

FUTURE FOR AMERICA

Volume 3, No. 7

July 1999

Distribute Literature Everywhere

By Ellen G. White

There are many places in which the voice of the minister cannot be heard, places which can be reached only by our publications—books, papers, and tracts filled with the Bible truths that the people need. Our literature is to be distributed everywhere. The truth is to be sown beside all waters; for we know not which will prosper, this, or that. In our erring judgment we may think it unwise to give literature to the very ones who would accept the truth the most readily. We know not what may be the results of giving away a leaflet containing present truth.

—Manuscript 127, 1909.

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Future for America

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Future for America has come into existence so that meat in due season may reach the flock at this time. . . .It is present truth that the flock needs now. We look to add our flavor to the many ministries available today.

Future for America is a self-supporting 501-C3 nonprofit corporation and is funded by readers like you. We exist to assist those who are striving to be among the 144,000—through the Prophetic Word and the Health Message—by the power of the Holy Spirit. We hope to help God's people teach our Health Message by using the effective teaching and learning tools which we will provide. We also hope to inspire lay persons to do this by arousing them to the lateness of the hour through the Prophetic messages found in this publication, in seminars, and available in books and on both audio and video tapes.

This publication is sent out free of charge. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Future for America

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Mission Statement

The ministry of *Future for America* is to proclaim the final warning message of Revelation 14 as identified within the prophecies of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. The end-time fulfillment of Bible prophecy is no longer future—for it is taking place before our eyes. The historic, prophetic understanding of Seventh-day Adventism is now *present truth*. We are the final generation. Our emphasis on the prophetic word includes all the counsel of God's Word. To know what lies ahead is useless if we do not possess the experience to stand during these solemn times. Through obedience to God's law, and faith in the promises of God's Word, we are to receive that experience.

Coupled with the prophetic message, *Future for America* emphasizes all aspects of the medical missionary work. The "entering wedge"—medical missionary work—must be practiced by those who are to finish God's work in these final hours.

During this time period, country living becomes more essential with each passing moment. *Future for America* upholds and promotes this end-time truth. God's people must prepare for the coming storm, and that preparation includes the experience of learning how to survive in a simple fashion, away from the great centers of population.

Future for America intends to print and distribute truth-filled literature, while helping to establish lay-printing operations in parts of the Lord's vineyard where faithful brethren do not have the means to raise up a printing operation with their own resources.

THE SUNDAY ISSUE HEATS UP!

By Jeff Pippenger

Heretofore those who presented the truths of the third angel's message have often been regarded as mere alarmists. Their predictions that religious intolerance would gain control in the United States, that church and state would unite to persecute those who keep the commandments of God, have been pronounced groundless and absurd. . . . But as the question of enforcing Sunday observance is widely agitated, the event so long doubted and disbelieved is seen to be approaching, and the third message will produce an effect which it could not have had before.—*The Great Controversy*, 605–606.

Based on the previous passage, we have—in our earlier newsletters and public presentations—pointed out that when the Apostolic letter *Dies Domini* was released last year by the papacy, that the agitation for Sunday legislation had begun. We believe prophecy teaches that the latter rain begins in earnest at the Sunday law in the United States, for it is that test which purifies God's church. This purification divides Adventism into two groups, the sealed and those who receive the mark of the beast. The purification or division allows the latter rain to be poured out without measure, thus locating the latter rain as a prophetic waymark that arrives immediately after the Sunday test begins. However, we are quick to point out that just prior to the Sunday test we will see the sprinkling of the latter rain, as those who are preparing their character for the seal of God begin to receive increasing amounts of the Spirit of God.

The passage just cited identifies the time when this sprinkling begins as when "the question of enforcing Sunday observance is widely agitated." It is our contention that the agitation began with the *Dies Domini* letter. We often share the headlines from the weekly Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano* as demonstrating the beginning of the agitation, for following this newspaper's publication of the complete text of *Dies Domini* it lifted up different aspects of the Sunday question in its weekly front page headlines for the next two months.

Just before we left for the Philippines a brother sent in a copy of a Vatican document setting forth the outline from the Vatican for evangelizing the Seventh-day Adventist Church. That document is as follows:

SPECIAL DOCUMENT FROM THE VATICAN (1997-2002)

The Catholic Plan to Evangelize the Seventh-Day Adventists PROJECT

"The Most Desirable Sectarian Group"

Main point: "To evangelize the Seventh-Day Adventists with the true gospel, constitutes the greatest gain of the Catholic Church to return the Protestants to Rome."

