcanic eruptions and various other factors. But what we have to find is we have to include the carbon dioxide changes that have been caused by man's activities and the other pollution that man causes in order to produce the observed signal.

TONY JONES: And how significant are those man-made changes when they're fed into the models?

DR VICKY POPE: Well, we're talking about changes in carbon dioxide. The carbon dioxide has increased by a third since before the Industrial Revolution, so that's quite a major change and, as I say, the temperature has gone up by 0.7 degrees. But if we're looking into the future, then we would obviously see much bigger temperature rises with bigger carbon dioxide changes. The other thing to bear in mind is the temperature globally has gone up by 0.7 degrees and in the future might go up by 2 per cent or more. But if you look locally, the changes will be greater in some regions than in others. For example, in high latitudes . . . if the ice melts then you get more sunshine reaching the surface and more warming. So you get a larger warming of perhaps 6 or 7 degrees, whereas perhaps in the tropics the warming is less.

TONY JONES: Since computer modelling appears to be the only predictive analysis that we have available to us, what is it telling us about the rate that carbon dioxide is being fed into the atmosphere and what effect that may have on extreme weather events? You talk about a possible increase of temperature of up to 2 degrees I think you just said.

DR VICKY POPE: That's right. What we tend to do in our climate models is to feed in the emissions that are predicted from the future from economic scenarios of how the global economy will grow and populations will grow and we then see how the climate responds to that. More recently we've started doing experiments where we actually allow the carbon cycle to respond. And by the carbon cycle I mean the way the plants grow, the way that the ocean takes up carbon through the ecosystems in the ocean. And what we find there, at the moment

the ecosystems of plants and things are absorbing half of the carbon dioxide that's being emitted by man. In the future that may change and, in fact, soil, for example, may start to release carbon into the atmosphere. That would speed up global warming.

TONY JONES: So do your models . . . predict that there will be, as a result, more extreme weather events like these hurricanes?

DR VICKY POPE: Well, they certainly predict even more extreme temperatures. We're looking now in much more detail at how much the storms and other extreme events will change in those sorts of conditions. So far we haven't really looked at how much tropical storms will increase in strength. We need very high resolution models to look at storms because, of course, they have very strong structure on smaller scales. And as yet, we haven't done that with the models that include this carbon feedback.

TONY JONES: Now some scientists are already convinced that these changes we're talking about are, in fact, locked in, that they've become permanent. You can't actually go backwards now, so we're going to have to live with more extreme weather events. Your models seem to be indicating that. What do you think?

DR VICKY POPE: Essentially, there is a certain amount of climate change that is inevitable. **Even if we stopped all emissions now, the carbon dioxide that we've already put in the atmosphere takes quite a long time to recover - up to 100 years.** So we're already committed to some change which obviously we will have to adapt to. So further change over what we've had already. But it will make a difference if we reduce our emissions. The rate of rise will start to decrease. And clearly, the more that we can do and the sooner that we can do it, the greater the impact will be. But there may be points in the future where certain changes become irreversible. For example, when the temperature gets above a certain level, the Greenland ice sheets may start to melt and may not recover. Say all the Greenland ice had melted, the ice sheet is actually 3000m thick, if all that disappears, the land surface is much lower down and much warmer. So you need to cool things down much more in order to be able to get the snow to accumulate again. That would take thousands of years before all that ice would melt, **but even a few hundred metres of ice melting may be enough . . . to become an irreversible process which, of course, would lead to a large sea level rise.**

TONY JONES: Not only that, it appears, but it would also change the great patterns of the circulation of currents in the oceans as far as we understand it. That is, in fact, the scenario set out in the movie *The Day After Tomorrow*. That's an extreme version of what might happen. What do you think will happen if we keep going and if the ice caps keep melting?

DR VICKY POPE: The suggestion that you're talking about is the North Atlantic gulf stream could shut down. Now that brings warm water to Northern Europe. It's possible that will shut down in the future if we warm things up too much which paradoxically would actually cool Europe. The models so far, certainly the more detailed models, indicate that's not very likely to happen. But it's still recognised as a possibility and it's certainly something that we're looking at. 'The Day After Tomorrow' scenario is, of course, fiction and is a very extreme version of that and much more extreme than anything that would be likely to happen.

TONY JONES: Let's look at changes that appear to be happening now. Can you explain to us exactly what the North Atlantic oscillation is and how it could impact on extreme weather events that are actually happening right now?

DR VICKY POPE: All right. Well the North Atlantic oscillation is a natural variation that happens. It's measured in terms of the differences between temperature and pressure in different parts of the Atlantic and it has a big impact on the weather in the UK and in Europe and it also affects sea surface temperatures and obviously the tropical storms. The variations in that happen on both short and long-term scales, but particularly on the time scales of decades. Which is why when we look at variations that are associated with this process that happen on time scales of 10, 20, 30 years, we have to look at the variation of this oscillation on that time scale. It's difficult to see whether any change in that is caused by global warming because we don't have detailed records going back far enough.

TONY JONES: Very briefly, that is what the scientists who don't believe in global warming point to as the cause of these extreme weather conditions in the Gulf right now, isn't it?

DR VICKY POPE: Well I think in terms of the extreme conditions that have been happening this year, the jury's out, I think, as to whether you can link them to global warming or whether they're natural changes. It's something we would need to look at. But you can never link any one individual event to global warming. It's really a balance of probabilities that certain types of event might become more frequent with global warming than they would have been otherwise.

TONY JONES: All right, Dr Vicky Pope we'll have to leave you there. We thank you very much for coming in to talk to us tonight.

DR VICKY POPE: Thank you. (Australian Broadcasting Corporation, *Lateline*, September 22, 2005).

Global Dimming

Unlike Global Warming, the nature of which some people still argue about, Global Deeming is totally man made and totally beyond the human resolve. Global Deeming is even more serious than Global Warming. Here is what television programs from both sides of the world had to say about Global Deeming.

“Noticed less sunshine lately?” “Scientists have discovered that the amount of sunlight reaching the Earth's surface has been falling over recent decades. If the climatologists are right, their discovery holds the potential for powerful disruption to life on our planet. Already it may have contributed to many thousands of deaths through drought and famine. Essentially, the phenomenon called "global dimming" may mean that even the direst predictions about the rate of global warming have been seriously underestimated. Until recently many scientists had never heard of global dimming. Among those who had, a lot remained skeptical. Now, thanks in part to the work of Australian researchers, the debate is set to edge into public consciousness. This special report from the BBC's Horizon program reveals how global dimming was gradually unmasked by isolated groups of scientists across the world ... in Israel, Germany, the US and Australia.

Global dimming is a product of the fossil fuels that cause global warming. It is the result of tiny airborne pieces of soot, ash and sulphur compounds reflecting back the heat of the sun. By allowing less sunlight to reach the Earth, global dimming is cushioning us from the full impact of global warming, climatologists say. They fear that as we burn coal and oil more cleanly, and dimming is reduced, the full effects of global warming will be unleashed. The worst-case scenario has temperatures rising by up to 10 degrees by the end of the century – twice more than previously thought. Scientists have also linked global dimming to the failure of rains in sub-Saharan Africa – and the catastrophic droughts that hit Ethiopia in the 1980s. They worry that the same thing will happen again in areas like Asia, home to billions of people. The overriding concern expressed by climate scientists in this program is that our climate will be radically altered, rendering many parts of the planet uninhabitable - unless concerted action is taken to combat both global dimming and global warming. (ABC, *Four Corners*, March 21, 2005).

Tragic Consequences of Global Deeming

NARRATOR (JACK FORTUNE): "This is a film that demands action. It reveals that we may have grossly underestimated the speed at which our climate is changing. At its heart is a deadly new phenomenon. One that until very recently scientists refused to believe even existed. But it may already have led to the starvation of millions. Tonight Horizon examines for the first time the power of what scientists are calling Global Dimming.

NARRATOR: September 12th 2001, the aftermath of tragedy. While America mourned, the weather all over the country was unusually fine. Eight hundred miles west of New York, in Madison, Wisconsin a climate scientist called David Travis was on his way to work.

DR DAVID TRAVIS (University of Wisconsin, Whitewater): Around the twelfth, later on in the day, when I was driving to work, and I noticed how bright blue and clear the sky was. And at first I didn't think about it, then I realised the sky was unusually clear.

NARRATOR: For 15 years Travis had been researching an apparently obscure topic, whether the vapour trails left by aircraft were having a significant effect on the climate. In the aftermath of 9/11 the entire US fleet was grounded, and Travis finally had a chance to find out.

DR DAVID TRAVIS: It was certainly, you know, one of the tiny positives that may have come out of this, an opportunity to do research that hopefully will never happen again.

NARRATOR: Travis suspected the grounding might make a small but detectable change to the climate. But what he observed was both immediate and dramatic.

DR DAVID TRAVIS: We found that the change in temperature range during those three days was just over one degree C. And you have to realise that from a layman's perspective that doesn't sound like much, but from a climate perspective that is huge.

NARRATOR: One degree in just three days no one had ever seen such a big climatic change happen so fast. This was a new kind of climate change. Scientists call it Global Dimming. Two years ago most of them had never even heard of it, yet now they believe it may mean all their predictions about the future of our climate could be wrong. The trail that would lead to the discovery of Global Dimming began 40 years ago, in Israel with the work of a young English immigrant called Gerry Stanhill. A trained biologist, Gerry got a job helping to design irrigation schemes. His task was to measure how strongly the sun shone over Israel.

DR GERALD STANHILL (Agricultural Research Organisation, Israel): It was important for this work to measure solar radiation, because that is the factor that basically determines how much water crops require.

NARRATOR: For a year Gerry collected data from a network of light meters; the results were much as expected, and were used to help design the national irrigation system. But twenty years later, in the 1980s, Gerry decided to repeat his measurements to check that they were still valid. What he found, stunned him.

DR GERALD STANHILL: Well I was amazed to find that there was a very serious reduction in sunlight, the amount of sunlight in Israel. In fact, if we compare those very early measurements in the 1950s with the current measurements, there was a staggering 22% drop in the sunlight, and that really amazed me.

NARRATOR: A 22% drop in solar energy was simply massive. If it was true surely Israelis should be freezing. There had to be something wrong. So when Gerry published his results they were ignored.

DR GERALD STANHILL: I must say the publications had almost no effect whatsoever on the scientific community.

NARRATOR: But in fact Gerry was not the only scientist who had noticed a fall in sunlight. In Germany a young graduate climatologist called Beate Liepert found that the same thing seemed to be happening over the Bavarian Alps too.

DR BEATE LIEPERT (Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory): I was the same, I was as skeptical as any other climatologist. But then, um, I, I saw the same results err in Germany, so um I believed him.

NARRATOR: Germany, Israel, what about the rest of the world? Working independently of each other, Liepert and Stanhill began searching through publications, journals and meteorological records from around the world. And they both found the same extraordinary story. Between the 1950s and the early 1990s the level of solar energy reaching the earth's surface had dropped 9% in Antarctica, 10% in the USA, by almost 30% in Russia. And by 16% in parts of the British Isles. This was a truly global phenomenon, and Gerry gave it a suitable name - Global Dimming. But again, the response from other scientists was one of sheer disbelief.

DR GERALD STANHILL: The scientific community was obviously not ready to deal with the fact that there was a Global Dimming phenomena.

NARRATOR: Of course, there was a good reason for the skepticism. Less energy from the Sun should be making the world cooler. Yet scientists knew the Earth was getting hotter. As the carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases we emit trap ever more heat in the Earth's atmosphere and cause Global Warming.

DR BEATE LIEPERT: My friends' reaction actually to Gerry's and to my work at the same time too was, oh my God this is really extreme, you are um contradicting global warming. Er do you know how many billions of dollars was spent on global warming research and you and this old guy er are contradicting er us.

NARRATOR: So Liepert and Stanhill's work was widely dismissed. But Global Dimming was not the only phenomenon that didn't seem to fit with Global Warming. In Australia two more biologists, Michael Roderick and Graham Farquhar were intrigued by another paradoxical result - the world-wide decline in something called the pan evaporation rate.

PROF GRAHAM FARQUHAR (Australian National University): It's called pan evaporation rate because it's evaporation rate from a pan. Every day all over the world people come out in the morning and see how much water they've got to add to a pan to bring it back to the level it was the same time the morning before. It's that simple.

NARRATOR: In some places agricultural scientists have been performing this rather dull daily task for more than a hundred years.

PROF GRAHAM FARQUHAR: The long-term measurements of pan evaporation are what gives it its real value.

DR MICHAEL RODERICK (Australian National University): And the fact that they're doing the same thing day in day out with the same instrument.

PROF GRAHAM FARQUHAR: Yeah, they deserve a medal. Each of them.

DR MICHAEL RODERICK: Yeah.

NARRATOR: For decades, nobody took much notice of the pan evaporation measurements. But in the 1990s scientists spotted something very strange, the rate of evaporation was falling.

PROF GRAHAM FARQUHAR: There is a paradox here about the fact that the pan evaporation rate's going down, an apparent paradox, but the global temperature's going up.

NARRATOR: This was a puzzle. Most scientists reasoned that like a pan on the stove, turning up the global temperature should increase the rate at which water evaporated. But Roderick and Farquhar did some calculations and worked out that temperature was not the most important factor in pan evaporation.

DR MICHAEL RODERICK: Well it turns out in fact that the key things for pan evaporation are the sunlight, the humidity and the wind. But really the sunlight is a really dominant term there.

NARRATOR: They found that it was the energy of the photons hitting the surface, the actual sunlight, that kicks the water molecules out of the pan and into the atmosphere. And so they too reached an extraordinary conclusion.

DR MICHAEL RODERICK: You know, if the pan is going down then maybe that's the sunlight going down.

NARRATOR: Was the fall in pan evaporation in fact evidence of Global Dimming? Somewhere in the journals, they felt, must be the hard numbers that could tie the two things together.

DR MICHAEL RODERICK: And then one day, just by accident, I had to go to the library to get an article out Nature. As you do, I couldn't find it. And I just glanced at it, through the thing, and there was an article called Evaporation Losing Its Strength. Which reported a decline in pan evaporation over Russia, United States and Eastern Europe. And there in the, in the measurements, they said that the, the pans had on average, evaporated about a hundred millimetres less of water in the last thirty years.

NARRATOR: Mike knew how much sunlight was needed to evaporate a millimetres of water. So he put the two sets of figures together - the drop in evaporation with the drop in sunlight.

DR MICHAEL RODERICK: And so you just do the sum in your head. A hundred millimetres of water, less a pan evaporation, two and a half mega joules, so two and a half times a hundred is two hundred and fifty mega joules. And that is in fact what the Russians have measured with the decline in sunlight in the last thirty years. It was quite amazing.

NARRATOR: It was the same with Europe and the USA. The drop in evaporation rate matched exactly the drop in sunlight reported by Beate Liepert and Gerry Stanhill. Two completely independent sets of observations had come to the same conclusion. Though it seemed incredible, there was no doubting Global Dimming now.

DR BEATE LIEPERT: All of a sudden you see, oh my God the world is dimming, and then you, all of a sudden you see oh my God this really has a tremendous impact.

PROF GRAHAM FARQUHAR: There had to be dimming in Europe in America and in Russia, this is on a global scale. And we thought, this is really important because the amount of dimming was enormous. So this is BIG on a global scale.

NARRATOR: But what was causing it? Scientists knew that there was nothing wrong with the sun itself. The culprit had to be here on Earth. **And as they searched for clues, they would make another startling discovery. Global dimming is a killer. It may have been behind the worst climatic disaster of recent times, responsible for famine and death on a biblical scale. And Global Dimming is poised to strike again.**

NARRATOR: The Maldives: a nation of a thousand tiny islands in the middle of the Indian Ocean, so recently battered by the Asian tsunami. It was here that Veerabhadran Ramanathan, one of the world's leading climate scientists first began to unravel the mystery of what's causing Global Dimming. He had first noticed declining sunlight over large areas of the Pacific Ocean in the mid-1990s.

PROF VEERABHADRAN RAMANATHAN (University of California): But we didn't know at that time it was part of a much larger global picture, but I knew we had to find out what was causing that.

NARRATOR: Ramanathan was certain of one thing, the big drop in sunlight reaching the ground had to be something to do with changes in the Earth's atmosphere. There was one obvious suspect.

PROF VEERABHADRAN RAMANATHAN: Almost everything we do to create energy causes pollution.

NARRATOR: Burning fuel doesn't just produce the invisible greenhouse gases which cause global warming. It also produces visible pollution, tiny airborne particles of soot and other pollutants. These produce the haze which shrouds our cities. So Ramanathan wondered: Could this pollution be causing Global Dimming? The Maldives were the perfect place to find out. The Maldives seem unpolluted, but in fact the northern islands sit in a stream of dirty air descending from India. Only the southern tip of the long island chain enjoys clean air coming all the way from Antarctica. So by comparing the northern islands with the southern ones, Ramanathan and his colleagues would be able to see exactly what difference the pollution made to the atmosphere and the sunlight. Project INDOEX, as it was called, was a huge multinational effort. For four years every possible technique was used to sample and monitor the atmosphere over the Maldives. INDOEX cost twenty-five million dollars, but it produced results - and they surprised everyone.