OBJECTIVES

1. To infiltrate, among the Adventists, ideas, projects that could aid in bringing about a Catholic-Adventist closeness.
2. Make concessions that would tend to bring together Catholic thinking among the Adventist.
3. To look for, analyze, with the Seventh-Day Adventists common objectives for evangelization.
4. To dismember mistaken paradigms that the Adventists have about the Roman Catholic Church.
5. To demonstrate to the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, that its origin as a church has no biblical basis.
6. To demonstrate to the Seventh-Day Adventists the falsehood of the writings of Ellen White.
7. To demonstrate to the Seventh-Day Adventists how prejudicial (dangerous) to world peace, are their positions about the Pope, the Virgin Mary and Sunday as the day of rest.
8. To point out to the Seventh-Day Adventists that their church has the highest level of apostasy among the Protestants, due to the theological shakings that characterize it.
9. To bare before the world the steps that the Adventist Church has taken, through its legitimate leaders toward the Catholics and ecumenism.
10. That the Seventh-Day Adventists understand that not to unite with Catholics and Protestants, to search for world peace together, they would be blamed for all the evils and/or disasters that may befall the world.

* * * * *

We shared this document during the meetings in the Philippines. It made it up to the division level, and the president of the division sent it to every pastor in the division.

Just recently, when I arrived in Colombia the document was already there, in Spanish, with a cover letter from the General Conference identifying it as a genuine Vatican document. Friends the "agitation" is well under way.

While in Colombia, an even more provocative and serious document surfaced from the country of Brazil. This document not only calls for support of the pope as the unfailing head of Christendom, but this call comes from the Syrian Orthodox Church, not the Roman Catholic Church. This call identifies *Dies Domini* as the defining document for Sunday laws, while clearly identifying Seventh-day Adventists as those people who need to be legally dealt with. Please prayerfully read the following, understanding that it has been translated from Portuguese to Spanish to English:

APOSTOLIC AND PASTORAL LETTER



I Crisóstomos Moussa Matanos Sálama, by God's mercy, archbishop of the holy Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioquia at the archdioceses

located in Brazil, at the following address: Comendador Street, Salamao #74- Belo Horizonte—MG Brazil, proclaim this pastoral letter, to call for a convocation of archbishops, bishops, fathers, deacons and delegates from different orthodox communities in Brazil, in order to gather together for an EXTRAORDINARY SYNOD (no date set yet), focusing on the issue of the Roman document from the Holy Father, John Paul II, Successor of Peter the apostle, called DIES DOMINI, which exalts the Sunday as truly the day of the Lord because of Christ's resurrection—a glorious event that took place THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK, with many apparitions of the Lord of Life recorded in the New Testament.

I am going to give a broad explanation about this most important day which the world has known along the historic trajectory—SUNDAY (KIRIAKE HERMERA)—that will be studied in this HOLY SYNOD, along with the articles of the Association and Orthodox Apostolic Catholic Churches of the West, having the presence of patriarchs, authorities from the Eastern Holy churches and with the presence of our patriarch, His Holiness Don Elias IV and representatives from the patriarch Pinen of Russia and authorities of the Roman Apostolic Catholic Church through the ONBB (National Conference of Bishops in Brazil).

1. We cannot tolerate the keeping of any other "day" by any other religion without the full knowledge of "His Holiness." The catholic writers, John, Matthew, Mark and Luke do not mention any other day but the DAY OF THE LORD—SUNDAY, the only day of the resurrection of Christ. That is why we can not accept any other gospel. (Galatians 1:6-9.)
2. We cannot tolerate any belief in the keeping of any other "day" that is in accordance with the Bible and the holy tradition and liturgy. (Isaiah 1:13-14.)
3. We cannot tolerate Jews, Sabbatizers, Adventists, or any other sect that does not keep the day of the Lord, Sunday, and tries to lead the people to go into great erroneous theologies against the good moral customs created through the rich traditions of the Holy Church.
4. We cannot tolerate those who do not seek to understand or accept the precepts ordained by the Holy Father, the Pope, in regards to the day of the Lord's resurrection—Sunday.

5. We cannot tolerate any agreement with Bible texts that are not explained by the Living Magistracy (religious teaching authority) of the Roman Apostolic Catholic Church which will govern the world in fulfillment of the word of God from Genesis to Revelation.

6. We cannot tolerate any keeper of any other day but the Holy Sunday, the main day of the resurrection of the eternal God. In virtue of this, we are obligated to fulfill the demands of the Divine oracles enforced by the Roman Apostolic Catholic Church—which decides the destiny of mankind.

7. We cannot tolerate the transgressors of the Holy day—Sunday. In this case they will receive judicial penalties through the Justice Court to stop and restrain the liberty of conscience of those who are disobedient to the laws imposed by Rome, according to the supremacy of the Pope—Advocate of the Divine Laws. He who judges, but cannot be judged.

8. Due to the intolerance of the transgressors, we will ask, through the United States of America, to punish drastically the disobedient who came from 1844, who have taken to their fold our Catholic people that are ignorant about the motives of the transgressors. Our fold, through fear of the law, is joining under the Millerite farce (sabbatizing). These Millerites seek to contradict the holy pope with spurious doctrines, like the observance of the Sabbath day and the non-immortality of the soul, which are the principal pillars of their heresies.

9. We will not tolerate those transgressors. We will ask the American authorities to take the transgressor's possessions, like publishing houses, their orphanages, their schools, and this needs to be done with holy urgency in order to completely finish with this deception (farce).

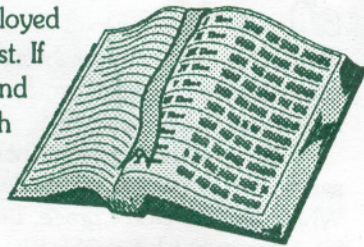
* * *

I would hope that you would consider this point which is the following passage:

"In the movements now in progress in the United States to secure for the institutions and usages of the church the support of the state, Protestants are following in the steps of papists. Nay, more, they are opening the door for the papacy to regain in Protestant America the supremacy which she has lost in the Old World. And that which gives greater significance to this movement is the fact that the principal object contemplated is the enforcement of Sunday observance—a custom which originated with Rome, and which she claims as the sign of her authority. It is the spirit of the papacy—the spirit of conformity to worldly customs, the veneration for human traditions above the commandments of God—that is permeating the Protestant churches and leading them on to do the same work of Sunday exaltation which the papacy has done before them.

"If the reader would understand the agencies to be employed in the soon-coming contest, he has but to trace the record

of the means which Rome employed for the same object in ages past. If he would know how papists and Protestants united will deal with those who reject their dogmas, let him see the spirit which Rome manifested toward the Sabbath and its defenders.



“Royal edicts, general councils, and church ordinances sustained by secular power were the steps by which the pagan festival attained its position of honor in the Christian world. The first public measure enforcing Sunday observance was the law enacted by Constantine. (A.D. 321.) This edict required townspeople to rest on ‘the venerable day of the sun,’ but permitted countrymen to continue their agricultural pursuits. Though virtually a heathen statute, it was enforced by the emperor after his nominal acceptance of Christianity.”—*The Great Controversy*, 573–574.

Notice a three-fold process which is described here in the introduction of Sunday laws, “Royal edicts, general councils, and church ordinances sustained by secular power were the steps by which the pagan festival attained its position of honor in the Christian world.” (All emphasis added unless otherwise noted.)

The papacy is a monarchy. It is not a democracy, nor is it a communistic style of government. The pope is the classical “kingly power.” In this sense, prophetically, the letter *Dies Domini* is a “royal edict.” This recent letter from Brazil is a call for a church “general council,” and the next step is when “secular power” is used to enforce “church ordinances.” This third step is, of course, the Sunday law—which fulfills the description of the image of the beast.

Brothers and sisters, the royal edict is here, and the church which has set forth this royal edict is openly and directly attempting to overcome Adventism. The calls for church councils in order to rally behind the Sunday law and the Papacy are under way. The agitation is increasing, and it is therefore clear that we are in the time period when, “the third message will produce an effect which it could not have had before.” This effect is identifying when the power comes into the message and the only power that comes into the message is the power of the Holy Spirit, for we know that is is not by human might, or human power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord. Friends we are in the sprinkling time of the latter rain and only those who are receiving the early rain will partake of the latter:


“Many have in a great measure failed to receive the former rain. They have not obtained all the benefits that God has thus provided for them. They expect that the lack will be supplied by the latter rain. When the richest abundance of grace shall be bestowed, they intend to open their hearts to receive it. They are making a terrible mistake. The work that God has begun in the human heart in giving His light and knowledge, must be


continually going forward. Every individual must realize his own necessity. The heart must be emptied of every defilement, and cleansed for the indwelling of the Spirit. It was by the confession and forsaking of sin, by earnest prayer and consecration of themselves to God, that the early disciples prepared for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. The same work, only in greater degree, must be done now. Then the human agent had only to ask for the blessing, and wait for the Lord to perfect the work concerning him. It is God who began the work, and He will finish His work, making man complete in Jesus Christ. But there must be no neglect of the grace represented by the former rain. Only those who are living up to the light they have, will receive greater light. Unless we are daily advancing in the exemplification of the active Christian virtues, we shall not recognize the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain. It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it.


“At no point in our experience can we dispense with the assistance of that which enables us to make the first start. The blessings received under the former rain are needful to us to the end. Yet these alone will not suffice. While we cherish the blessing of the early rain, we must not, on the other hand, lose sight of the fact that without the latter rain, to fill out the ears and ripen the grain, the harvest will not be ready for the sickle, and the labor of the sower will have been in vain. Divine grace is needed at the beginning, divine grace at every step of advance, and divine grace alone can complete the work. There is no place for us to rest in a careless attitude. We must never forget the warnings of Christ, ‘Watch unto prayer,’ ‘Watch and pray always.’ (1 Peter 4:7; see Luke 21:36.) A connection with the divine agency every moment is essential to our progress. We may have had a measure of the Spirit of God, but by prayer and faith we are continually to seek more of the Spirit. It will never do to cease our efforts. If we do not progress, if we do not place ourselves in an attitude to receive both the former and the latter rain, we shall lose our souls, and the responsibility will lie at our own door.

“Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain.’ (Zechariah 10:1.) Do not rest satisfied that in the ordinary course of the season, rain will fall. Ask for it. The growth and perfection of the seed rests not with the husbandman. God alone can ripen the harvest. But man’s co-operation is required. God’s work for us demands the action of our mind, the exercise of our faith. We must seek His favors with the whole heart if the showers of grace are to come to us. We should improve every opportunity of placing ourselves in the channel of blessing. Christ has said, ‘Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst.’ (Matthew 18:20.) The convocations of the church, as in camp-meetings, the assemblies of the home church, and all occasions where there is personal labor for souls, are God’s appointed opportunities for giving the early and the latter rain.”—*Review and Herald*, March 2, 1897.

YOUR LETTERS


 How much I appreciate your ministry! It has been a real blessing. Recently I was reading the articles by Charles Fitch on *Sin Shall Not Have Dominion*. . . and I couldn't believe it—I could have written that because that is exactly what I went thru when I came to understand the victory over sin experience! And then to see that it was part of a book, and that the book is on sale this month—God is so good! BS—WI

 I am greatly blessed by Jeff's clear explanations and understanding of prophetic events. . . I am asking the Lord for more wisdom and understanding and DESIRE for spiritual things. Please pray for me and my family. I want to be ready to meet the Lord! VM—CA

 First of all let me thank Jesus for having put my name on that mailing list, and thank you for giving us "meat in due season." Your tapes are greatly appreciated and studied diligently. Now I can see where the quote on page 67 of *Early Writings* fits perfectly. It is under the *Mark of the Beast* chapter.

But now time is almost finished and what we have been years learning, they will have to learn in a few months. . . What an exciting time to be living. By God's grace may we be ready for what is coming upon this world with blinding force.

. . . I am retiring in a few months and want to do some studies so I can be of help to the Lord's cause in the months to come, and also to be ready when Jesus comes (by God's grace). Thank you again for your effort in warning God's people of His near coming. JE—NH


 It was a delight to again receive *Future for America* Newsletter and tape today. I don't know who put my name on the mailing list, but I am thankful. I read the newsletter the day I receive it and try to listen to the tape that day or the next. Then I share them with others who are not on your mailing list. Thank you for always being a blessing and for doing the work that will hasten our Lord's soon return. May God richly bless you as you continue to work for Him. . . . Your Sister in Christ, JN—TN


 Just listened to your newest audio tape "*The Crowning Act*." You are right on and if I may add some info—Rev. 13:13,14.

"When the state shall use its powers to enforce the decrees and sustain the institution of the church—then will Protestant America have formed an *image* to the papacy and there will be a national apostasy which will end only in national ruin."—ST March 22, 1890. BC7A 976.

As of November 1998, the United States Supreme Court upheld the State of Wisconsin request for state funds to support all private schools—Catholic as well as Adventist etc. So, young man, it looks to me like the image to the beast is being made NOW!

May our grand and glorious Holy FATHER & HIS SON, JESUS be with you is my prayer. Sincerely, JC—WA


 Everyone should read—from time to time—page 294 from *God's Amazing Grace*: "Erroneous eating and drinking result in erroneous thinking and acting." GL—VA

 I am writing to affirm you and encourage your work in the Lord. Upon hearing the series *Those Things Which Have Been, Will be Repeated*, my heart was thrilled beyond words to hear my convictions voiced.

Last year there was an incident . . . [which] caused me to search the Scriptures more deeply, and the writings of Ellen White, and by God's grace, I determined the time was much later than what I thought. I have been reading much. . . and much of my study centered around page 209 of *Maranatha*. Shortly thereafter I have received your series from a friend, and I was able to put it all together a little bit better.


Bless your heart for making the effort to wake up our people! The end is very near!

. . . Yes, the "temporal millennium" is on its way. Praise God we are awakened to this fact. The beginning of the tape was handled so well on your part. Maybe Jan. 1st 2000 won't be the exact moment—but, it's coming. Brother, you are correct. . . . Keep up the good work! The Lord is leading you, and He's using you. His peace and strength be yours. KA—MD


 Thank you very much for the interesting material. I am studying the topics with great interest and I can frankly say, that the interpretations are wonderful, because Jeff Pippenger follows the principle by making the Bible its own expositor. . . .

May God bless you all at "Future for America." I believe that the end of the world is at hand. And I pray that God's dear people will be prepared for the great crisis ahead.


Your brother in Christ, JC—Switzerland

 Thank you so much for your newsletter and tapes. They are timely messages we need for the time in which we live. They are what the Bible calls 'meat in due season.'