PROF VEERABHADRAN RAMANATHAN: The stunning part of the experiment was this pollutant layer which was three kilometre thick, cut down the sunlight reaching the ocean by more than 10%.

NARRATOR: A 10% fall in sunlight meant that particle pollution was having a far bigger effect than anyone had thought possible.

PROF VEERABHADRAN RAMANATHAN: Our models led us to believe the human impact on the dimming was close to half to one per cent. So what we discovered was tenfold.

NARRATOR: INDOEX showed that the pollution particles were blocking some sunlight themselves; but far more significant was what they were doing to the clouds. They were turning them into giant mirrors. Clouds are made of droplets of water. These only form when water vapour in the atmosphere starts to condense on the surface of naturally occurring airborne particles, typically pollen or sea salt. As they grow, the water droplets eventually become so heavy they fall as rain. But Ramanathan found that polluted air contained far more particles than the unpolluted air, particles of ash, soot and sulphur dioxide.

PROF VEERABHADRAN RAMANATHAN: We saw ten times more particles in the polluted air mass north of the Maldives compared with what we saw south of the Maldives which was a pristine air mass.

NARRATOR: In the polluted air billions of man-made particles provided ten times as many sites around which water droplets could form. So polluted clouds contained many more water droplets, each one far smaller than it would be naturally. Many small droplets reflect more light than fewer big ones. So the polluted clouds were reflecting more light back into space, preventing the heat of the sun getting through. This was the cause of Global Dimming.

PROF VEERABHADRAN RAMANATHAN: Basically the Global Dimming we saw in the North Indian Ocean, it was contributed on the one hand by the particles themselves shielding the ocean from the sunlight, on the other hand making the clouds brighter. So this insidious soup, consisting of soot, sulphates, nitrates, ash and what have you, was having a double whammy on the Global Dimming.

NARRATOR: And when he looked at satellite images, Ramanathan found the same thing was happening all over the world. Over India. Over China, and extending into the Pacific. Over Western Europe... extending into Africa. Over the British Isles. **But it was when scientists started to investigate the effects of Global Dimming that they made the most disturbing discovery of all. Those more reflective clouds could alter the pattern of the world's rainfall. With tragic consequences.**

NEWS REPORT - MICHAEL BUERK VOICE OVER: Dawn, and as the sun breaks through the piercing chill of night on the plain outside Korum it lights up a biblical famine, now in the 20th Century. This place say workers here is the closest thing to hell on earth.

NARRATOR: The 1984 Ethiopian famine shocked the world. It was partly caused by a decade's long drought right across sub-Saharan Africa - a region known as the Sahel. For year after year the summer rains failed. At the time some scientists blamed overgrazing and poor land management. But now there's evidence that the real culprit was Global Dimming. The Sahel's lifeblood has always been a seasonal monsoon. For most of the year it is completely dry. But every summer, the heat of the sun warms the oceans north of the equator. This draws the rain belt that forms over the equator northwards, bringing rain to the Sahel. But for twenty years in the 1970s and 80s the tropical rain belt consistently failed to shift northwards - and the African monsoon failed. For climate scientists like Leon Rotstajn the disappearance of the rains had long been a puzzle. He could see that pollution from Europe and North America blew right across the Atlantic, but all the climate models suggested it should have little effect on the monsoon. But then Rotstajn decided to find out what would happen if he took the Maldivian findings into account.

DR LEON ROTSTAYN (CSIRO Atmospheric Research): What we found in our model was that when we allowed the pollution from Europe and North America to affect the properties of the clouds in the northern hemisphere the clouds reflected more sunlight back to space and this cooled the oceans of the northern hemisphere. And to our surprise the result of this was that the tropical rain bands moved southwards tracking away from the more polluted northern hemisphere towards the southern hemisphere.

NARRATOR: Polluted clouds stopped the heat of the sun getting through. That heat was needed to draw the tropical rains northwards. So the life giving rain belt never made it to the Sahel.

DR LEON ROTSTAYN: So what our model is suggesting is that these droughts in the Sahel in the 1970s and the 1980s may have been caused by pollution from Europe and North America affecting the properties of the clouds and cooling the oceans of the northern hemisphere.

NARRATOR: Rotstayn has found a direct link between Global Dimming and the Sahel drought. If his model is correct, **what came out of our exhaust pipes and power stations contributed to the deaths of a million people in Africa, and afflicted 50 million more. But this could be just of taste of what Global Dimming has in store.**

PROF VEERABHADRAN RAMANATHAN: The Sahel is just one example of the monsoon system. Let me take you to another part of the world. Asia, where the same monsoon brings rainfall to three point six billion people, roughly half the world's population. **My main concern is this air pollution and the Global Dimming will also have a detrimental impact on this Asian monsoon. We are not talking about few millions of people we are talking about few billions of people.**

NARRATOR: For Ramanathan the implications are clear.

PROF VEERABHADRAN RAMANATHAN: There is no choice here we have to cut down air pollution, if not eliminate it altogether.

NARRATOR: Fortunately, tackling air pollution needn't be too difficult. It wouldn't mean giving up on oil and coal altogether. We'd just have to burn them more cleanly. And in Europe we've already made a start: scrubbers in power stations, catalytic converters in cars and low sulphur fuels, though they do nothing to reduce greenhouse gases, have already begun to cut down visible air pollution. This should be good news for the Sahel, and in recent years the droughts have been nothing like as bad. **But there's a terrible catch. Because while Global Dimming is itself a major threat to humanity, it now appears it has been protecting us from an even greater threat. Which means that as we reduce the dimming, we may find ourselves faced by something even worse.**

NARRATOR: It was David Travis who first caught a glimpse of what the world could be like without Global Dimming. It happened in those chaotic days following the tragedy of 9/11. For fifteen years, Travis had been studying the vapour trails, or contrails, left behind by high-flying aircraft. Though each individual contrail seems small, when they all spread out, they can blanket the sky.

DR DAVID TRAVIS: Here are some examples of what we call outbreaks of contrails. These are large clusters of contrails. And here's a particularly er good one from Southern California. Here's the west coast of the United States. And you can see here this lacing network of contrails er covering at least fifty per cent, if not seventy five per cent or more of the sky in that area. It doesn't take an expert to er realise that if, if you look at the satellite picture and see this kind of contrail coverage that they've got to be having an effect on temperature at the surface.

NARRATOR: But the problem Travis faced was to establish exactly how big an effect the contrails were actually having. The only way to do that was to find a period of time when, although conditions were right for contrails to form, there were no flights. And, of course, that never happened. Until September 2001. Then, for three days after the 11th virtually all commercial aircraft in the US were grounded. It was an opportunity Travis could not afford to miss. He set about gathering temperature records from all over the USA.

DR DAVID TRAVIS: Initially data from over 5,000 weather stations across the 48 united states, the areas that was most dominantly affected by the grounding.

NARRATOR: Travis was not looking just at temperature - that varies a lot from day to day anyway. Instead he focused on something that normally only changes quite slowly: the temperature range. The difference between the highest temperature during the day and the lowest at night. Had this changed at all during the three days of the grounding?

DR DAVID TRAVIS: As we began to look at the climate data and the evidence began to grow I got more and more excited. The actual results were much larger than I expected. So here we see for the 3 days preceding September 11th a slightly negative value of temperature range with lots of contrails as normal. Then we have this sudden spike right here of the 3 day period. This reflects lack of clouds, lack of contrails, warmer days cooler nights, exactly what we expected but even larger than what we expected. So what this indicates is that during this 3 day period we had a sudden drop in Global Dimming contributed from airplanes.

NARRATOR: During the grounding the temperature range jumped by over a degree Celsius. Travis had never seen anything like it before.

DR DAVID TRAVIS: This was the largest temperature swing of this magnitude in the last thirty years.

NARRATOR: **If so much could happen in such a short time, removing just one form of pollution, then it suggests that the overall effect of Global Dimming on world temperatures could be huge.**

DR DAVID TRAVIS: **The nine eleven study showed that if you remove a contributor to Global Dimming, jet contrails, just for a three day period, we see an immediate response of the surface of temperature. Do the same thing globally we might see a large scale increase in Global Warming.**

NARRATOR: **This is the real sting in the tail. Solve the problem of Global Dimming and the world could get considerably hotter.** And this is not just theory, it may already be happening. In Western Europe the steps we have taken to cut air pollution have started to bear fruit in a noticeable improvement in air quality and even a slight reduction in Global Dimming over the last few years. Yet at the same time, after decades in which they held steady, European temperatures have started rapidly to rise culminating in the savage summer of 2003. Forest fires devastated Portugal. Glaciers melted in the Alps. And in France people died by the thousand. Could this be the penalty of reducing Global Dimming without tackling the root cause of global warming?

DR BEATE LIEPERT: **We thought we live in a global warming world, um but this is actually er not right. We lived in a global warming plus a Global Dimming world, and now we are taking out Global Dimming. So we end up with the global warming world, which will be much worse than we thought it will be, much hotter.**

NARRATOR: This is the crux of the problem. While the greenhouse effect has been warming the planet, it now seems Global Dimming has been cooling it down. So the warming caused by carbon dioxide has been hidden from us by the cooling from air pollution. But that situation is now starting to change.

DR PETER COX (Hadley Centre, Met Office): We're gonna be in a situation unless we act where the cooling pollutant is dropping off while the warming pollutant is going up, CO2 will be going up and particles will be dropping off and that means we'll get an accelerated warming. We'll get a double whammy, we'll get, we'll get reducing cooling and increased heating at the same time and that's, that's a problem for us. NARRATOR: And that's not all. Climatologists like Peter Cox have begun to worry that Global Dimming has led them to underestimate the true power of global warming. They fear that the Earth could be far more vulnerable to greenhouse gases than they had previously thought.

DR PETER COX: We've got two competing effects really, that we've got the greenhouse effect, which has tended to warm up the climate. But then we've got this other effect that's much stronger than we thought, which is a cooling effect that comes from particles in the atmosphere. And they're competing with one another. And we know the climate's moved to a warmer state by about point six of a degree over the last hundred years. So the whole thing's moved this way. If it turns out that the cooling is stronger than we thought then the warming also is a lot stronger than we thought, and that means the climate's more sensitive to carbon dioxide than we originally thought, and it means our models may be under sensitive to carbon dioxide.

NARRATOR: **The models that everyone has been using to forecast climate change predict a maximum warming of 5 degrees by the end of the century. But Cox and his colleagues now fear those models may be wrong. Temperatures could rise twice as fast as they previously thought with irreversible damage just twenty-five years away.**

DR PETER COX: If we don't do anything by about twenty thirty we could have a global warming of exceeding two degrees, and at that point it's believed the Greenland ice sheet would start to melt in a way that you wouldn't be able to stop it once it started it, it would melt. Take a long time to melt but ultimately it would lead to a sea level rise of seven or eight metres.

NARRATOR: Once the Greenland ice cap begins to melt, nothing will stop it. Many of the world's major cities will be living on borrowed time. Decade by decade, the risk of catastrophic flooding would increase inexorably. But unless action is taken it won't stop there. Because after Greenland, the world's tropical rainforests will start to wither in the heat.

DR PETER COX: 2040 it could be four degrees warmer, the climate change could have led to big drying particularly in the Amazon Basin, that would make the forest unsustainable, we'd expect the forest to catch fire probably, turn into savannah and maybe ultimately even desert if it gets really really dry as our model suggests.

NARRATOR: And as the rainforest burnt away, it would release vast amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, driving global warming still further. Cox calculates that in just a century, the world could be 10 degrees hotter, a warming more rapid than any in Earth history. If this were to happen, the landscape of England would be utterly transformed.

DR PETER COX: We're talking about a change from er a lush, moist climate, environment like this, to a North African climate in just a few decades or a hundred years. NARRATOR: Most British plant species could not survive a North African climate. With vegetation dying everywhere, soil erosion would become a severe problem. From a green and pleasant land, England would become a country of extremes, with winter flooding giving way to summer dust storms. And it will be far worse elsewhere.

DR PETER COX: You can imagine ten degree warming in the UK in a hundred years is catastrophic. Ten degree warming in a hot country already makes it essentially uninhabitable.

NARRATOR: And just when one might think things could get no worse in the far North a ten degree warming might be enough to release a vast natural store of greenhouse gas bigger than all the oil and coal reserves of the planet.

DR PETER COX: We will be in danger of destabilising these things called methane hydrates which store a lot of methane at the bottom of the ocean in a kind of frozen form, ten thousand billions tons of this stuff, and they're known to be destabilised by warming.

NARRATOR: At this point, whatever we did to curb our emissions, it would be too late. Ten thousand billion tons of methane, a greenhouse gas eight times stronger than carbon dioxide, would be released into the atmosphere. The Earth's climate would be spinning out of control, heading towards temperatures unseen in four billion years. But this is not a prediction - it is a warning. It is what will happen if we clean up pollution while doing nothing about greenhouse gases. However, the easy solution - just keep on polluting and hope that Global Dimming will protect us - would be suicidal.

DR PETER COX: If we carried on pumping out the particles it would have terrible impact on human health, I mean particles are involved in all sorts of respiratory diseases, that's why they're being brought under control, and of course they effect climate anyway. If you, if you fiddle with the, the balance of the planet, the radiative balance of the planet, you affect all sorts of circulation patterns like monsoons, which would have horrible effects on people. So it would be extremely difficult, in fact impossible, to cancel out the greenhouse effect just by carrying on pumping out particles, even if it wasn't for the fact that particles are damaging for human health.

NARRATOR: Instead we have to take urgent action to tackle the root cause of both global warming and Global Dimming - the burning of coal, oil and gas. We may have to make very difficult choices, about how we live and how we generate our electricity. We have been talking about such things for 20 years. But so far very little has been done in practical terms. The discovery of Global Dimming makes it clear that we are rapidly running out of time.

DR PETER COX: One of the real driving forces is that you leave an environment that is comfortable for your children. And we carry on going the way we're going, we're not going to do that, we're going to leave an environment that's much worse than the environment we lived in; and it will be down to what we did when we were using that environment, and that would be, um, tragic really, if that happened." (BBC, March 23rd, 2005).

It is a long transcript, but an extremely important one. It is the kind of knowledge that all world leaders need to be made aware of. But without placing these scientific reports in their proper spiritual context, one could never get a true picture of what is happening in the world. This is where *The Christian Herald* has brought its contribution. We know of no other publication that has fulfilled a similar job. Here is another "must read" report about Global Deeming.

"The Big Chill"

NARRATOR (JACK FORTUNE): In thirty years time they say Britain's summers could be like the South of France. By the end of the century we could be as hot as Greece. This they say is what global warming could bring us. But a growing number of scientists believe we could have our future climate completely wrong.

PROF BILL MCGUIRE: I can only describe it as catastrophic. It's clearly going to influence us every day of our lives.

Dr RICHARD WOOD: You could expect to see sea ice off the coast of South East England, probably several miles off shore.

BOB GASGOSIAN: The implications are huge. The economic implications, the political implications, and the national security implications, for all countries.

NARRATOR: If these scientists have it right forget the Riviera, Britain could be heading for a climate like Alaska's. And it could all happen in the just the next twenty years.

NARRATOR: In the Atlantic waters north of Scotland a fisheries researcher was the first to record a warning from the deep. Bill Turrell has spent his career studying the ocean currents. Until recently his concern has been how they affect fish stocks. But ten years ago he began to see something in the water that really alarmed him.

DR BILL TURRELL (Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen): We really worried when we saw these results, we'd never seen a change like this ever before. Changes that don't occur quickly and don't stop quickly.

NARRATOR: Turrell believes that he has found evidence that **a climate catastrophe could be heading right towards us.**

DR BILL TURRELL: These changes are fundamental, they're substantial. They are going to impact our climate and the climate our children have to live in.

NARRATOR: If he is right then Britain could be heading for a massive drop in temperatures. It seems we could be heading for something like an ice age. The ice ages were one of the greatest forces nature has unleashed on our planet.

PROF BILL MCGUIRE (University College London): They simply were the most dynamic, destructive phenomenon that's ever hit the planet. They involve glaciers hurtling down from mountainous regions, pouring out from the polar regions and devastating everything in their paths, grinding rock to nothing, lowering mountains, filling valleys.

NARRATOR: More than twenty times in the earth's history ice sheets have come down from the North Pole, the last one struck a hundred thousand years ago. Britain was buried in a tomb of ice.

Prof B. MCGUIRE: Effectively they wiped the slate clean in the northern hemisphere, over twenty times in the last two million years.

NARRATOR: These events were so terrible that for years scientists wondered what had caused it, and could they ever threaten us again. In the search for answers they turned to the sun, our ultimate source of heat. They discovered that the pattern of ice ages matched strange wobbles in the earth's orbit around the sun. These altered how the sun's heat shone upon the earth. They allowed the ice to grow and retreat. Prof RICHARD ALLEY (Penn State University): And these wiggles in earth's orbit are very regular, they're very predictable, they make sense and so there's this long slow bumpy slide in to an ice age and then a climb out of an ice age.

NARRATOR: They found that the ice ages didn't happen at random. They followed a slow and predictable pattern. It took ninety thousand years to grow an ice sheet and about ten thousand years to melt it. That predictability allowed scientists to calculate when the next one was due. It was reassuring news, not for thousands of years.