May God continue to bless your ministry. EJ—SC

 Thank you for sending me the three audio tapes and all the other reading materials in the parcel. Having gone through most of them, I have a clearer picture of the events that will soon take place prior to the second millennium. . . . Together we humbly participate in His Great Plan of Redemption.

AP—East Malaysia

 May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you as you labour for Him, preparing a people for His soon Advent. We as a peculiar people have a lot of work to do to be really prepared. In this part of the world, the message of the fulfilling end-time prophecies are not up to date and very rare. It was my privilege to be in Melaka. I think it is through God's providence that I was there, and was given a set of the End Time . . . and a copy of the pamphlets. The people here have been very blessed by the audio presentations, though some parts were not clear. I have photostated the booklet for distribution and have for the last 3 weeks used it for prayer meetings, Wednesday. Thank you so much for the talks, Brother Jeff. We enjoyed and at the same time are very astonished by the message. It is something new to us and we are anxious to study more. We are taking steps to dub the tapes for distribution, too. . . .

Once again it is my prayer that God will bless you in a very special way in your ministry. Thank you, WH—Sarawak

T I M E L I N E S

In The Stream Of Time Near The End Of The Line.



House OKs Display of Ten Commandments

Washington — Searching for a new way to curb youth violence, the House bestowed its blessing Thursday on displaying the Ten Commandments in schools and other state owned facilities and braced for a showdown over gun control. The vote was 248-180 . . . to allow states to display the commandments. Critics said the provision was unconstitutional, but the Alabama Republican countered that it would 'Promote morality and work toward an end of children killing children. Separately in a second victory for the entertainment industry in as many days, the House rejected a proposal to require labeling of violent content in entertainment products such as video games.

The debate marked the House's attempt to fashion a response to the shootings at a Colorado high school and elsewhere in recent months, and prompted lawmakers in both parties to lament cases of "children killing children." Other provisions, approved on Wednesday, would call for tougher penalties for juvenile offenders, make it easier to try some juveniles as adults and require federal prosecutors to devote increased time and money to pursuing gun-related crimes.—*The Associated Press*.

The May 1999 issue of the magazine *Church and State* focussed upon the current issue. . . . One article . . . addresses an unsuccessful attempt to place the Ten Commandments into the city council chambers in Charleston, South Carolina. The proposal received unanimous support, but the city council backed down after a lawsuit was filed. The article mentions a significant aspect of the Charleston story.

. . . The *Charleston Post and Courier* apparently thought it would be interesting to see if the members who wanted to endorse the Commandments could actually name them. Out of the nine council members, none could name all 10 commandments, and two refused to even try. . . .

"This is a perfect example of the entire national controversy," said Lynn. "The people who were insisting that the government endorse their religious beliefs should have spent more time studying the content of the Ten Commandments and less time using them as some kind of political football."—*Church and State*, May 1999, page 10-11.

Note: "To secure popularity and patronage, legislators will yield to the demand for Sunday laws." *Prophets and Kings*, 605-606.

When we see politicians who make their decisions based on opinion polls, we know the condition has arrived where Sunday legislation can be achieved. We have also been told that "our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and republican government."—*Testimonies*, 5, 451.

Right now in the United States politicians are jumping on the bandwagon to pass legislation which repudiates the heart of the Constitution—simply because its is now the politically correct thing to do. A man who makes his choices in order to be 'politically correct'

is attempting to "secure popularity and patronage." Perhaps the two most important prophetic indicators in the current push over the Ten Commandments are that the principles of the Constitution are being repudiated, and that politicians are clearly primarily worried about their popularity—as demonstrated by their willingness to post the Commandments in the buildings of the civil government—even though they know not what those Commandments state.



ALIEN REGISTRATION

INTERROGATORIES REGARDING THE OATH OF RENUNCIATION AND ALLEGIANCE (8 U.S.C. 1409; 8 C.F.R. 337.1)

QUESTION #18. If a law were passed and determined by the Courts to be constitutional, would you obey it even if you believed that it was unwise or inconsistent with your personal and/or religious beliefs? (___yes; ___no)

For aliens registering in the United States of America, this is a new question that they must answer. This came into effect in 1997 or 1998. Does this sound an alarm for you?



E.U. Expects to Handle Next Euro Crises

On Friday, European Union leaders—one day after approving a blueprint for constructing a strong defense and security arm by the end of year 2000—announced that retiring NATO chief Javier Solana will be taking Henry Kissinger's calls as the E.U.'s first ever foreign policy czar. All of which means that the next time there's a Kosovo-style conflict on the continent, Europe doesn't plan on taking orders from the White House.—*Time Online*, June 7, 1999.



Russia and EU Common Foreign Policy

European Union leaders endorsed a blueprint for building a long-term strategic partnership with Russia on Friday, hoping it will warm relations chilled by differences over Kosovo. The adoption of the plan at the EU summit in Cologne was the first building block of a future common EU foreign policy under the Amsterdam Treaty which came into force this month.—*Reuters*, June 7, 1999.