Prof RICHARD ALLEY: For a big ice age, a big climate change, we don't expect anything to happen on human time scales of a few dozen generations. NARRATOR: The message from the sun seemed to be clear. We had no reason to fear a massive drop in temperatures, at least that's what conventional theory said.

NARRATOR: Then fifteen years ago Richard Alley came to Greenland to study how our climate had changed since the last ice age.

Prof RICHARD ALLEY: When we started working in Greenland we knew we were on to something big. We really expected that we were going to find things that might surprise us.

NARRATOR: Greenland is like an ancient thermometer, a unique record of what has happened to the weather. Every single year for the last a hundred thousand years. It's all because the ice is preserved in layers, the further down you drill the older the snow.

Prof RICHARD ALLEY: If you took all these pieces of core that have been collected and put them end to end they're about two miles long and this is a sort of two mile time machine.

NARRATOR: Each layer records what was happening in the earth's atmosphere at the time the ice was formed. Whether it's the traces of a huge natural disaster or pollution from human activity, it's all frozen and perfectly preserved.

Prof ALLEY: We can see this, this ice core is beautifully layered and we can ask of it what happened, what was coming through the atmosphere at that time. Is there ash and acids from a big volcano, is there lead from Roman lead refining or what have you? So there's this history of what was blowing through the air and piling up on top of the Greenland ice sheet, sitting here on these beautiful layers.

NARRATOR: But the most important measurement preserved in the layers is the temperature. The ice that Ally brought back to the lab was in effect the annual weather reports since the beginning of the last ice age. What he was looking for was changes in the amount of so called heavy water held in the ice. The basic rule, the more heavy water the warmer the climate. If the conventional wisdom about climate change was true then when he plotted the results he would expect to see slow changes in heavy water as the world warmed and cooled during the last ice age. But that's not what he found.

Prof RICHARD ALLEY: This flabbergasted us, I think this flabbergasted a lot of people.

NARRATOR: The changes were anything but slow. He saw that temperatures could drop suddenly and catastrophically. And it happened far more often than was predicted by the passage of ice ages.

Prof RICHARD ALLEY: The world sometimes did change in the slow grand sleeps and sometimes it changed like a light switch.

NARRATOR: The earth's past was full of devastating climate jilts, none as bad as a full ice age but enough to turn Britain in to Alaska. The search was on to find out what could trigger these climatic disasters. They searched through the ice record for clues. Had huge volcanoes blotted out the sun? There was no evidence for that. A succession of asteroid impacts? Again, no evidence. More wobbles in the sun's orbit? That didn't fit. In fact no one could account for what Ally had discovered. Except for one man who thought he could. Wally Broecker is the guru of climate science. He was convinced that it was all to do with the oceans.

Prof. W. BROECKER (Columbia Univ.): I'm convinced that the ocean is at the core of the whole thing. The trigger lies in the ocean.

NARRATOR: Not everyone saw it his way.

Prof WALLY BROECKER: And of course you started out was three allies in a hundred people, who think it's nuts.

NARRATOR: Broecker's attention was drawn to one ocean current in particular, the gulf stream. Britain bathes in its heat. It begins south of the equator and as it flows along the gulf of Mexico it absorbs heat from the tropics. It continues on past the coast of Britain.

Prof WALLY BROECKER: It's roughly equal to all the rain in the world. Fifteen million cubic meters per second.

NARRATOR: The current carries the heat of a million power stations. It means we can swim in the sea at the same latitudes that Canada has polar bears. But the most important thing about it happens further north. It sinks.

Prof WALLY BROECKER: When it gets up in to the northern regions of the Atlantic, cooled and make denser and it sinks in to the deep sea and goes back the other way.

NARRATOR: This sinking is caused by salt in the water. When the salty water cools near Greenland it becomes so dense that it plummets to the bottom of the ocean. The water then heads back south to where the gulf stream began, and the whole process begins again. It's a continuously circulating belt of water and heat, that's why it's called the conveyor. The sinking off Greenland is vital, this is what keeps Britain forever warm. So Wally began to speculate what would happen if the conveyor ceased to flow. Could that explain those dramatic falls in temperature? Trouble was most scientists were convinced that the oceans never changed at all.

Prof WALLY BROECKER: People tended to think about it as something that went on and on and on and on. We assume that the properties of the ocean are at a steady state, but if it's changing then you can't assume that anymore and it makes real chaos.

NARRATOR: Then came something that shocked everyone out of their complacency. Something so small it might have been completely overlooked. Lloyd Keigwin spends his time examining mud samples from the bottom of the ocean. Mud cores just like the ice in Greenland can tell the history of activity in the ocean and what was going on in the conveyor. In particular Keigwin was looking for tiny sea shells called forams. These lurk on the ocean floor feeding on nutrients that sink to the sea bed.

Dr LLOYD KEIGWIN (Woods Hole Oceanographic Inst.): The forams build their shells out of calcium carbonate like any sea shell you'd find on the beach. And when they take carbon and oxygen and other elements out of the water to make their shell the chemistry of their shell reflects the chemistry and the physical properties of the water. NARRATOR: When the conveyor flows most of the nutrients get swept past the forams, and so their shells are usually poor in nutrients.

Dr LLOYD KEIGWIN: When the conveyor is on the deep water of the north Atlantic is continually being flushed out and there aren't a lot of nutrients that have accumulated. But if the conveyor went in to an off mode or a reduced mode um more nutrients would accumulate.

NARRATOR: Keigwin developed a way of measuring how much nutrients the forams must have absorbed.

Dr LLOYD KEIGWIN: We add a little more liquid nitrogen here, and this trap will capture the carbon dioxide produced as this sample falls in the hot acid. And soon we'll know was the conveyor circulation on or off at this particular time. NARRATOR: To his surprise he found massive variations in the composition of the shells. In other words at times in the past the conveyor must have switched off. When this work was published Wally Broecker knew exactly what it meant. It was the clue he had been looking for.

Prof. BROECKER: The greatest joy to a scientist is discovery. It's almost as if nature is trying to prevent us from uncovering her secrets. NARRATOR: So he put it all together. The huge drops in temperature seen in the Greenland ice, the shells that said the conveyor had been cut off, they had to be connected.

Prof WALLY BROECKER: Well it was, it was this merging two parts of my science, the understanding of the ocean and the understanding of the climate. It popped in to my head that one way you could do that would be by turning on and off the what's now called the conveyor belt, the deep water formation in the north Atlantic. And so I got the idea well hell if you turned that on and off or up and down, that could make at least in Europe very large climate changes.

NARRATOR: Broecker believed this explained the massive jolts in temperature seen in Greenland, the conveyor had switched off. And if it had happened before it could happen again. And if it did Britain would be plunged in to a bitterly cold climate. But then someone pointed out one obvious flaw in the theory. This isn't the age of global cooling but of global warming. Eight of the ten warmest years on record fell in the last decade. Climate experts are predicting temp. to rise faster than at any time since the last ice age.

Dr. WOOD (Met. Office): The models that are used to make the predictions of global warming suggest that by the end of the century the warming we would see will be between about one and a half degrees and around six degrees. And really to go to see that in historical context you'd have to go back hundreds of thousands, maybe even millions of years to see a climate in the past that was that warm.

NARRATOR: The effects of global warming are being felt across the planet. The talk is not of ice but about how to prepare for hotter weather and the extremes that would bring.

PROF BILL MCGUIRE: Global warming should make the UK a more hazardous place to live. Particularly during the winter when we have not only more rain but we have more heavy precipitation, bursts of extreme rainfall. This is going to mean that for example river flooding is much more common, much more frequent and its implications will be much more serious.

Dr RICHARD WOOD: They'll be changes in the frequency of things like tropical cyclones. And possible storms in the area outside the tropics and there are some latitudes to the UK and Europe.

NARRATOR: These are the changes our government is urgently planning for in the coming century. But recent discoveries suggest we might have to gear up for ice, not heat and rain. But our understanding of global warming maybe too simplistic. One of the most important of these discoveries was made by a team of NASA scientists based inside the arctic circle. Bill Krabill and his team have spent the last decade monitoring the effect of global warming upon the vast Greenland ice sheet.

BILL KRABILL (NASA, Wallops Island): This particular area, you can think of it as a huge ice cube that nicely offers global climate, an ice cube that's a thousand miles long, four hundred miles wide and two miles thick in the centre.

NARRATOR: For years accurate measurements of the effects of global warming across the ice sheet were impossible. It was just too huge and inhospitable to measure from the ground. So they took to the air. Greenland is one of the biggest blocks of frozen water in the world. And if it started to melt the effects would be felt worldwide.

BOB THOMAS (NASA): It comprises enough water to raise sea level by about six or seven metres if it all were to melt.

NARRATOR: They mapped the ice with a combination of global positioning satellites and lasers. The satellite measures the height of the plane and the laser measures the distance from the plane to the ice.

BILL KRABILL: There are five thousand individual beams per second that are being projected in to that scan there and then down in a pattern on the surface, measures the surface at ten centimetre accuracy.

NARRATOR: At five year intervals they have flown the same route across the island, each time they have measured the height of the ice. By comparing the two measurements they can see if the ice is growing or shrinking.

BILL KRABILL: There's definitely changes taking place here, all over the margin of the Greenland ice sheet it is thinning. It's equivalent to fifty cubic kilometres of ice and snow that are disappearing off the Greenland ice sheet each year.

NARRATOR: This fifty gigatonnes of water melting from Greenland was the first evidence that global warming might be effecting the ice sheet here. But one change really shocked them. They started to measure one of the island's biggest glaciers.

BOB THOMAS: **Less than ten years ago, five years ago, it was moving at about six, seven kilometres per year. And that was more or less in balance with the snowfall. Now in the five years since then the speed is almost doubled.**

NARRATOR: It's now advancing at twelve kilometres a year. The increase seems to be linked to global warming. It's the fastest moving glacier on the planet. It dumps enough fresh water in to the sea each day to supply London for several months. Global warming seems to be reshaping the whole landscape of one of the biggest ice sheets on earth.

BOB THOMAS: Well I myself am convinced that global warming has affected the dynamics of the Greenland ice sheet and um that is possibly because increased melt water is creeping to the bed through crevasses and boulders and lubricating the bed and making it far more easy for the ice to flow.

NARRATOR: NASA have recently doubled their estimates of how much fresh water is coming off Greenland. To a hundred cubic kilometres per year. And much of that fresh water is flowing towards the sinking zone of the conveyor. Scientists began to wonder just what could be the effect of all that fresh water on the conveyor. They began to realise that because the conveyor was driven by the salty water sinking then too much fresh water would dilute the salt and so if the salt was diluted too much the conveyor wouldn't sink.

Dr TERRY JOYCE (Woods Hole Oceanographic Inst.): What's amazing about this is that how well fine tuned the system is. Where only a one percent chance in the salinities maybe significant, may tip us over in to this regime where the water is too fresh at higher altitudes to sink and the conveyor will stop.

NARRATOR: Cut off the conveyor and a climate catastrophe would happen. The only question was just how much fresh water would it take. The truth is that no one quite knows. What they do know is that Greenland isn't the half of it. There is another even bigger source of fresh water heading straight for the sinking zone. Predictions are that global warming will lead to a much wetter world, because warm air can hold more moisture. And when it heads north and cools it should lead to more rain. In 2000 a team of American scientists travelled to Siberia. They studied the effects of global warming on some of the biggest rivers in the world.

Dr BRUCE PETERSON (MBL, Woods Hole): If you took the Ob, the Enesai and the Elena rivers and put them side by side you'd have a volume of discharge equivalent to three Mississippi rivers.

NARRATOR: The rivers collect rain that has fallen over a vast area of land. They already carry nearly twenty times the amount of fresh water towards the sinking zone, then drains from the ice in Greenland. Peterson wanted to find out if global warming had led to more water in these rivers. The warming in the last hundred years is only about half a degree. He measured how the flow of water had changed.

Dr BRUCE PETERSON: An increase in annual discharge of a hundred and twenty eight cubic kilometres per year. You probably can not imagine what a hundred and twenty eight cubic kilometres per year's like. It's a large volume of water.

NARRATOR: And in the coming century we're expecting up to ten times more global warming. So Peterson decided to calculate how much more fresh water that could bring.

Dr BRUCE PETERSON: At the end of the next hundred years we expect approximately fifty percent increase in the discharge that these rivers would occur.

NARRATOR: It's a horrifying prospect. A fifty percent increase in some of the world's biggest rivers. If Peterson's projections are true a vast wall of fresh water will soon come flooding through northern Siberia. An extra thousand cubic kilometres a year more could flow in to the salty waters of the conveyor. The impact could be immense. And that was the warning that Bill Turrell had seen in the deep. He's been monitoring the saltiness of the conveyor as it flows past the Faro Isles north of Scotland.

DR BILL TURRELL: This is the device we use to measure the salinity in the ocean. These bottles here collect the water samples that we bring back to the ship to analyse, to collaborate the electronics which are down here. This package measures temperature, salinity, about twenty five times a second as we lower it down from the surface down to the seabed.

NARRATOR: If the saltiness of the water is dropping it's a sign that the driving force of the conveyor is weakening.

DR BILL TURRELL: This graph shows the salinity or saltiness of the bottom water. It's the saltiness from 1900 to the present day.

NARRATOR: Until the 1970s the salinity had been almost constant. But then it began to drop.

DR BILL TURRELL: After the late seventies we began to see a freshening of the bottom water. So much so that we, we began to doubt our own results. We took further samples, we checked with other countries who are sampling the same water, until eventually we became convinced that this change was actually happening.

NARRATOR: Turrell had measured the largest and most dramatic change recorded in the era of modern instruments. And there was worse. He took measurements from the very bottom of the ocean, from the return leg of the conveyor. Its flow had fallen by a massive twenty percent.

DR BILL TURRELL: **It's the first changes that we'd expect to see if we thought that global warming was beginning to effect the conveyor belt. Er a few years ago I probably wouldn't have said that because global warming was far more iffy, it wasn't so significant, it wasn't so certain. Now we really do know that fresh water input to the Arctic is increasing. The Siberian rivers are pumping out more fresh water. The Arctic ice sheets are melting and there is more release of fresh water. It, it's the most fundamental change I've observed in my career.** NARRATOR: The process that could cut off the conveyor has begun. We don't know where the cut off point is, we just know we're getting closer to it.

Prof RICHARD ALLEY: I don't think that an abrupt sudden trip and fall down the stairs is the most likely outcome. But I think that the probability of that is high enough that we should really think about it.

Dr TERRY JOYCE : The likelihood of having an abrupt change is increasing because of global warming is moving us closer and closer to the brink. We don't know where that is but we know one thing, we're moving towards the edge. And so I would say within the next hundred years it's very likely. In other words a fifty percent probability that this might happen. NARRATOR: So there could be a fifty percent probability that the conveyor will stop flowing past the shores of Britain. Perhaps a one in two chance that one of the most important sources of heat in the world will just disappear. What would happen to us if the heat of a million power stations were to cut off? The answer depends crucially on how soon it happens. The Met Office has run a series of possible scenarios. In the first they examined what would happen if the conveyor cut off in fifty years. They have balanced the effects of fifty years of global warming against the regional cooling caused by the conveyor cutting off. In this scenario the area around Britain does indeed get colder.

Dr RICHARD WOOD: **Cooling due to the ocean circulation collapsed is even stronger than the global warming. We're still looking at a climate which is a lot colder than today's.**

NARRATOR: But how much colder? This was the coldest winter in the past century. A freak event not easily forgotten.

PROF BILL MCGUIRE: The winter of 1962 to 1963 is something that people of my age particular remember because from Boxing day 'til March there was very deep snow on the ground across much of England. NARRATOR: Blizzards lashed the country for day after day. In places snow lay eight meters deep. And temperatures fell to minus twenty two degrees.

Dr RICHARD WOOD: That would have had a huge impact on, on people's lives. There's a lot of disruption to all sorts of infrastructure, people were snowed in for long periods, over quite a wide part of the country.

NARRATOR: The electricity supply failed across the whole south east. Crops had to be drilled out of the ground. We asked the Met. Office to examine their scenario and calculate how often we could expect a winter like this. Their answer, once every seven years. But there is a second scenario the scientists have been examining.

PROF BILL MCGUIRE: Well I can only describe it as catastrophic.

BOB GASGOSIAN: The implications are huge.

PROF BILL MCGUIRE: It's clearly going to influence every single one of us every day of our lives.

BOB GASGOSIAN: The economic implications, the political implications, er and the national security implications, for all countries.

NARRATOR: **This scenario is that the gulf stream conveyor cuts off, not within fifty years but twenty. It's described as a low probability, high impact event. The whole of north west Europe gets a lot colder.**

Dr RICHARD WOOD: This is really a huge change in climate, a massive cooling. If this was to happen we would certainly have a future which was very cold, very different from what we have today.

NARRATOR: The coastline of Britain would become unrecognisable.

Dr RICHARD WOOD: You could expect to see sea ice off the coast of south east England probably several miles off shore.

NARRATOR: We would struggle to keep our coastline open and our ports working. But the effects of a shutdown could be even greater on land. Winter blizzards would bring us entirely new hazards.

PROF BILL MCGUIRE: We'd expect to see ice storms. Now these are severe winds but they bring with them either frozen rain or snow which clogs up and builds up on cables, power cables, telephone cables, brings them down very effectively. These conditions can persist for days and can really bring a country to its knees.

NARRATOR: Our infrastructure would be in danger of collapse.

PROF BILL MCGUIRE: The power lines would ice up, they'd snap, they'd collapse and this could happen virtually country wide during the worst of these storms.

NARRATOR: **With enough warning we could make plans and adapt to our new landscape. The trouble is there wouldn't be any warning.**

Dr TERRY JOYCE: It'll be quick and suddenly one decade we're warm, the next decade we're in the coldest winter that we've experienced in the last hundred years, but we're in it for a hundred years.

NARRATOR: Winters like this would be commonplace.

PROF BILL MCGUIRE: I think we'd be extraordinarily poorly equipped to deal with a gulf stream shutdown. If we're dealing with a situation where snow is on the ground for perhaps thirty days a year or maybe up to a hundred days a year, with temperatures regularly down in the minus twenties, I think we'll find it very, very difficult to cope with that.

NARRATOR: It could mark the end of the British way of life as we've known it. But there is something even more disturbing about the conveyor cutting off. Something that suggests it could cause a catastrophe of truly global proportions if it were to happen. The Met Office have run another computer simulation. It shows a clear link between a conveyor cut off and patterns of rainfall across the world.

Dr. R. WOOD: One thing that's really surprised us was the fact that, that the impact is not just confined to our part of the world.

NARRATOR: The dark red areas of his map suffer massive drops in rainfall.

Dr RICHARD WOOD: The main rain band in the tropics would move quite a bit south so all these countries in the red region here would lose a very large proportion of their rainfall and that could impact on a large number of people in those parts of the world.

NARRATOR: Central America would be one of the worst hit regions. It could lose up to forty percent of its rainfall.

Dr RICHARD WOOD: The model suggests that the present vegetation in the rainforest wouldn't be sustainable in that situation, and the forest would die and be replaced by grassland. NARRATOR: While we shivered through long and bitter winters huge tracks of forest would die away. Well that's what the computer model said. And then came evidence that it had actually happened before. The clues came from within Richard Alley's ice cores. They contained bubbles of ancient air, evidence of how the atmosphere has changed. Alley's attention focussed on one gas that was present in the bubbles, methane. It's produced naturally by bacteria in the tropics when they receive plenty of rainfall, and it disappears at times of drought.

Prof RICHARD ALLEY: And so you can ask of those bubbles how many swamps were there on earth. And this is wonderful because it tells you something that's happening across a whole bunch of the land area. If the world dries up partially they'll be much less methane in the air and it will show up, right there. NARRATOR: He found that the methane levels plummeted at the same time as temperatures had dropped in the past. It seemed the conveyor cut off made the world drier.

Prof RICHARD ALLEY: And when the north Atlantic has been cold in the past the monsoon seems to have weakened or failed in places in Asia. Chill out the northern Europe and you dry a lot of places around a lot of millions of people with that.

NARRATOR: The monsoon is a lifeline to hundreds of millions of people living across the Asian subcontinent. Agriculture depends on its heavy rains. Should this scenario ever happen it would bring disaster on an unimaginable scale. There would be famine, economic collapse and refugees on the move.

DR BOB GASGOSIAN: **We had only three billion people on this earth in 1962, we have over six billion now.** Where are these people going to go if there are economic hard times? If we were to get on the same scale of the Irish famine today, that occurred then, I am very concerned at what would happen at that time. NARRATOR: And there is a final twist to these scenarios. Switching the conveyor off can happen at speed. But switching it back on is altogether harder.

TERRY JOYCE: We're moving along and suddenly we drop down, how do we switch it back on? Well we would have to climb this cliff. There's an enormous amount of energy required to climb that cliff.

Prof WALLY BROECKER: And there'd be nothing in the meantime we could do to change it.

TERRY JOYCE: We have to reverse this effect of global warming by hundreds of years.

NARRATOR: We are now preparing for more heat and more rain. But our new understanding of how climate change works challenges all that. It suggests our defences could be pointing the wrong way." (BBC program, broadcast on SBS, Australia, Oct. 16, 2005).

All of a sudden, catastrophe is stalking this planet. It is not a question of Global Warming or Global Deeming, it is both, and incredibly, almost at the same time. Winters have become colder, yet the hottest decade on record was the last.

“Unless the nation works together, our grandchildren face global disaster”, said the NSW Premier, Morris Emma. “This year has been the warmest on record in Australia. The nine hottest years globally have all been since 1995. Brazil's first hurricane, the melting of Siberia's permafrost and America's record hurricane season are testimony to the devastation of climate change. NSW is not immune. We have witnessed longer and more destructive bushfire and storm seasons and prolonged drought. Our grandchildren face a grim future if we do not cut the greenhouse gas emissions that are causing the planet to warm dramatically.” (Morris Emma, *S. M. H.* Nov. 29, 2005).

Now is it a mere coincidence that these things have occurred exactly at the time foretold in prophecy? If we had not spoken about it for a decade and a half, and raised our voices only when these things have become obvious, as a few of our nemesis are doing, we would be accused of opportunism. However, we have spoken about these things long before they occurred, and that is why the world ought to listen to what we say about what will happen next. The world is primed for nothing less than the much talked about Great Tribulation of Jesus Christ. Behind the scenes, the major world powers are feverishly preparing and positioning themselves for a world conflict that will result in nothing less than the annihilation of all flesh. Never before has this warning from Jesus Christ been more acute than it is now.

Mat 24:7 "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences,
Mat 24:8 and earthquakes in various places. "All these are the beginning of sorrows . . .
Mat 24:11 "Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.
Mat 24:12 "And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.
Mat 24:13 "But he who endures to the end shall be saved.
Mat 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations,
Mat 24:15 and then the end will come. "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), . . .
Mat 24:20 "Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath [*When Jesus Christ returns, He expects to find His followers observing the Sabbath*]. "For then there will be great tribulation, [*for those who do not observe the Sabbath*],
Mat 24:21 such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.
Mat 24:22 "And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.
Mat 24:29 "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken . . .
Mat 24:32 "Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves,
Mat 24:33 you know that summer is near. "So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near; at the doors!
Mat 24:34 "Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place.
Mat 24:35 "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

Notice how important for the world is the presence of God's elect. But where are the elect of God today? Can you see anyone around? Maybe you think you could find them in churches at the weekend. Well, the elect of God are supposed to be recognized by their fruits anywhere and at all times, not just during their church attendance. "By their fruits you will know them," said Jesus Christ (Mat 7:20). He also said this:

Mark 13:35 "Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming; in the evening, at midnight,
Mark 13:36 at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning; lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping.
Mark 13:37 "And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"

Watch, therefore, and be informed, for on it depend your life and the life of this planet!

Global Dying

Are Global Warming, Global Deeming, and a peak in the age of oil, happening at the same time by chance or by design? If they are happening by chance, humanity is lost, but if by design, there is hope.

If the world is traveling aimlessly through this inhospitable universe, we have two stark choices: be scorched to death by Global Warming in the short term, or be frozen to death by Global Deeming in a little longer term.

Forums of experts and summits of leaders have mushroomed in the last year or so since it became obvious that our planet is in deep trouble. Yet at no time has our Creator been invoked in their deliberations.

To the very end, human beings will not admit that they have failed themselves, that unless they bend their knees and bow their head to the One and only Power that can save them, they will vanish without a trace. But how could people turn to God for salvation when the leading religious institution in the world is telling them that the word of God – the Bible – is unreliable, and that they are a product of evolved monkeys?

“The hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church has published a teaching document instructing the faithful that some parts of the Bible are not actually true. The Catholic bishops of England, Wales and Scotland are warning their five million worshippers, as well as any others drawn to the study of scripture, that they should not expect “total accuracy” from the Bible . . . Some Christians want a literal interpretation of the story of creation, as told in Genesis, taught alongside Darwin's theory of evolution in schools, believing “intelligent design” to be an equally plausible theory of how the world began. But the first 11 chapters of Genesis, in which two different and at times conflicting stories of creation are told, are among those that this country's Catholic bishops insist cannot be “historical”. At most, they say, they may contain “historical traces”.

Similarly, they refute the apocalyptic prophecies of Revelation, the last book of the Christian Bible, in which the writer describes the work of the risen Jesus, the death of the Beast and the wedding feast of Christ the Lamb. The bishops say: “Such symbolic language must be respected for what it is, and is not to be interpreted literally. We should not expect to

discover in this book details about the end of the world, about how many will be saved and about when the end will come.” (*The Times*, Oct. 2005).

“The Vatican today warned Catholics that if they do not listen to the contentions of modern science – regarding the origin of life and other issues – they risk falling prey to “fundamentalism.” “When asked about the debate raging between evolution and intelligent design in the United States, a papal representative reaffirmed John Paul II’s 1996 assertion that evolution was “more than just a hypothesis.”

Said Monsignor Gianfranco Basti, director of the Vatican project STOQ, or Science, Theology and Ontological Quest: “A hypothesis asks whether something is true or false. (Evolution) is more than a hypothesis because there is proof.” (*WorldNetDaily.com*, Nov. 3, 2005).

Who decides what is true and what is not true in the Bible? If we have to pick and chose from that book, it is no longer the Word of God. But what did Jesus Christ say? “Your word is truth.” To highlight this point, God put this statement in both the Old and the New Testaments.

Psa 119:160 “The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.”

John 17:17 “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.”

Jesus Christ also said that the Scriptures cannot be broken, meaning that they are letter of the law that must never be tampered with.

John 10:34 Jesus answered them, “Is it not written in your law, ‘I said, “You are gods”?”

John 10:35 “If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken), “do you say of

John 10:36 Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’?”

The Son of God declared the Bible to be the unbreakable word of God, yet the “Vicar of Christ on earth” says that people must pick and chose through it because not all of it is true. They pick on texts that are allegorical in nature, which they do not understand, and denigrate the whole Bible for it. Now who do you believe: Jesus Christ or His “Vicar on earth”?

What people must understand is that it has not been left to them to determine what formed the Word of God and what not. The Holy Spirit has been guiding inspired men throughout history to write and put together texts that became known as the Bible, or the Scriptures. The Apostles of Jesus Christ believed in the authenticity of the whole Bible, and so should you.

2 Pet 1:16 “For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

2 Pet 1:17 For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

2 Pet 1:18 And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

2 Pet 1:19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

2 Pet 1:20 **knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for**

2 Pet 1:21 **prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**

2 Pet 2:1 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as **there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.**

2 Pet 2:2 And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.”

Contrary to what the enemies of God would have you believe, the Bible is not contradictory. It is a complex book, but that is why reading it and unraveling its mysteries is such an unforgettable and exhilarating experience. Anyone who has spent time on it knows that it is an extraordinarily harmonious book. Given that its authors have lived hundreds of years apart, it is clear that only an unseen hand – the Holy Spirit – could have brought it together and preserved it in the form that we have it today. That is one of the guarantees that we are dealing with the genuine Word of God.

The other one being the accuracy of its predictions. Every prophecy, some as old as three thousand years old, has been fulfilled exactly how the Bible said it would. The Bible however, does not yield its secrets easily to just anyone. God says us that He had specifically put it together in such a way that those who do not deserve it will never understand it.

Isa 28:9 “Whom will he teach knowledge? And whom will he make to understand the message? Those just weaned from milk? Those just drawn from the breasts?”

Isa 28:10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little.”

Isa 28:11 For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, to whom He said,

Isa 28:12 “This is the rest with which You may cause the weary to rest,” And, “This is the refreshing”; Yet they would not hear.

Isa 28:13 But the word of the LORD was to them, “Precept upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little,” **That they might go and fall backward, and be broken And snared and caught.”**

Why has God done that? To give a rope to those who pose themselves as experts on the Bible, who have no idea what they are talking about, so that they may hang themselves with it.

Isa 28:7 “But they also have erred through wine, And through intoxicating drink are out of the way;

The priest and the prophet have erred through intoxicating drink, They are swallowed up by wine,

Isa 28:8 They are out of the way through intoxicating drink; They err in vision, they stumble in judgment.

For all tables are full of vomit and filth; No place is clean.”

When Jesus Christ said, “Your word is truth”, He meant the entire Bible is true not just parts of it. Then He sealed it from His glorified position in heaven with the following stern warning:

Rev 22:18 “For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things,

Rev 22:19 God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.”

Now is it a mere coincidence that the Vatican has disowned the books of Genesis and of Revelation exactly when we have adduced proofs that the Genesis account of creation is true (See *TCH 1*), and are in the process of unveiling for the first time ever the book of Revelation to the world? (See *TCH 14* and this edition).

Why is the Catholic Church afraid of the book of Revelation? Is it because that book reveals to the world the full horror a certain "Mother of Harlots" has wrecked among the people of God for centuries? If you do not know who that "Mother of Harlots" is by now, you never will. Perhaps if you ask the Vatican, it might tell you. Or it might not. One day, humanity will wake up to the insidious deception that "the god of this age" and his servants have palmed upon the world.

2 Cor 4:3 "But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded,
2 Cor 4:4 who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them."

The world will also wake up to the fact that evolution and creation simply do not go together. Why then does the Vatican preach evolution? Is it because it tries to serve two masters? But what did Jesus Christ say about that?

Mat 6:24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

The Catholic Church has shown its true colors when it chose to serve mammon rather than God. And what accusation did it bring against those who trust God and take His word at its face value? Fundamentalism!

For more than a millennium, it was deadly for anyone to be caught reading the Bible. The Catholic Church can no longer kill people for reading the Bible, but it can besmirch it and make them feel as if they are wasting their time studying it. And this from the man that claims to be the "Vicar of Christ on earth".

Will God put up much longer with this grievous blasphemy? Certainly not! The age of Satan and his servants is over. The problem is that they are determined to take humanity to Hell with them.

Monsignor Gianfranco Basti said that evolution "is more than a hypothesis because there is proof." And where pray tell is that proof? Every piece of bone – skull, skeleton, wing or whatever – that has been presented as "evidence" of a transitional form, without which there is no evolution, has been questioned by other scientists and declared to be unreliable and unlikely to be what their proponents claimed it to be. History of the evolutionary theory has been fraught with forgeries and deceptions, but you will never hear that from the Vatican. As opposed to that, there are mountains of evidence of creation all over the world, the most striking being evidence of a worldwide upheaval that has lifted sea beds on top of mountains. God says that He did it at the time of Noah's Flood. The wise men of this world, however, and of the Vatican in particular, would not be caught dead believing in the Flood of Noah. Well, very shortly, no one will believe in evolution anymore. They will all see the great power of God at work.

Now as if its statements about the Bible and evolution were not enough, the Vatican gave us another gem.

"The Vatican says practicing homosexuals, men with "deep-seated" gay tendencies and those who love the culture should not become priests . . . In light of such teaching, this dicastery [Vatican department] . . . believes it necessary to state clearly that the Church, **while profoundly respecting the person in question**, cannot admit to the seminary or to Holy Orders those who practice homosexuality, present deep-seated homosexual tendencies or support the so-called gay culture." (*The Newcastle Herald*, Nov. 24, 2005).

Every major media in the world took up this statement and made a case of the fact that the Vatican no longer admits gays to the priesthood. No one, however, took note of the fact that the same institution "profoundly respects" those people.

It "profoundly respects" gays but it does not want them in the priesthood, not because God just as profoundly hates their abominable practice, but because it causes its members to stray to "fundamentalist" churches, as they do in droves in Latin America.

Now do you think that those who engage in that abhorrent practice would abandon it when they hear that the Vatican profoundly respects them? This is how profoundly the Apostles of Jesus Christ respected those people:

2 Pet 2:4 "For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains

2 Pet 2:5 of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness,

2 Pet 2:6 bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly and **turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly;**

2 Pet 2:7 and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked (for that righteous man,

2 Pet 2:8 dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds);

2 Pet 2:9 then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the

2 Pet 2:10 day of judgment, and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority.

They are presumptuous, self-willed.

2 Pet 2:11 They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord.

2 Pet 2:12 **But these, like natural brute beasts** made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do

2 Pet 2:13 not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption, and will receive the wages of unrighteousness, as those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime.

2 Pet 2:14 They are spots and blemishes carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you, having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children. They have forsaken the right way and gone astray . . .

Rom 1:18 "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress

Rom 1:19 the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.

Rom 1:20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify

Rom 1:21 Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

Rom 1:22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God

Rom 1:23 into an image made like corruptible man; and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

Rom 1:24 Therefore **God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies**

Rom 1:25 **among themselves**, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this reason God gave them up to vile passions.

Rom 1:26 For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.

Rom 1:27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

Rom 1:28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things
Rom 1:29 which are not fitting; being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness,
Rom 1:30 maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God,
Rom 1:31 violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving,
Rom 1:32 unforgiving, unmerciful; who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, **that those who practice such things are deserving of death**, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them."

"Those who practice such things are deserving of death". If that is what the Apostles thought, so did Jesus Christ Himself, for they had His mind. And if that is what Jesus Christ thought, so did God the Father, for He had the mind of God.

1 Cor 2:16 "For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ."

Phil 2:5 "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,

Phil 2:6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God."