EU Relations With Russia

The heads of state and heads of government of the European Union 15 member countries at the summit in Cologne adopted a common conception of relations with Russia, the first in the West's history. According to German State Minister Guenter Verheugen, the main goal of the doctrine is consolidation of partnership between the EU and the Russian Federation. Strategic partnership between the EU and Russia is aimed at insuring stability in Europe and durable peace in the world. The European Union wants Russia to be a state with open, stable, plural democracy supported by a firm legal basis and prospering market economy, the document notes.—*Itar-Tass* news agency, June 6, 1999.

About 36,000 local governments in the United States, cities' and counties' are preparing for possible Y2K computer bug problems. Public water systems are a common worry for many of the cities surveyed by The Associated Press. What needs to be fixed has been a priority on the federal level since at least 1997. But it's the cities and towns of America that could first face any digital dilemmas, and some say they are lagging.—*Associated Press*, June 7, 1999.



Bilderbergers Secret meeting

Clinton, Pope, Princes, Kings, and other Top "Above the Law and Under the Table" Mucky-Mucks, join Bilderbergers Secret meeting of global movers, shakers in Portugal June 3-6.

Bilderberg meetings emphasize a globalist agenda and promote the idea that the notion of national sovereignty is antiquated and regressive.

If the US president meets with the Russian president it is normally front page news. If the pope meets with the president it is big news. Why will no one hear about the meeting of this prominent group of people known as Bilderbergers?

President Clinton, Pope John Paul II, Boris Yeltsin, Yevgeny Primakov, Tony Blair, Jacques Chirac, LiPeng, Jean Chretien, Henry Kissinger, Jiang Zemin, Charles Bronfman, John Howard, Kofi Annan, Mohammed Khatami, Yasser Arafat, Hafez Assad, King Fahd, Hosni Mubarak, Madeleine Albright, Trent Lott, Thomas Daschle, Dennis Hastert, Bob Livingston, Ted Turner, Steven Spielberg, German President Roman Herzog, Swiss President Ruth Dreifuss, German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder and South African President Nelson Mandela. These are a few globalists who are among the many world leaders, including a good number from Israel, which appear on a published "partial guest list," to appear along with the CEO's of major banking, investment firms and computer companies, like Bill Gates. . . .

Why is such a meeting closed to reporters, and billed as an informal, "off-the-record?" One reason is it permits members of some Western European royal families to meet, who otherwise are banned from playing active roles in the political process by the constitutions of their democratic monarchies. Many members of the Bilderberg Group, like those of the Trilateral Commission, the Council on Foreign Relations and the Club of Rome, emphasize a globalist agenda and would tend to advance the idea that the notion of national sovereignty is antiquated and regressive.—*Woiler News Service*, June 6, 1999.



Uzbek Christians Sentenced

LONDON, June 11 (Compass) — The twice-delayed trial of four evangelical Christians arrested earlier this year took place June 9 in Nukus, the capital of the Karakalpakstan autonomous republic in Uzbekistan.

The four . . . were sentenced to long prison terms on what Christians in Uzbekistan say are trumped-up drugs charges.

Turibayev was sentenced to 15 years in prison. Yangibayev, Iss'ed and Salamat each received 10-year sentences. It appears they have been sentenced not only on charges of drug posses-

sion, but also for drug trafficking.

Article 273 of the Criminal Code—the only drug-related article with a maximum sentence of 15 years—punishes those preparing or distributing drugs. The 15-year maximum term is reserved for "especially dangerous recidivists."

All four are members of the unregistered Full Gospel Church in Nukus. Turibayev, who is in his mid-20s, and Yangibayev were arrested in late February, while Iss'ed and Salamat were arrested in the first week of March. Police reportedly planted drugs on them in what has become a frequent tactic against religious activists—both Christian and Muslim—and political opponents of the government.

Court hearings set on May 13 and again on May 25 were postponed, first when the defense lawyers failed to appear after apparent intimidation, and then when the judge reportedly refused to conduct the trial, fearing the consequences for trying such a sensitive case. All four men sentenced are converts to Christianity from a Muslim background.

During his pre-trial detention, Turibayev reportedly continued to preach. He is said to have made 95 converts in Nukus prison, after which—at the end of April or the beginning of May—he was punished by being sent into an isolation cell.

The trial came less than a week after the arrest of another evangelical Christian in Nukus. Lt. Sergei Danileiko was arrested June 3 after reportedly giving out several Christian tracts in the Karakalpak language to other soldiers during a stopover at Nukus airport.

Danileiko's plane was already in the air again, en route to the town of Ferghana, when it was ordered to return to Nukus. Back on the ground, local authorities searched Danileiko and found some 10 pieces of Christian literature in the Karakalpak language in his possession. He was then arrested.