This then is what the churches ought to preach, not that they are "profoundly respectful" towards those who engage in practices that drew the wrath of God in the past. Since this sin is widely practiced in the world these days, the whole world is in danger because of it. And they wonder that the world is undergoing such heartrending devastations. When people turn to God and Jesus Christ, they are no longer homosexuals, but Christians. Unless they lapse and return to their old ways, in which case there is no longer any hope for them.

2 Pet 2:21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb:

2 Pet 2:22 "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire."

The Catholic Church has been shifting its errand homosexual priests from parish to parish for decades, until it could no longer do so because of public pressure. And people still think that they could find salvation in that church. God says that the time has come for His people to come out of 'BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS'.

Rev 17:1 "Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication,

Rev 17:2 "and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication."

Rev 17:3 So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

Rev 17:4 The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication.

Rev 17:5 And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

Rev 17:6 I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marvelled with great amazement.

Rev 17:7 But the angel said to me, "Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.

Rev 17:8 "The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is . . ."

Rev 18:4 "And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.

Rev 18:5 "For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. "Render to her just as she

Rev 18:6 rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her.

Rev 18:7 "In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.

Rev 18:8 "Therefore her plagues will come in one day; death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her."

Verse 17:8 gives us an interesting statement that stands out from the rest of this passage. The whole world will marvel at the fall of this Babylon the Great and Mother of Harlots, except those that have been written in the Book of life, "from the foundation of the world". Now what does that tell you? That this world follows a haphazard course, left to the vagaries of nature? Far from it! Rather, that God has been working out a well thought out plan for His people, whom He knew before the foundation of the world.

Eph 1:3 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the

Eph 1:4 heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and

Eph 1:5 without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according

Eph 1:6 to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved."

God knew the people that will be saved even before He created the world, just as He knew that His Son Jesus Christ would need to come into the world to save the humanity from sin and death.

1 Pet 1:17 "And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves

1 Pet 1:18 throughout the time of your stay here in fear; knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver

1 Pet 1:19 or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ,

1 Pet 1:20 as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world,

1 Pet 1:21 but was manifest in these last times for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God."

God says that He also knew the people who would fall victim to Satan's deception.

Rev 13:4 "So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" And he was given a mouth,
Rev 13:5 speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.
Rev 13:6 Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in
Rev 13:7 heaven. It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. All who dwell on the earth will worship him,
Rev 13:8 whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.
Rev 13:9 If anyone has an ear, let him hear."

Now what do these statements tell you? That human beings have free moral agency, as churches preach and as schools of philosophy all over the world teach, or that everything is in the hands of God, including your salvation? If free moral agency is true, if people are saved because of the rightness of their decisions, then the grace of God is of no value and not needed anymore. Salvation becomes a matter of right, not of grace.

This is what is destroying this world. People no longer believe that they need God in order to be saved. Few people believe in salvation anyway, and those that do, believe in a false gospel of salvation. This is a huge subject, and we cannot deal with it here. We have covered this topic in a number of editions, particularly in *The Christian Herald No 11*.

Human beings believe that they have immortality within themselves, and are assured of a place in heaven simply for their inherent goodness. Where does this belief come from? From a misunderstanding of the Genesis account of creation. Let us go to that book now to show you one of the biggest and longest standing deceptions that this world has ever seen. First, let us determine when the creation took place. We saw earlier that Jesus Christ believed that the entirety of God's word – the Bible – is true. And what did He believe regarding the beginning of the world?

Mat 19:3 "The Pharisees also came to Him, testing Him, and saying to Him, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife
Mat 19:4 for just any reason?" And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that **He who made them at the**
Mat 19:5 **beginning 'made them male and female,** and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?'"

For Jesus Christ the beginning occurred when God created male and female upon the earth. If anybody tells you otherwise, do not believe it. No true follower of Jesus Christ would believe otherwise, for then he would not be a Christian. During my university days, the universe was supposed to be twenty five billion years old. Nowadays it has shrunk to just fifteen billion years. What does that tell you? That they know what they are talking about? They play with billions of years as if they play with yo-yos. You will be surprised how quickly the age of the universe will shrink to just a few thousand years shortly when God steps in human affairs.

What scientists do not tell you is that there is no method by which the age of the universe could be measured with accuracy. Much of what they say is nothing but pure guesswork. And you know why the age of the universe cannot be measured with accuracy? Because we operate under different laws now than they did before the Flood of Noah. The Patriarchs, who lived upwards of eight hundred years before the Flood of Noah, could not live half that long these days. Something happened to the structure of the earth, to its gravity and the passage of time that affected human longevity.

The earth's magnetic field, which is tied to gravity, has been steadily losing its strength for as long as scientists have been able to measure it. That affects the earth's measuring instruments, and gives scientists skewed measurements. But you will never hear that from evolutionary scientists who believe in uniformitarian geology – that things have always run in the manner that we are observing today, and no upheavals of the like of Noah's Flood ever occurred. Even the second law of thermodynamics, which says that the universe is running down continually, fits better into the Biblical account of creation than in the evolutionary science. By its very nature, this world grows old and needs renewing, except that when that renewing will take place it will not be of the same matter, but of spirit that never grows old, like God Himself.

Psa 102:25 "Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands.
Psa 102:26 They will perish, but You will endure; Yes, they will all grow old like a garment;
Like a cloak You will change them, And they will be changed.
Psa 102:27 But You are the same, And Your years will have no end.
Psa 102:28 The children of Your servants will continue, And their descendants will be established before You."

As for those who believe and preach otherwise, this is what God says.

Isa 65:11 "But you are those who forsake the LORD, Who forget My holy mountain, Who prepare a table for Gad,
Isa 65:12 And who furnish a drink offering for Meni. Therefore I will number you for the sword, And you shall all bow down to the slaughter; Because, when I called, you did not answer; When I spoke, you did not hear, But did evil before My eyes, And chose that in which I do not delight." Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:
Isa 65:13 "Behold, My servants shall eat, But you shall be hungry; Behold, My servants shall drink, But you shall be thirsty; Behold, My servants shall rejoice, But you shall be ashamed;
Isa 65:14 Behold, My servants shall sing for joy of heart, But you shall cry for sorrow of heart, And wail for grief of spirit.
Isa 65:15 You shall leave your name as a curse to My chosen; For the Lord GOD will slay you,
Isa 65:16 And call His servants by another name; So that he who blesses himself in the earth Shall bless himself in the **God of truth**; And he who swears in the earth Shall swear by the **God of truth**; Because the former troubles are forgotten, And because they are hidden from My eyes.
Isa 65:17 "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind."

Throughout history, men have wondered what God is doing on this planet, but have not been able to find the answer.

Mat 13:10 "And the disciples came and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?" He answered and said to them,
Mat 13:11 **"Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not**
Mat 13:12 **been given.** "For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. "Therefore I speak to them in parables,
Mat 13:13 because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.
Mat 13:14 "And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: 'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand,
Mat 13:15 And seeing you will see and not perceive; For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their

Mat 13:16 hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.' "But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear; "for
Mat 13:17 **assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it,
and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it."**

Now if not even God's prophets and righteous men could discern what God was doing on this planet, what chance is there for those who are not following God or deny His existence? For a long time, God retained that knowledge even from His prophets. That privileged knowledge required a solid and widespread spiritual background, and that was not possible before Jesus Christ overcame the world and made the Holy Spirit available to all who would believe and follow Him.

John 14:15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments.

John 14:16 "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever;

John 14:17 **"the Spirit of truth**, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him,

John 14:18 for He dwells with you and will be in you. "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you."

John 16:7 "Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you."

The world cannot receive, or hear, or see the "Spirit of truth", so it cannot know the mystery of God's creation. It is only in the very end of time that God says He will reveal that mystery to the world.

Rev 10:5 "The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised up his hand to heaven and swore by Him

Rev 10:6 who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer, but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel,

Rev 10:7 when he is about to sound, **the mystery of God would be finished**, as He declared to His servants the prophets."

Since we are in the process of unveiling the book of Revelation to the world, what does that tell you? The problem is that even when things are made very clear, there are people who would follow their own way rather than the way of God.

Rev 22:10 "And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand.

Rev 22:11 "He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."

Rev 22:12 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work."

It is not possible for one to be a disciple of Jesus Christ if he does not believe in creation, in the Flood of Noah, and in the Bible as a whole, just as Jesus Christ believed. We saw how unreservedly He believed in the Genesis account of creation. And what does that account say? You will be surprised at the difference between what the Bible says and what people believe it does. Let us go to it now. First, the account of creation in its entirety, so that you may refer to it.

Gen 1:1 "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Gen 1:2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Gen 1:3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

Gen 1:4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.

Gen 1:5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

Gen 1:6 Then God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters."

Gen 1:7 Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so.

Gen 1:8 And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day. Then God said,

Gen 1:9 "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so.

Gen 1:10 And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:11 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit

Gen 1:12 according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:13 So the evening and the morning were the third day.

Gen 1:14 Then God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years;

Gen 1:15 "and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so.

Gen 1:16 Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also.

Gen 1:17 God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth,

Gen 1:18 and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:19 So the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

Gen 1:20 Then God said, "Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens."

Gen 1:21 So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:22 And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."

Gen 1:23 So the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

Gen 1:24 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind"; and it was so.

Gen 1:25 And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

Gen 1:27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Gen 1:28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Gen 1:29 And God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.

Gen 1:30 "Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so.

Gen 1:31 Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Gen 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished.

Gen 2:2 And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.

Gen 2:3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

Verse 1 says that God began His creation with the heavens, not with the earth, as it is commonly believed.

Verse 3 tells us that He created light. Now we all know that light comes from the sun, yet at this stage, the sun could not be seen. It was only in the fourth day that the sun appeared. So where did the light come from? There are two possibilities. It came from God Himself, for we know that God is light.

1 John 1:5 "This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all."

Alternately, the light came from the sun. From recent scientific discoveries (not all science is wrong, only the evolutionary one), we know that the universe could have started with an explosion of gas and misty cosmic dust. Out of that dust, God created the solar system. That dust however, was still very dense, and prevented the sun from appearing on the earth. It was like cloudy days in which there is light, but the sun cannot be seen.

Verses 6 to 8 tell us that God cleared the air and created a 'firmament' between the waters above and waters below. In other words, He created the atmosphere between the earth and the clouds. That was the second day.

Verses 9 to 13 tell us that God caused the dry land to rise up out of the waters. Then He created the vegetable kingdom upon the earth. That was the third day.

Verses 14 to 19 tell us that God shifted His attention to the universe once again. He caused the cosmic dust to coalesce into the planets, the stars and galaxies outside of our solar system. For the first time the sun could be seen from the earth. That was the fourth day.

Verses 20 to 23 tell us that God then created the marine animals and the flying creatures. That was the fifth day.

Verses 24 and 25 tell us that God created the animal kingdom of the dry land. That must have been in the first part of the sixth day, because verses 28 to 31 tell us that in the same day God created human beings.

Verses 1 to 4 of chapter 2, tell us that God rested on the seventh day and sanctified it.

Now here comes the interesting part. At the end of each day, God looked at His creation and said that it was good. In the sixth day, after He created the land animals, He also said that it was good. Then He created human beings and said... What did He say? If you ask church people, they will most likely tell you that God looked at human beings and said that they were not merely good, but 'very good'. Herein lays one of the greatest deceptions this world has ever seen. Let us look at that account yet again.

Gen 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

Gen 1:27 "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."

Here would have been the ideal place for God to look at His creation and declare it 'good' or 'very good'. But what do we have instead? Nothing! Let us look again at that passage, lest there be a misunderstanding about it.

Gen 1:28 "Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Gen 1:29 And God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.

Gen 1:30 "Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so.

Gen 1:31 Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day."

It was only in verse 31 that God looked at . . . what did He look at and declare 'very good'? At human beings? No! He looked at everything that He had created and said that it was very good. God deliberately separated human beings from the expression 'very good'. Why did He do that? Because He knew that human beings were not good, let alone very good. Why were they not good or very good? Because they were rotten from the very beginning, and rotten they have been ever since. Here is Jesus Christ again.

Mat 19:16 "Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?"

Mat 19:17 So He said to him, "**Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.** But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments."

If Adam and Eve were 'good' or 'very good', they would have been like God. Yet Jesus Christ said that only One is good, that is, God. To which Apostle John added this.

John 2:24 "But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men,

John 2:25 and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man."

How did Jesus know that? He created man!

John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:2 He was in the beginning with God.

John 1:3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

John 1:4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 1:10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him."

Jesus Christ was the God of creation. He knew that no man is intrinsically good. Nothing in the universe is intrinsically good, least of all human beings, but everything was 'good' or 'very good' the purpose for which it was created.

No man has immortality in himself. If anyone tells you that there is something immortal in you by right of birth, do not believe him, for he is leading you to perdition, not to salvation. The whole world has been blinded with a false gospel. This is why the world is heading towards catastrophe, and why so few people will be saved in the end.

Mat 20:16 "So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen."

Mat 22:14 "For many are called, but few are chosen."

Why New Kings and Priests Are Being Prepared For the Kingdom Of God

In the book of Revelation, we find a puzzling statement about the future leaders of the Kingdom of God.

Rev 1:4 John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come,

Rev 1:5 and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and **the ruler over the kings of the earth.**

Rev 1:6 To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and **has made us kings and priests to His God and Father,** to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Rev 5:9 And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,

Rev 5:10 **And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth."**

He who is 'the ruler over the kings of the earth' is preparing a new set of 'kings and priests' for the Kingdom of His Father. Now why would He do that, when there have been so many kings and priests in the history of the world? And where are the new kings and priests that He is preparing for that Kingdom now? No doubt, those who are currently kings or priests would say, here we are, take us for the count, except that the Bible says that the new kings and priests are unknown to this world.

1 John 3:1 "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore **the world does not know us,** because it did not know Him.

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now **we are children of God;** and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

Those who will be kings **and** priests in the Kingdom of God are not known at this stage. We highlighted the word 'and' because in the Kingdom of God, there will no longer be a separation between church and state, between the religious and the secular, but kings will be priests, and priests will also be kings. From God's point of view, there are no such things as Presidents, Prime Ministers, 'Dear Leaders', or what have you. They are all kings. That is why when the Scriptures speak of the kings of this world, they refer to all leaders.

At the beginning of the state of Israel, there was no separation between the religious and the secular. The leaders, called 'judges', performed both the role of priests of God and leaders of the people. It is only when they decided to be like their neighbors and demanded a king, that the religious and the secular became separated.

1 Sam 8:4 "Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, and said to him,

1 Sam 8:5 "Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations."

1 Sam 8:6 But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." So Samuel prayed to the LORD."

If they were unhappy with Samuel's sons, they could have asked for different judges, more righteous and more obedient to God than his sons, for Samuel was not the only judge in Israel, but obviously they had waited for an opportune occasion to ask for a king so that could be like "all the nations". The tag of 'chosen people' did not stand well with them anymore. Little did they know that what they had asked for would eventually lead to the destruction of Israel.

1 Sam 8:7 "And the LORD said to Samuel, "Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; **for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.**

1 Sam 8:8 "According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt, even to this day; with which they have forsaken Me and served other gods; so they are doing to you also.

1 Sam 8:9 "Now therefore, heed their voice. However, you shall solemnly forewarn them, and show them the behavior of the king who will reign over them.

1 Sam 8:10 So Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who asked him for a king. And he said,

1 Sam 8:11 "This will be the behavior of the king who will reign over you: He will take your sons and appoint them for his own chariots and to be his horsemen, and some will run before his chariots.

1 Sam 8:12 "He will appoint captains over his thousands and captains over his fifties, will set some to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and some to make his weapons of war and equipment for his chariots.

1 Sam 8:13 "He will take your daughters to be perfumers, cooks, and bakers.

1 Sam 8:14 "And he will take the best of your fields, your vineyards, and your olive groves, and give them to his servants.

1 Sam 8:15 "He will take a tenth of your grain and your vintage, and give it to his officers and servants. . . ."

1 Sam 8:18 "And you will cry out in that day because of your king whom you have chosen for yourselves, and the LORD will not hear you in that day."

1 Sam 8:19 Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, "No, but we will have a king over us,

1 Sam 8:20 that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles."

He will take your sons and daughters, and ten percent of your income. Now is this what the kings and leaders of this world are taxing their people these days? What a wonderful world it would be if people paid only ten percent taxes. The average tax in the world at present is at least thirty percent, on top of which preachers demand the ten percent that God said belongs to the leaders – a shameless twisting of the Scriptures, and a merciless regime of taxes, all in the name of God. Can you see now why Jesus Christ did not have a particularly good impression of the kings of this world?

Mat 11:7 "As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind?" "But what did you go out to see?"

Mat 11:8 A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.

Mat 11:9 "But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. "For this is he

Mat 11:10 of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.'

Mat 11:11 "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

What Jesus Christ was telling people here is that if they wanted to find the people of God, they must look not in king's palaces, among those who are well endowed, well fed, and well clothed, but among modest and humble people who are doing the work of God from a poor base. What happened to John the Baptist in the end? He was decapitated for speaking the Word of God boldly by the king that was indulging in the wicked pleasures of this world. Nothing reflects the difference between the people of God and the rulers of this world better than the case of Herod and John the Baptist.

Mark 6:22 "And when Herodias' daughter herself came in and danced, and pleased Herod and those who sat with him, the king said to the girl, "Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you."

Mark 6:23 He also swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom."

Mark 6:24 So she went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist!"

Mark 6:25 Immediately she came in with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." And the king was exceedingly sorry;

Mark 6:26 yet, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he did not want to refuse her.

Mark 6:27 Immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded his head to be brought. And he went and

Mark 6:28 beheaded him in prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother."

Pleasing those who were with him was more important for Herod than pleasing God. Obviously, he did not think much of the judgment of God. He should have.

Acts 12:21 "So on a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat on his throne and gave an oration to them.

Acts 12:22 And the people kept shouting, "The voice of a god and not of a man!"

Acts 12:23 Then immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he did not give glory to God. And he was eaten by worms

Acts 12:24 and died. But the word of God grew and multiplied."

As the ancient Greeks used to say, whom the gods want to destroy, they imbue with power.

Power is not a good sign as far as salvation is concerned. On the contrary, it is a sign of wickedness and perdition.

1 Cor 2:6 "However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, **nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing.**

1 Cor 2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory,

1 Cor 2:8 which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, **they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.**

1 Cor 2:9 But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

1 Cor 2:10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

1 Cor 2:11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world,

1 Cor 2:12 but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

1 Cor 2:13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches,

1 Cor 2:14 comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

1 Cor 2:15 But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one.

1 Cor 2:16 For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ."

Apostle Paul knew very well that Jewish leaders were responsible for the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, and yet here he laid the blame on all rulers. Why? Because he knew that under similar circumstances, they all would have done the same thing, they all would have crucified 'the Lord of Glory'. Human nature is the same in Israel and everywhere else in the world. Only those who receive the Holy Spirit can break loose from the pulls of carnal nature, but for that they need to repent, be baptized, and accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. We have not seen many leaders rushing to do that. In fact, we have seen none. Any wonder that Jesus Christ is preparing a new set of kings and priests for His Kingdom.

Does this mean that this world's leaders are excluded from the elect of God? Not at all. One of the greatest sinners of all time, David, the king of Israel, became one of the greatest prophets of all time, and a man after God's own heart.

1 Sam 13:13 "And Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you. For now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever.

1 Sam 13:14 "But now your kingdom shall not continue. The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you.""

Now here is an interesting question: did David become a man after God's own heart before or after he sinned and repented of it? Samuel's writings make it clear that it was before that. But how could God be sure that He would not regret making that statement so early in the life of this youth? He looked at his heart and knew of what mettle David was made of.

1 Sam 16:6 "So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, "Surely the Lord's anointed is before Him."
 1 Sam 16:7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."
 1 Sam 16:8 So Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."
 1 Sam 16:9 Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."
 1 Sam 16:10 Thus Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen
 1 Sam 16:11 these." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all the young men here?" Then he said, "There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here."
 1 Sam 16:12 So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the LORD said,
 1 Sam 16:13 "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!" Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.
 1 Sam 16:14 But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and a distressing spirit from the LORD troubled him."

What an extraordinary lesson. As soon as the oldest son, who most likely was big and handsome, came before him, Samuel thought that he must be the one God chose to replace Saul as king of Israel. He remembered that Saul was big and handsome too, but what did God tell him? "The Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." By looking at his heart, God knew that David would be able to withstand the trials needed to make it into His Kingdom. No one makes it into the Kingdom of God by means of inheritance or any inborn virtue. All must take control over their human nature – mind over matter – and that requires tribulations.

Acts 14:21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium,
 Acts 14:22 and Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."

1 Pet 4:12 "Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing
 1 Pet 4:13 happened to you; **but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings**, that when His glory is revealed,
 1 Pet 4:14 you may also be glad with exceeding joy. If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.
 1 Pet 4:15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters.
 1 Pet 4:16 Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter.
 1 Pet 4:17 For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? Now,
 1 Pet 4:18 **"If the righteous one is scarcely saved, Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?"** Therefore,
 1 Pet 4:19 let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator."

Rom 8:36 "As it is written: "**For Your sake we are killed all day long**; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter."
 Rom 8:37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.
 Rom 8:38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers,
 Rom 8:39 nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
 Rom 9:1 I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit,
 Rom 9:2 that **I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart.**"

Can you see now why it is so difficult for the leaders of this world to make it into the Kingdom of God? They find it hard to abandon the pleasures of this world for the refinement needed to control their human nature.

Jer 9:6 "Your dwelling place is in the midst of deceit; Through deceit they refuse to know Me," says the LORD. Therefore thus
 Jer 9:7 says the LORD of hosts: "Behold, **I will refine them and try them**; For how shall I deal with the daughter of My people?
 Jer 9:8 Their tongue is an arrow shot out; It speaks deceit; One speaks peaceably to his neighbor with his mouth, But in his heart he lies in wait.
 Jer 9:9 Shall I not punish them for these things?" says the LORD. "Shall I not avenge Myself on such a nation as this?"

Mal 3:13 "Your words have been harsh against Me," Says the LORD, "Yet you say, 'What have we spoken against You?'
 Mal 3:14 You have said, 'It is useless to serve God; What profit is it that we have kept His ordinance, And that we have walked as mourners Before the LORD of hosts?'
 Mal 3:15 So now we call the proud blessed, For those who do wickedness are raised up; They even tempt God and go free."
 Mal 3:16 Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, And the LORD listened and heard them; So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the LORD And who meditate on His name.
 Mal 3:17 "They shall be Mine," says the LORD of hosts, "On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them As a man spares his own son who serves him." Then you shall again discern
 Mal 3:18 Between the righteous and the wicked, Between one who serves God And one who does not serve Him.
 Mal 4:1 "For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," Says the LORD of hosts, "That will leave them neither root nor branch.
 Mal 4:2 But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise With healing in His wings; And you shall go out And grow fat like stall-fed calves. You shall trample the wicked,
 Mal 4:3 For they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet On the day that I do this," Says the LORD of hosts."

Heb 11:36 "Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment.
 Heb 11:37 They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented; of whom the world was not worthy.
 Heb 11:38 They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.
 Heb 11:39 And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise,
 Heb 11:40 God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.
 Heb 12:1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,
 Heb 12:2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
 Heb 12:3 For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged
 Heb 12:4 in your souls. You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.

Heb 12:5 And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;
Heb 12:6 For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives."
Heb 12:7 If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?
Heb 12:8 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.
Heb 12:9 Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them,
Heb 12:10 but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.
Heb 12:11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.
Heb 12:12 Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees,
Heb 12:13 and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed."

Those who endure with patience the refinement and chastisement of the Lord, will one day become His jewels. God is calling on all people to subject themselves to His trials, but not all do so, particularly those who choose to live in the pleasures of this world.

Mark 10:19 "You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Do not defraud,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'"
Mark 10:20 And he answered and said to Him, "Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth."
Mark 10:21 Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me."
Mark 10:22 But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Then Jesus looked around
Mark 10:23 and said to His disciples, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!"
Mark 10:24 And the disciples were astonished at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, "Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God!
Mark 10:25 "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."
Mark 10:26 And they were greatly astonished, saying among themselves, "Who then can be saved?"
Mark 10:27 But Jesus looked at them and said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible."

It is impossible for human beings to guaranty their own salvation, but not impossible if they let God do it for them.

What prevents the kings and leaders of this world from becoming kings and priests in the Kingdom of God is nothing but themselves – the greedy attachments and infatuations of their heart. Now what about the priests, could they not become also kings in the Kingdom of God? Here is Jesus Christ again.

Mat 7:22 "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'
Mat 7:23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

At the time of the judgment, when they expect to receive a reward for their work, Jesus Christ is telling those who claimed to be His priests and ministers, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' Now how could that be? Why would He be doing that? His Apostles give us the answer.

Acts 20:28 "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.
Acts 20:29 "For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock.
Acts 20:30 "Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.
Acts 20:31 "Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears."

Apostle Paul warned his followers with tears in his eyes that after his departure, 'savage wolves' would rise up from among themselves, and devour the flock.

About three and a half decades ago, I saw people suffering grievously under a ruinous regime of tithes and mandatory offerings in the Worldwide Church of God. After years of Bible study, I became convinced that what they were preaching was not in accordance with the New Testament. I left everything and went to the headquarters of that Church, prepared to show them in the Scriptures how the Apostles of Jesus Christ never enforce such a practice upon their followers.

I honestly believed that I could convince them of their error, but instead I discovered that I was dealing with none other than the 'savage wolves' that Apostle Paul warned us about. I then embarked upon an extensive search for the 'little flock' of Jesus Christ, over which the gates of hell would not prevail (Luke 12:32; Mat 16:18), but to my dismay, wherever I looked, I found more 'savage wolves'.

1 Tim 1:5 "Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith,
1 Tim 1:6 from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk,
1 Tim 1:7 **desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.**"

2 Cor 4:3 "But even if our gospel is veiled, it **is veiled to those who are perishing**, whose minds the god of this age has blinded,
2 Cor 4:4 who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them."

At a time when the world is facing dangers that threaten to wipe out the human civilization, churches not only keep quiet about it, but are furiously opposing the work that we are doing on their behalf. They seem to think that by ignoring the end time prophecies that are so visible these days, they may not be coming true in their lifetime.

Mat 24:37 "But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. "For as in the days before the flood,
Mat 24:38 they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,
Mat 24:39 "and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.
Luke 21:36 "Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass,
Mark 13:37 and to stand before the Son of Man." "And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"

Mat 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father.

We have put our meager resources at the disposal of this work so that people may receive the restored Gospel of Jesus Christ freely, yet certain evangelical ministers are taking pleasures in creating difficulties for us. They got their cronies to take advantage of our goodwill by putting excessive demands on us. So far we have complied with all their requests, hoping that in time that may prick their conscience and cause them to behave like true Christians. But, as one might have expected, we have seen no evidence of conscience with these 'savage wolves'. And they wonder that the Holy Spirit has recorded these statements in the Scriptures.

Luke 13:27 "But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.'

Mat 23:15 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves."

Isa 8:20 To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

Isa 8:21 They will pass through it hard pressed and hungry; and it shall happen, when they are hungry, that **they will be enraged and curse their king and their God, and look upward.**

Isa 8:22 Then they will look to the earth, and see trouble and darkness, gloom of anguish; and they will be driven into darkness."

Isa 9:1 Nevertheless the gloom will not be upon her who is distressed, . . . The people who walked in darkness

Isa 9:2 Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined."

"To the law and to the testimony", says the Lord. "If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." If they do not speak according to the word of God, what do they speak according to? They speak according to traditions of men, which are contrary to the Scriptures.

Mat 15:8 "These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me.

Mat 15:9 And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

The world is being scorched by Global Warming, is under threat of being frozen by Global Deeming, water, food and oil are in short supply, humanity is experiencing extremes of weather like never before, yet those who ought to stand up and tell the world why these things are happening, are doing their best to prevent others from doing so and keep their followers in ignorance about those things. And what do the kings of the earth do about that?

Rev 19:19 "And I saw the beast, **the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him** who sat on the horse and against His army."

Not just one or a few kings, but all kings of the earth take up arms against the very Savior that comes to save them from annihilation. Not a single king, leader, priest, preacher or minister of religion, believes and obeys the true Gospel of Jesus Christ these days. They have all been deceived with a false gospel that present Him as an alien who comes to destroy the world, and Satan as the true savior of the world.

2 Cor 11:13 "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.

2 Cor 11:14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his

2 Cor 11:15 ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works."

This is why Jesus Christ is preparing a new set of kings and priests for the Kingdom of His father.

Who Are The Three Unclean Spirits of Revelation 16

In some of our previous writings, we have identified the 'beast' and the 'false prophet' of Revelation 16:13 as the head of the Roman Catholic Church and the head of Philadelphia Church of God respectively. Now although nominally they are different, they are in fact of the same spirit, both doing the work of the Devil, but from different perspectives: the first within the old mainstream religions of Europe, while the second within the Churches of God that proliferate in America.

Then, to our dismay, after the second Gulf War, we were made to write that the leaders of the Coalition of the Willing stood for the 'beast', the 'false prophet' and the Dragon. We were very reluctant to write that down, but when God speaks, who can by prophesy?

Amos 3:8 "A lion has roared! Who will not fear? The Lord GOD has spoken! Who can but prophesy?"

That caused us a lot of soul searching and wanted an answer, for no one wants to be put in that kind of situation, least of all those who claim to speak for God. After much agonizing prayer, we got the answer, but from a most unexpected source.

In our job, we receive materials from all over the world from people who want to either inform us, or 'correct' us on things they disagree with us. We have been in this job long enough to know that we are wasting our time with these materials. We have never found one to be well conversant with the Scriptures, and that is why most of them go straight into the rubbish bin. One of them, however, caught our attention just in time before it went into the rubbish bin too. It had something about Prince Charles and the numerical values of his name and title. We think you will find this interesting too.

666 – Count the number of the Beast

| English Letter | Greek Letter | Hebrew Letter | Numerical Value | Official Name | Number of Man |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| A | alpha | aleph | 1 | P | 70 |
| B | beta | beth | 2 | R | 90 |
| C | gamma | geemel | 3 | I | 9 |
| D | delta | dahleth | 4 | N | 50 |
| E | epsilon | beh | 5 | C | 3 |
| F | zeta | vahv | 6 | E | 5 |
| G | eta | zahyn | 7 | | |
| H | theta | heth | 8 | C | 3 |
| I | iota | teht | 9 | H | 8 |
| J | - | yohd | 10 | A | 1 |
| K | kappa | kaht | 20 | R | 90 |
| L | lambda | lahmed | 30 | L | 30 |
| M | mu | mem | 40 | E | 5 |
| N | nu | nun | 50 | S | 100 |
| O | omicron | samekh | 60 | | |
| P | pi | ahyin | 70 | O | 60 |
| Q | - | peh | 80 | F | 6 |
| R | rho | tsahdec | 90 | | |
| S | sigma | kolh | 100 | W | 0 |
| T | tau | rehsh | 200 | A | 1 |
| U | upsilon | sheen | 300 | L | 30 |
| V | phi | taw | 400 | E | 5 |
| W | - | - | 0 | S | 100 |
| X | chi | - | 0 | | |
| Y | psi | - | 0 | Total | 666 |
| Z | omega | - | 0 | | |

Charles means "man". His title in Wales: NASICH CHARLES ME WALES adds up as follows:

140 380 40 106 for another total of 666.

We are sorry, but we do not know who sent us this material, and we cannot attribute it. It is a very interesting piece, and we are grateful for it. If you tell us who you are, we will gladly acknowledge it.

These coincidences are striking to say the least. Both titles: Vicar of Christ, which the Popes claim, and Prince Charles Of Wales, add up in three different languages to 666: the Vicar of Christ, in Latin, Greek and Hebrew (See 'The Blind Leading The Blind' in *TCH 8* for details), and Prince Charles of Wales, in English, Greek and Hebrew.

Now could human beings come up with these kinds of coincidences long before the people involved were even born and knew anything about them? We do not think so! Only an all-wise God could do that. (If you want to see more astonishing biblical coincidences, see the article, 'The Inspiration of the Scriptures Scientifically Demonstrated' in *TCH 1*).

When we looked at the material about Prince Charles for the first time, we thought it would be too much to think that he could be so important as to figure in biblical prophecies when more prominent historical figures have not. Unless . . . somehow, he is connected with the end time prophecies. Indeed, a closer look into the Bible produced some astonishing results.

Ezek 21:25 'Now to you, O profane, wicked prince of Israel, whose day has come, whose iniquity shall end, thus says the Lord

Ezek 21:26 GOD: "Remove the turban, and take off the crown; Nothing shall remain the same. Exalt the humble, and humble the

Ezek 21:27 exalted. Overthrown, overthrown, I will make it overthrown! It shall be no longer, Until He comes whose right it is, And I will give it to Him."

"Until He comes whose right it is." This is none other than Jesus Christ, and this prophecy could not be fulfilled in any other way except in the context of His return. He will come to take over the throne of His father David, and put an end to the monarchy whose "wicked prince" is no longer worthy of it.

Millions of people have given their life to free their children from the shackles of Roman Catholicism and practice the religion of their choice. Yet now, the British Monarchy and the leaders of the Anglican Church are doing their best to take their flock back to the Catholic fold. God Almighty will never allow that. For without the liberties that arose from the Protestant Reformation, we would never have been able to carry out this work. God's prophecies would have remained unveiled, the Gospel of Jesus Christ would not have been witnessed to the world, there would be no elect of God to prepare for His return, and the life of this planet would have been irretrievably endangered. But now there is hope, for as Jesus Christ said, for the sake of His 'elect', God will intervene to cut those days short before all flesh is lost (Mat 24:22).

When Jesus Christ returns, He will take over the throne of His father David, whose earthly inheritors have proven unworthy of that legacy. Not many people know that the British Monarchy comes in the line of King David of Israel. God promised him that his throne would be established forever.

2 Sam 7:12 "When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

2 Sam 7:13 "He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

2 Sam 7:14 "I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men.

2 Sam 7:15 "But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you.
2 Sam 7:16 "And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever." "

The Son who would build the 'house of the Lord' is Jesus Christ. He will build that 'house' not of bricks and mortar, but of spirit beings (See Rev. 21 and 22). Nevertheless, because God's prophecies have a dual fulfillment, there must be an earthly, as well as a heavenly throne. Solomon inherited the earthly throne, but he and his children proved unworthy of it. Their disobedience led to the destruction of the nation of Israel when both Samaria and Judea were taken into captivity. There was danger then that David's royal line could have come to an end.