The autonomous Karakalpakstan republic of Uzbekistan has maintained a tough stance against the steady growth of Christianity among its populace since the Central Asian state became independent in 1991.—Felix Corley, *COMPASS DIRECT*, June 11, 1999.



Adventists Against "Quack Medicine"

"We are opposed to those who would try to exploit our membership through quack medicine,' using products and concepts which are at best non-proven," said Dr. DeWitt Williams, health ministries director for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. Williams says that the Church needed to take action "to prevent the exploitation of members by unscrupulous practitioners of unproven techniques that claimed medical benefits." He explained that church members had the right to expect that presentations and programs held on church properties had been sanctioned by the relevant church administration. "Pastors and members need to be assured that those coming to present programs relative to health benefits are rightly representing church perspectives on health," said Williams. "Whatever 'quack medicine' may be popular at the moment should not be presented in our churches or endorsed by them."

A number of Adventist Church organizations will be addressing the situation and making recommendations, which may include credentialing of speakers, Williams reported.—*adventist.fm news*, May 27, 1999.



IBM Wins Y2K Litigation

The Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, has dismissed the class action lawsuit brought against Big Blue and Medic Computer Systems by Mario C. Yu, M.D., a physician in obstetrics and gynecology. The class action suit was brought on behalf of all persons and entities that purchased the bundled solution comprised of IBM's RS/6000 computer system containing the AIX o/s v. 4.1 and the Medic application software v.7.0 dated July 7, 1997. The complaint alleged that the bundled solution was not Y2K compliant. Medic makes products that track patient appointments and test results. . . . Yu sought to recover compensatory, punitive, and injunctive relief on behalf of all class members. The case dismissal comes as legislation to limit such lawsuits arising from Y2K is stymied in Congress.—*CNET News*, June 7, 1999.



Vatican, Lutherans End Dispute

GENEVA (AP) - The Roman Catholic and Lutheran churches have ended a nearly 5-century-old dispute over how people achieve salvation, officials announced Friday.

The accord represents "a decisive step forward in the process of reconciliation," said Rev. Ismael Noko, general secretary of the Lutheran World Federation.

After 30 years of consultations among theologians, the two sides announced agreement almost a year ago on a Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification, meant to resolve a doctrinal debate at the heart of the 16th century Protestant Reformation that split Western Christianity.

But differences remained on the interpretation and wording of the accord, and it took several more months to complete a three-page annex and statement clarifying the churches' position.

"It's not a document of compromise," said Cardinal Edward Cassidy, who heads the Vatican's office for relations with other denominations. "It's a document based on truth, but in a spirit of reconciliation."

The two sides crafted compromise language on "basic truths" regarding what theologians call "justification," or how human-kind achieves salvation.

For the Lutherans, salvation depends on the grace of God, while Catholics maintain that good works are also involved. The declaration states that divine forgiveness and salvation come "solely by God's grace" and that good works flow from that.

"We do not claim agreement on all issues related to the doctrine of justification," Noko said. "Nevertheless, we have reached consensus on the principal points."

Thursday's statement commits both sides to "seek further common understanding of the doctrine of justification."

Noko said the federation's 124 member churches, which represent 57 million Lutherans, had approved the agreement announced last year and did not need to act on the additions. Pope

John Paul II, leader of the world's 1 billion Roman Catholics, gave his final approval in late May.

The declaration and the new additions will be formally signed Oct. 31 in Augsburg, Germany. On that day in 1517, Martin Luther is said to have posted his 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany—widely regarded as the launch of the Protestant Reformation.—Geir Moulson, *The Associated Press*, June 11, 1999.



Adversaries Unified in Honoring Pope

WARSAW, Poland (AP) - They stood as one, Poland's former communist power brokers and the activists-turned-political leaders who toppled them, singing and laughing to honor the native son who helped transform the country: Pope John Paul II.

"Oh, look what's happened to us!" the pope exclaimed Friday, holding out his hands in joyous wonder, as one-time adversaries applauded him together.

There was former communist leader Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, who imposed martial law in 1981 to try to crush the Solidarity movement the pope helped create. There was Lech Walesa, the Solidarity founder imprisoned under Jaruzelski's martial law who eventually succeeded him by winning the first post-communist popular election.

Only John Paul could evoke such a unified response. The former archbishop of Krakow's ascension to the papacy in 1978 gave the devoutly Catholic nation its greatest honor - an international champion and a symbol of hope against communist oppression.

Now a frail 79-year-old making what could be his final trip home, the pope chose an auspicious moment to confront political rivalries hindering Poland's transformation from communism - the first speech in history by a Roman Catholic pope to a national parliament.

The divisions sat before him - a government and legislative majority representing several parties rooted in the Solidarity movement, and an opposition of former communists and leftist allies.

Speaking from a throne-like chair set up for him on the speaker's stand, surrounded by red, white and yellow flowers, John Paul urged Poles to honor democracy by putting the good of the state and its people ahead of personal gain.