1 Ki 2:1 "Now the days of David drew near that he should die, and he charged Solomon his son, saying:
1 Ki 2:2 "I go the way of all the earth; be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man.
1 Ki 2:3 "And keep the charge of the LORD your God: to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments,
1 Ki 2:4 His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn; that the LORD may fulfill His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul,' He said, 'you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.'"

Here we have a qualification for inheriting the throne: "If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel." So did God break that line, as many people believe He did? No! If He had done so, He would have told us. Nowhere in the Bible is there an indication that God's promise to David had been terminated. On the contrary, the Bible tells us that God enacted an alternative course of punishment. He caused Israel to disappear from the face of the earth by sending its people into captivity. On that occasion, David's royal line could have ended, but instead it took an extraordinary turn. After Samaria was taken captive by Assyria, and while Judea was under attack by the Babylonians, a remnant of Judah took refuge in Egypt. Among them were the prophet Jeremiah and "the king's daughters".

Jer 43:5 "But Johanan the son of Kareah and all the captains of the forces took all the remnant of Judah who had returned to
Jer 43:6 dwell in the land of Judah; from all nations where they had been driven men, women, children, **the king's daughters**, and every person whom Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had left with Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, and Jeremiah the prophet and Baruch the son of Neriah.
Jer 43:7 So they went to the land of Egypt, for they did not obey the voice of the LORD. And they went as far as Tahpanhes."

This is the last time Israel's royal line is mentioned in the Bible. That line however did not disappear from the face of the earth. Through a circuitous route, it ended up in the British Isles. Jeremiah and the king's daughters found their way to Britain where they re-established and continued the Davidic royal line on the tribe of Ephraim, the leading tribe of Samaria.

Samaria had proven to be a lot less rebellious and more obedient to God than Judea. There are many 'legends' in Britain about the presence of Jeremiah and the Davidic royal line in that land. We now know that these are more than 'legends', they are historical facts.

This brings us back to Ezekiel's prophecy about the wicked prince, and the fact that Prince Charles' name and title add up to 666. Does that mean that he supplanted the head of the Roman Catholic Church as the 'beast' of Revelation, whose title also adds up to 666? Certainly not! No man could ever do that. That 'honor' belongs to one man and one man only – to Pontifex Maximus, or the Pontiff as he is more commonly known. That position goes back to the time of Jesus Christ, to the prophet Daniel, to Samaria, and all the way to Egypt. (See, 'Daniel's Last Great Mysteries Unveiled' in *TCH 10*, for further details).

The Popes, particularly John Paul II, have been very keen on the policy of ecumenism – bringing churches and religions together under a common umbrella. For this to happen, their doctrines had to become more lax and fluid.

Religious leaders were supposed to put more accents on what unites people rather than on what keeps them apart. Things seemed to go well for a while until the Islamists threw a wrench into the works.

In line with the ecumenical movement, Prince Charles decided that he does not want to be known as the defender of the faith – defender of Christianity – but defender of the faiths – all faiths of the British Commonwealth, which practically means all faiths of the world.

Well, God has heard his wish. He will not become the defender of the faith. He will not become the defender of any faith. God has taken the crown away from him.

In December 2005, Great Britain announced in a blaze of publicity that it had legalized same-sex 'marriages'. Many celebrity 'couples' took advantage of it and promptly 'tied the knot'. The Prime Minister, Toni Blair, declared that to be a sign of progress. The Monarchy, had earlier knighted some of those 'celebrities'. Thus, what God thinks is an abomination, Great Britain's leaders think it is a honor. Little do they know that they have brought their nation to the edge of the abyss.

2 Pet 2:4 "For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness,
2 Pet 2:5 to be reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into
2 Pet 2:6 ashes, condemned them to destruction, **making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly;**
2 Pet 2:7 and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked (for that righteous man,
2 Pet 2:8 dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds);
2 Pet 2:9 then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day
2 Pet 2:10 of judgment, and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. . . ."

2 Pet 2:20 "For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning.

2 Pet 2:21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb:

2 Pet 2:22 "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire."

This solves the association of the 'beast' of Revelation 16:13 with one member of the Coalition of the Willing. But with whom do we associate the other two spirits – the false prophet, and the Dragon? Here is one clue.

“A New, Earth-based ‘Global Spirituality’” “What do George W. Bush, George Soros, the Rev. Sun Myung Moon and the Dalai Lama have in common? All have thrown their support to the United Religions Initiative. And what is the URI? According to a new blockbuster book, “False Dawn: The United Religions Initiative, Globalism, And The Quest For A One-world Religion” by Lee Penn, it’s something that doesn’t bode well either for a sovereign America or for Christianity. The interfaith movement began with the 1893 World’s Parliament of Religions in Chicago, and has since grown worldwide. Although this movement as been largely unknown to the public, it now provides a spiritual face for globalization, the economic and political forces leading from nationalism to a one-world system.

The most ambitious organization in today’s interfaith movement is the United Religions Initiative, or URI, founded by William Swing, the Episcopal bishop of California. In “False Dawn,” Penn, a Catholic ex-Marxist, exhaustively documents the history and beliefs of the URI and its New Age and globalist allies, the vested interests that support these movements, and the direction they appear to be taking.

The interfaith movement is no longer merely the province of a coterie of little-heeded religious idealists with grandiose visions. The URI’s proponents have ranged from billionaire George Soros to President George W. Bush, from the far-right Rev. Sun Myung Moon to the liberal Catholic theologian Hans Küng, and from the Dalai Lama to the leaders of government-approved Protestant churches in the People’s Republic of China.

According to Penn, the interfaith movement, including the URI, is being promoted by globalist and New Age reformers who favor erosion of national sovereignty, marginalization of traditional religions, establishment of “global governance,” and creation of a new, Earth-based “global spirituality” – in effect, a one-world [pagan] religion.

Therefore, warns “False Dawn,” the URI and the interfaith movement are poised to become the spiritual foundation of the New World Order – the “new civilization” now proposed by Mikhail Gorbachev, the last leader of the Soviet Union. As Penn explains it: French metaphysician René Guénon, in “The Reign of Quantity and the Signs of the Times,” spoke of the “anti-tradition” (the forces of materialism and secular humanism) finally giving way to the “counter-tradition” (the satanic inversion of true spirituality), leading to the regime of Antichrist. The “anti-tradition” weakens and dissolves traditional spiritualities, after which the “counter-tradition” sets up a counterfeit in their place. Since Guénon’s time, as is well known, anti-traditional forces have greatly advanced worldwide. It is less well-known that counter-traditional movements have also made great strides, and now stand closer to the centers of global political and religious power than ever before. The “counter-tradition” is making inroads on the political and cultural Right, as much as it is doing on the Left. “False Dawn” painstakingly documents these trends, and speculates on their future development. In so doing, the author takes investigative reporting to the threshold of prophecy, and gives us a stunningly plausible picture of the global religious landscape of the 21st century. (WorldNetDaily.com, June 14, 2005)

Anyone who supports a globalist movement that aims to enforce a pagan religion upon the world, cannot be a friend of Jesus Christ. And if he is not a friend of Jesus Christ and does not rejoice at His return, he could never be part of the Kingdom of God. Not being part of that Kingdom means loss of salvation and eternal death.

Not long ago, we received a letter from an American Christian who chastised us for speaking in not too flattery terms about her President. She assured us that he is a believer who goes to Church regularly. We wonder whether she knew of his involvement in this “Earth-based ‘Globalist Spirituality’”. In their College days, both President Bush and his father were members of secretive organizations that had as symbol the skull and bones. Frightening staff, and very un-Christian.

It is obvious that in the prophecy of Revelation 16:13, Britain and its leaders are associated with the spirit of the ‘beast’, while America and its leaders with the spirit of the ‘false prophet’. But who stands for the Dragon. Since the third member of the ‘Coalition of the Willing’ was Australia, it created a real puzzle for us. How could our Prime Minister be associated with the Dragon? We could not believe our eyes how we got the answer to this puzzle.

It is a well-known fact that the Dragon is the mascot of China. On any celebratory occasion, a huge effigy of that monster is paraded in a ritualized manner on the streets of China and in Chinatowns around the world.

In May 2005, a high ranking Chinese official from the Chinese embassy in Canberra, Chen Yonglin, defected and sought political asylum in Australia. What happened afterwards shocked the nation. John Howard’s Government refused his request and told him to go back to China. Under different circumstances, and at other times, that would have been considered treason. Now, commercial interests dictate otherwise. Now people think it is all right to sell their soul for a bowl of rice.

Phil 3:17 Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. For many walk, Phil 3:18 of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: Phil 3:19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame; who set their mind on earthly things.

Chen Yonglin said that he had knowledge and documents which proved that China had over one thousand spies in Australia, yet the Government of John Howard did not even want to look at them or listen to what he had to say. No consideration was given to the fact that a return to China would have meant a sure death for him. This from a Government that sent its soldiers to fight for freedom and democratic rights for the people of Afghanistan, Iraq, and others. Only a huge outcry from the people and the media caused the Government to change its course, but even then, it did not grant the man political asylum, and only a temporary refugee status. To the very end, John Howard sought to please his newly found friends in China. Then, in the true spirit of the Dragon, the Government lied about it.

“Hours after the defection of the Chinese consular official Chen Yonglin in May, Immigration officials passed a request for political asylum to the Foreign Affairs Department, a Senate committee was told yesterday. The evidence contradicts the comments of the Foreign Minister, Alexander Downer, on June 8 in response to media questions about Mr Chen. “He didn’t lodge a formal application at all,” Mr Downer said. The NSW director of the Immigration Department, Jim O’Callagan, testified to a Senate foreign affairs hearing in Sydney yesterday that he received a letter from Mr Chen on May 26. Mr O’Callagan said he was surprised by the serious nature of the political asylum bid.” (Sydney Morning Herald, July 26, 2005).

A couple of months later, during a speech before a gathering of the Heads of State at the United Nations, Australia’s Prime Minister, John Howard, brought great eulogies, not to Australia, but . . . to China. He went on to tell the assembly that it is good for the world to do business with . . . China. China has one of the largest trade surpluses in the world, and

Australia one of the largest trade deficits, yet our leader pleads with the world to do business with China. Strange and marvelous are the ways of the Lord. Is there any doubt with whom the spirit of the Dragon is associated now?

When God revealed to us that the three spirits of the river Euphrates are the three leaders of the Coalition of the willing, we were very reluctant to write it down since that seemed to go contrary to some of our earlier revelations. But, "When the Lord GOD has spoken! Who can but prophesy?" (Amos 3:8). We wrote it down and wondered about it. How could we have imagined that in due time God would reveal to us these amazing associations?

What we learn from these examples is that more than one person could be under the influence of the spirits of the "beast", the "false prophet", and the Dragon. Our original revelations, therefore remain intact.

In Revelation 16:13, the Dragon is mentioned first, but we left it last for a good reason. The 'beast' and the 'false prophet' are spoken of in several books of the Bible, either directly or indirectly, but the Dragon appears for the first time under that name only in the book of Revelation. And do you know how many times he is mentioned there? Thirteen times. In biblical numerology, thirteen always comes down as the number of the Devil.

Let us go back now to that passage from Revelation and see something important to which few have paid much attention.

Rev 16:12 Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.

Rev 16:13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

Rev 16:14 For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

Rev 16:15 "Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame."

Rev 16:16 And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.

The prophecy of verse 12 has been fulfilled.

The prophecy of verses 13 and 14 has only been partly fulfilled. The rest of this prophecy shifts the theatre of operation from the River Euphrates to the Valley of Megiddo (Armageddon), in Israel.

Now how could the three unclean spirits of Euphrates, end up in Israel from Iraq? Once again, great and mysterious are the ways of the Lord. They do not come as invaders, but as peacemakers. They call their interference in the Middle East, 'Road Map to Peace'. And who is guaranteeing that "peace"? The United Nations and European Union soldiers who are already 'patrolling' Israel's northern and southern borders. Of course, the 'Road Map to Peace' is nothing of a kind, but rather it's a 'Road Map to War'. One only has to listen to the bellicose statement from Iranian and some Arab leaders who never stop advocating wiping Israel off the Middle Eastern map to realize where the world is heading.

We left out verse 15 for a good reason. Why do you think Jesus Christ inserted it there, where it appears to be completely out of context? He inserted it to show us when that awesome event will take place. As Jesus would say, 'he who has eyes let him see, and he who has ears let him hear'.

Unveiling The Book Of Revelation

(Part 2)

Every article in this edition, has dealt with one or more of the topics discussed in the book of Revelation. For this reason, we strongly advise everyone to read those articles first, for we cannot go over those topics again. We discussed the first part of Revelation in *The Christian Herald No 14*. Here is the second part.

Rev 12:1 Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars.

Rev 12:2 Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.

Rev 12:3 And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns,

Rev 12:4 and seven diadems on his heads. His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

Rev 12:5 She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.

Rev 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

Rev 12:7 And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels

Rev 12:8 fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.

Rev 12:9 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.

Rev 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

Rev 12:11 "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

Rev 12:12 "Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."

Rev 12:13 Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male

Rev 12:14 Child. But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

Rev 12:15 So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood.

Rev 12:16 But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.

Rev 12:17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

This chapter presents in a concise form a huge chunk of Israel's history. The woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and a garland of twelve stars on her head, is the nation of Israel who gave birth to the Child Jesus. The twelve garlands are the twelve tribes of Israel. When Jesus overcame the Dragon and became the Christ, and rose to His Father's throne in heaven, He expelled Dragon from heaven and sent him tumbling down to earth, where he became a deadly enemy to the people of God and followers of Jesus Christ.

Notice how the followers of Jesus Christ are distinguished from the rest of the world: those who keep the Commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. How many "Christians" keep the Commandments of God and believe the true Gospel of Jesus Christ? We know of none.

For a millennium and a half, while the Roman Catholic Church held sway over the Christian world, keeping the Commandments of God was punishable by death. Even today, if you ask the Catholic, Orthodox, or Protestant preachers about the Commandments of God, they tell you that they have been nailed to the cross.

Of course, Jesus Christ did no such thing. He said that He came not to destroy but to fulfill the law.

Mat 5:17 "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill."

What did He nail to the cross then? Dietary and sacrificial requirements that weredesigned to bring us to Christ!

Col 2:13 "And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him,

Col 2:14 having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

Col 2:15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

Col 2:16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths,

Col 2:17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.

Col 2:18 Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which

Col 2:19 he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.

Col 2:20 Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as though living in the world, do you subject

Col 2:21 yourselves to regulations; "Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,"

Col 2:22 which all concern things which perish with the using; according to the commandments and doctrines of men?

Col 2:23 These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.

Col 3:1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God."

Heb 8:13 In that He says, "A new covenant," He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is

Heb 9:1 ready to vanish away. Then indeed, even the first covenant had ordinances of divine service and the earthly sanctuary."

Heb 9:27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, (*No reincarnation, Ed*),

Heb 9:28 so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

Heb 10:1 For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices,

Heb 10:2 which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. For then would they not have **ceased to be offered**? For the worshippers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. . .

What ceased to be offered?

Heb 9:9 It was symbolic for the present time in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed

Heb 9:10 the service perfect in regard to the conscience; concerned only with **foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly ordinances imposed until the time of reformation.**"

We continually come across people who do not know where the Old Testament ends and the New begins, or which parts of the Old Testament are still valid today and which are not. These passages from Colossians and Hebrew should clarify that. It is the things that were concerned with "foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly ordinances imposed until the time of reformation" that ceased to be observed under the New Testament, not the Commandments of God, for otherwise the Dragon would not have persecuted those who continued to keep them after the Roman Church forbade it.

Here are God's Commandments again from Exodus chapter 20. Take particular note of their order of importance.

1. "You shall have no other gods before Me.

2. "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

3. "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

4. "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

5. "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land . . .

6. "You shall not murder.
7. "You shall not commit adultery.
8. "You shall not steal.
9. "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
10. "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."

Now which Commandment do you think is more important: those against murder, adultery, stealing, lying and coveting, or keeping the Sabbath holy? From God's point of view, keeping the Sabbath holy is far more important than the other six Commandments. And so it is for Jesus Christ, otherwise He would not have told His disciples that He expects to find them keeping the Sabbath when He returns to this earth.

Mat 24:20 "And pray that your flight may not be in winter or **on the Sabbath**. "For then there will be great tribulation, Mat 24:21 such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be."

People are not allowed to carry burdens on the Sabbath even when their life is in danger. It is better to die keeping the Commandments of God, than to prolong your life by breaking one of the Commandments.

Can you see now why the churches of today are wrong when they say that the Commandments have been done away with? They have to say that, otherwise they have to keep the Sabbath, not the Day of the Sun, a practice that is as old as ancient Egypt, from where it came. This is why the Dragon has had no qualms with those that kept Sunday as the day of rest and worship, but has persecuted to death those that kept the Sabbath.

Pay no attention to the justification people bring for keeping Sunday instead of the Sabbath. God has never authorized that change, and if He had not authorized it, people have no business sticking their nose in God's affairs. For God, Sabbath observance is very important because it distinguishes his people from the rest of the world.

Exo 31:12 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak also to the children of Israel, saying:

Exo 31:13 'Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a **sign between Me and you** throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the LORD who sanctifies you.

Exo 31:14 'You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people.

Exo 31:15 'Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.

Exo 31:16 'Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant.

Exo 31:17 '**It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever**; for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed."

This is why the Sabbath is so important. Now back to the book of Revelation.

Rev 13:1 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.

Rev 13:2 Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.

Rev 13:3 And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

Rev 13:4 So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

Rev 13:5 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for

Rev 13:6 forty-two months. Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle,

Rev 13:7 and those who dwell in heaven. It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.

Rev 13:8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain

Rev 13:9 from the foundation of the world. If anyone has an ear, let him hear.

Rev 13:10 He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

Rev 13:11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon.

Rev 13:12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

Rev 13:13 He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.

Rev 13:14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.

Rev 13:15 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

Rev 13:16 He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads,

Rev 13:17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Rev 13:18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.

This chapter, plus chapter 17, have been amply discussed in *The Christian Herald's* numbers 4 and 10. Sufficient to say here that the beast with seven heads and ten horns is Samaria, which became the Roman Empire, the Holy Roman Empire, and the Empires of Europe down through the centuries. The head that had been mortally wounded and rose to world prominence is Pontifex Maximus who became head of the Catholic Church after Rome imposed its will on Christianity. Number 666 comes from assigning numerical values to

letters in the title Vicar of Christ. (See the full explanation in the article, 'The Blind Leading the Blind' in *The Christian Herald No 8*).

Rev 14:1 Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads.

Rev 14:2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.

Rev 14:3 They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.

Rev 14:4 These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.

Rev 14:5 And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

Rev 14:6 Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth; to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people;

Rev 14:7 saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

Rev 14:8 And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice,

Rev 14:9 "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand,

Rev 14:10 "he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

Rev 14:11 "And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.

Rev 14:12 "Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

Rev 14:13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

Rev 14:14 Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.

Rev 14:15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe."

Rev 14:16 So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

Rev 14:17 Then another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.

Rev 14:18 And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe."

Rev 14:19 So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress

Rev 14:20 of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs.

Verses 1- 5, are about the return of Jesus Christ and the resurrection of the kings and priests that will rule under Him during the Millennium Kingdom. (For a full explanation of who these people are, see *The Christian Herald No 1*).

Verses 6 – 7, are about what will happen in the world during the Millennium Kingdom, when only the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Gospel of truth and salvation, will be preached in the world. The fall of Babylon in verse 8 is only in a spiritual sense (a fall which occurred symbolically when Jesus Christ overcame the world and rose to heaven), because subsequent verses tell us that people will still be worshipping it and disregarding the Commandments of God for a long time, for which they incur the wrath of God, of the holy angels, and of Jesus Christ. The real fall of Babylon occurs much later, in chapter 19, at the end of the age of man and the beginning of the age of Jesus Christ – the Millennium Kingdom.

Rev 15:1 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete.

Rev 15:2 And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.

Rev 15:3 They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!

Rev 15:4 Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, For Your judgments have been manifested."

Rev 15:5 After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened.

Rev 15:6 And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands.

Rev 15:7 Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God who lives

Rev 15:8 forever and ever. The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power, and no one was able to enter the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

Verses 2 to 4 give us an image of the throne of God and of the kings and priests that are raised to life in the first resurrection. The rest of this chapter prepares us for what is to come in subsequent chapters. Before that, however, we need to go back briefly to chapter 10, for what we have here is continuation of the prophecies and mysteries that were interrupted there. Here is part of chapter 10.

Rev 10:4 "Now when the seven thunders uttered their voices, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them."

Rev 10:5 The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised up his hand to heaven and swore by Him who lives

Rev 10:6 forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea

Rev 10:7 and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer, but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets."

It is not possible for the mystery of God to be finished until the seven thunders, which were not written down, are revealed and fulfilled. What God did in this chapter was merely postpone writing them down until after chapter 15. There is no other time when these thunders could be unveiled and fulfilled. God would not

have mentioned them if we were not meant to know about them. This is the only time this prophecy could have been fulfilled.

Rev 16:1 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God
Rev 16:2 on the earth." So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.
Rev 16:3 Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead man; and every living creature
Rev 16:4 in the sea died. Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood.
Rev 16:5 And I heard the angel of the waters saying: "You are righteous, O Lord, The One who is and who was and who is to be, Because You have judged these things.
Rev 16:6 For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, And You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due."
Rev 16:7 And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments."
Rev 16:8 Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire.
Rev 16:9 And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.
Rev 16:10 Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain.
Rev 16:11 They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.
Rev 16:12 Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.
Rev 16:13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.
Rev 16:14 For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.
Rev 16:15 "Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see
Rev 16:16 his shame." And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.
Rev 16:17 Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!"
Rev 16:18 And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth.
Rev 16:19 Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.
Rev 16:20 Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And great hail from heaven fell upon men,
Rev 16:21 each hailstone about the weight of a talent. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great.

This chapter takes over from chapters 8 and 9, and relates a relatively short period of time at the end of the Industrial Revolution. Verses 1 and 2 speak of the epidemics and pestilences that are striking those that engage in idolatry. People do not call their 'image of the beast' idol, they call it 'icon'.

Remember, no one knows what Jesus Christ looked like. He is greatly offended by those images, not only because that is contrary to the third Commandment, but also because they bear no resemblance of Him. The glorified Christ simply cannot be portrayed by human beings. We can only imagine what He and the Father look like (See Rev. chapters 1 and 4).

Verses 3 and 4 speak of the rapid deterioration in the quality of water during this time. The Dead Sea of verse 3 is none other than the Salt Sea of the time of Jesus Christ. At that time people used to catch fish in that Sea. Now it is dead.

Verses 5 to 7 tell us of a great mystery. God is making His presence in the world three times. "The One who is and who was and who is to be", tells us that the prophecies of this chapter are fulfilled during His second presence in the world.

Verses 7 and 8 speak about Global Warming and people's refusal to turn to God for remedy.

Verses 10 and 11 tell us how the 'beast' deceives people into committing blasphemy against the true God. Instead of repenting of their deeds, for which they are being punished, they blaspheme and hate God for their sufferings.

For verses 12 to 16 turn to the article 'Who are the three unclean spirits of Revelation 16?' elsewhere in this edition.

Verses 17 to 21 relate the Great Tribulation just prior to the return of Jesus Christ. The devastating tsunami of last year was but a forewarning of a catastrophe of unimaginable proportions. Every island will disappear, and every mountain leveled out. The world is on the brink of that horrifying calamity.

Rev 17:1 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication,

Rev 17:2 and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication."

Rev 17:3 So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

Rev 17:4 The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication.

Rev 17:5 And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

Rev 17:6 I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marvelled with great amazement.

Rev 17:7 But the angel said to me, "Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.

Rev 17:8 "The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

Rev 17:9 "Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits.

Rev 17:10 "There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time.

Rev 17:11 "And the beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.

Rev 17:12 "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast.

Rev 17:13 "These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.

Rev 17:14 "These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful."

Rev 17:15 Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.

Rev 17:16 "And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her

Rev 17:17 flesh and burn her with fire. "For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled.

Rev 17:18 "And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."

For this chapter see the comments on chapter 13.

Rev 18:1 After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying,

Rev 18:2 "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit,

Rev 18:3 and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! "For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of

Rev 18:4 her luxury. "And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins,

Rev 18:5 and lest you receive of her plagues. "For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.

Rev 18:6 "Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, Rev 18:7 mix double for her. "In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.'

Rev 18:8 "Therefore her plagues will come in one day; death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her.

Rev 18:9 "The kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep and lament for her, when they

Rev 18:10 see the smoke of her burning, standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come.'

Rev 18:11 "And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore:

Rev 18:12 "merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood, every kind of object of ivory, every kind of object of most precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble;

Rev 18:13 "and cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and bodies and souls of men.

Rev 18:14 "The fruit that your soul longed for has gone from you, and all the things which are rich and splendid have gone from you, and you shall find them no more at all. "The merchants of these things,

Rev 18:15 who became rich by her, will stand at a distance for fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, and saying, 'Alas, alas,

Rev 18:16 that great city that was clothed in fine linen, purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls!

Rev 18:17 'For in one hour such great riches came to nothing.' Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea, stood at a distance

Rev 18:18 "and cried out when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, 'What is like this great city?'

Rev 18:19 "They threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping and wailing, and saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city, in which all who had ships on the sea became rich by her wealth! For in one hour she is made desolate.'

Rev 18:20 "Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!"

Rev 18:21 Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore.

Rev 18:22 "The sound of harpists, musicians, flutists, and trumpeters shall not be heard in you anymore. No craftsman of any craft shall be found in you anymore, and the sound of a millstone shall not be heard in you anymore."

Rev 18:23 "The light of a lamp shall not shine in you anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived.

Rev 18:24 "And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth."

This chapter continues the story of the 'MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH' from the previous chapter. There is only one institution in the world, whose tentacles have reached into all corners of the earth, which could fit the description of this Babylon, Mother of Harlots: that which has killed people for keeping the Commandments of God and His Holy Days for Millennia.

Rev 19:1 After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God!

Rev 19:2 "For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her."

Rev 19:3 Again they said, "Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!"

Rev 19:4 And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, "Amen! Alleluia!" Then a voice came from the throne, saying,

Rev 19:5 "Praise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!"

Rev 19:6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory,

Rev 19:7 for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."

Rev 19:8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Rev 19:9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!' " And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

Rev 19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

Rev 19:11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire,

Rev 19:12 and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.
 Rev 19:13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.
 Rev 19:14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.
 Rev 19:15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.
 Rev 19:16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.
 Rev 19:17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, "that you may eat the flesh of kings,
 Rev 19:18 the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great."
 Rev 19:19 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.
 Rev 19:20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning
 Rev 19:21 with brimstone. And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.

This chapter relates the return of Jesus Christ and the opposition He faces from the 'great Harlot' and the kings of the earth. This is when Babylon the great and Mother of Harlots fall and are wiped out from the face of the earth, not when its fall was spoken of for the first time in chapter 14.

See also the article, 'Why New Kings And Priests Are Being Prepared For The Kingdom Of God' in this edition, for a lengthier explanation of the fate of those who follow the 'great Harlot' into taking up arms against Jesus Christ.

Rev 20:1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.
 Rev 20:2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up,
 Rev 20:3 and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.
 Rev 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.
 Rev 20:5 But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.
 Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.
 Rev 20:7 Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison
 Rev 20:8 and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea.
 Rev 20:9 They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.
 Rev 20:10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.
 Rev 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them.
 Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.
 Rev 20:13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works.
 Rev 20:14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.
 Rev 20:15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

Verses 1- 3 speak of the Millennium Kingdom when the Devil is locked up and no longer able to deceive the nations.

Verse 4 tells us that one of the duties of those who are resurrected first is to judge the world.

Verses 5 - 6, and 11 - 15 tell us that at the beginning of the Millennium takes place the first resurrection in which the new kings and priests are raised to life and rewarded with eternal life, while at the end of it the rest of the humanity are resurrected and judged. Only those who are found worthy of it will receive eternal life in the Kingdom of God. The rest will be cast into the great lake of fire. There is no Hell fire into which the sinful people will be tormented forever. They will simply be eliminated in that lake of fire, and their smoke will be rise up forever. The rest of this chapter and the next two are self-explanatory.

Rev 21:1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.
 Rev 21:2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
 Rev 21:3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.
 Rev 21:4 "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."
 Rev 21:5 Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."
 Rev 21:6 And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.
 Rev 21:7 "He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.
 Rev 21:8 "But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

Rev 21:9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife."

Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

Rev 21:11 having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.

Rev 21:12 Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

Rev 21:13 three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west.

Rev 21:14 Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

Rev 21:15 And he who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall.

Rev 21:16 The city is laid out as a square; its length is as great as its breadth. And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal.

Rev 21:17 Then he measured its wall: one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel.

Rev 21:18 The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.

Rev 21:19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper,

Rev 21:20 the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst.

Rev 21:21 the fourth emerald, The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

Rev 21:22 But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

Rev 21:23 The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.

Rev 21:24 And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it.

Rev 21:25 Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there).

Rev 21:26 And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it.

Rev 21:27 But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Rev 22:1 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

Rev 22:2 In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

Rev 22:3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.

Rev 22:4 They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.

Rev 22:5 There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever. Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true."

Rev 22:6 And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place.

Rev 22:7 "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

Rev 22:8 Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. Then he said to me,

Rev 22:9 "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."

Rev 22:10 And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand.

Rev 22:11 "He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."

Rev 22:12 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.

Rev 22:13 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."

Rev 22:14 Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. But outside are dogs

Rev 22:15 and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

Rev 22:16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

Rev 22:18 For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book;

Rev 22:19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

Rev 22:20 He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

Rev 22:21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

In verse 14, God's Commandments are mentioned again – for the third time in this book. Can you see now why the Catholic Church and its siblings do not like this book, and why they are doing their best to keep people away from it?

They do not like it because it also identifies the 'MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.'

God says, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues." (Rev 18:4).

There has never been a more urgent time for the people of God to come out of this 'Mother of Harlots' than it is now.

THE CHRISTIAN HOLY DAYS FOR THE YEARS 2006 - 2008

| | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
|---|---------------|-------------------|----------------|
| The Passover (Pesah - Nissan 14) Unlike the Jews, who used to kill the Passover lamb "at the twilight" of Nissan 14 (meaning in the evening towards Nissan 15), we, Christians, observe the Passover when our "Lamb" – Jesus Christ – was sacrificed. That happened on the afternoon of Nissan 14, before the twilight of Nissan 14, meaning that we keep it a little earlier than the Jews. We commemorate His death, not His supper, which occurred the previous evening, as some churches do. The time when His body was broken, not when He broke the symbolic bread. | 12 April | 2 April | 19 April |
| Days of Unleavened Bread (Nissan 15 – 21) On the first and seventh days there shall be holy convocations. No work shall be done on these days. | 13 – 19 April | 3 – 9 April | 20 -- 26 April |
| Pentecost (Shavuot – Sivan 6) | 2 June | 23 May | 9 June |
| Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah - Tishri 1) | 23 Sept. | 13 Sept. | 30 Oct. |
| Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur – Tishri 10) | 2 Oct. | 22 Sept. | 9 Oct. |
| Feast of Tabernacles (Succoth -- Tishri 15 – 22) | 7 – 14 Oct. | 27 Sept. – 4 Oct. | 14 – 21 Oct. |

On the first and the eighth days there shall be holy convocations. No work shall be done on these days.

A few words here about the weekly Sabbath. Some people have made a major virtue out of observing it in the strictest sense. They forget that the Pharisees were very strict Sabbath keepers, yet that did not prevent them from committing the greatest sin ever. They did not understand the truth of God because their heart and their attitude were not right before God.

Jesus Christ said that the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath, and that He was also the Lord of the Sabbath, meaning that He could make exceptions when these are needed.

"At that time Jesus went through the grain fields on the Sabbath. And His disciples were hungry, and began to pluck heads of grain and to eat. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to Him, 'Look, Your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath!' But He said to them, 'Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: how he entered the house of God and ate the showbread which was not lawful for him to eat, nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests? Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath, and are blameless? Yet I say to you that in this place there is One greater than the temple. But if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless. For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.'" (Matt. 12:1-8).

There is a great deal of difference between our modern society and the pastoral and agrarian society of ancient Israel when God gave them the commandment to keep the Sabbath together with their servants.

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates." (Exod. 20:8-10).

It is virtually impossible in our present society to prevent all people from working on the Sabbath day. Your fridge, stove, oven, lights, radio, television, etc. work because some "servants" keep them going for you. There are electrical power stations that cannot be shut, programs that have to be broadcast, traffic lights to be operated, hospitals and emergency stations to be manned, police stations to be opened, etc.

The world can never return to a pure pastoral or agrarian society. The society of the future shall always need people to operate these things during the Sabbath and during Holy Days. These people perform a function that is similar to that of the priests who work during the Sabbath and during Holy Days, and take their rest in other days. Therefore, we would be hypocrites to condemn those who make it easy for us to keep the Sabbath if they are unable to keep it with us. So let us worship God and give Him thanks that we can keep His Sabbaths and His Holy Days at the appropriate times, but pray for, and be forgiving towards, those who cannot keep them with us. Let them worship God and take their rest in other days, but let these be as Sabbath days, not as a days of the Sun (Sundays) or days dedicated to some other pagan gods.

Another point to be made here is that although Jesus Christ said that "the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath", this does not mean that people are allowed to change it from the seventh day (Saturday) to the first day of the week (Sunday).

This is not what He meant. Proof of this is the fact that none of the Apostles, or the early Churches of God, worshipped on Sundays. They all observed the Sabbath correctly on the seventh day of the week. The change to Sunday occurred several centuries later after the Romans imposed their festivals on Christianity and forced the believers not to "Judeaize" by worshipping on Saturday rather than on Sunday.

"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh [has come in the form of the Holy Spirit to dwell in us] is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world" (1 John 4:1-3).