"Every economic change must help to build a world that is more human and more just," he said in a speech frequently interrupted by applause.

. . . John Paul said politics and economic development must be based on ethical principles and spirituality, a theme with particular resonance in a country where many people equate national identity with Catholicism.

While political autonomy must be respected, "even pluralist states cannot abandon ethical norms in public life," he said.

At the end, he echoed his prayer from his first pilgrimage home 20 years earlier, when he asked the Holy Spirit to "renew the face" of Poland. Those words are credited with helping spark the birth of Solidarity a year later, leading to the end of communism in 1989.

Asked if political reconciliation was now at hand, the leader of the main leftist opposition party, Leszek Miller, said: "This will be very difficult, because it often happens that everyone listens to the pope, but not all of them can hear what he is saying. The pope leaves and matters return to their old style."—Tom Cohen, *The Associated Press*, June 11, 1999.



Churches Demolished In Nigeria

ABUJA, Nigeria—Twelve churches in Abuja, Nigeria's capital, were demolished during the first week of May on the orders of Nigeria's Federal Capital Territory (FCT) military administration, which claimed the churches were there illegally.

FCT Press Secretary Okon Bassey told *Compass* that the churches had to be demolished because there was the need for better planning for the capital city. "The land is located in Durumi. Durumi, just like every other district, is comprehensively planned. There are plans meant for housing, there are those meant for schools and so on."

However, Christian leaders in Abuja . . . said the churches had been at their present sites for over 15 years, even before the present regime came to power. He wondered why the churches were demolished less than a month before Nigeria's military regime was to hand over power to a democratically-elected government. . . .

The situation has further strained Christian-Muslim relations in Nigeria.—Obed Minchakpu, *COMPASS DIRECT*, June 18, 1999.



Christian-Muslim Clashes Claim 200

KAFANCHAN, Nigeria—As many as 200 persons are feared dead and several hundred more were seriously injured during clashes on May 22 and 23 between Christians and Muslims of Kafanchan, in Nigeria's northern Kaduna state.

The conflict was reportedly triggered by a government decision to install a Muslim leader over the predominantly Christian ethnic groups in the area. Tensions remain high.

Christian leaders in Kafanchan told *Compass* on May 24 that they had identified about 16 local church members who died in the conflict, along with Christian journalist Sam Nimfan, a reporter with the Nigerian news magazine, "Details."

Nimfan, who was in Kafanchan to cover the crisis, had gone to the palace of the emir (Muslim leader) when the journalist was killed there. The emir was to be installed May 23, but was forced to flee Kafanchan after his palace was set ablaze.

Nigerian anti-riot police imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew in the area, and movement continues to be heavily restricted. Meanwhile, the government has ordered the arrest of more than 20 Christian leaders.—Obed Minchakpu, *COMPASS DIRECT*, June 18, 1999.



India: Withdraw 'INFLAMMATORY' Material

HONG KONG—The National Council of Churches in India (NCCI) and the India Missions Association (IMA) have issued a strongly-worded letter dated April 16 to evangelistic agencies and networks

in India and worldwide asking them to remove inflammatory material from their websites.

The letter said evangelistic agencies had "sensitized the atmosphere by their exaggeration, triumphalistic, aggressive writings, statistics, words, phrases and slogans" and added that collective action would be taken if the material was not removed. It did not specify what action would be taken.

Ebe Sunder Raj of the IMA said there was a very definite trend in recent months by Hindu fundamentalists to relate all activities of the church to the "AD2000" movement and its related goals. (AD2000 is a network of Christian agencies dedicated to world evangelism.) He added that the response from Christian organizations was positive and some were sending material to the IMA for approval before posting it on the Internet or publishing it. Michael Fischer, *COMPASS DIRECT*, June 18, 1999.



Moldovan Church Destroyed

LONDON—A registered Baptist church in the village of Gelo Mengir, Moldova, had its partially-completed building destroyed on May 5 after hundreds of people attacked 20 persons working on the church.

Seven Orthodox priests led the mob — which some reports put as large as 700 — to the building site. They broke through a fence and invaded the property owned by the church. —Felix Corley, *COMPASS DIRECT*, June 18, 1999.

EVENT LIST

For those who wish to hand-distribute literature efficiently, we make this information available for planning.

<u>DATES</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>CITY / STATE</u>
July 2-4	Marian Conference	Foster City, CA
July 2-4	Harvest Crusade	San Diego, CA
July 9-10	Promise Keepers	Indianapolis, IN
July 9-10	Women of Faith	Houston, TX
July 10	Family Life Ministries	Washington, DC
July 16-17	Promise Keepers	Denver, CO
July 22-23	Benny Hinn Miracle Crusade East	Rutherford, NJ
July 23-25	Harvest Crusade	Anaheim, CA
July 23-24	Women of Faith	Atlanta, GA
July 23-24	Promise Keepers	Philadelphia, PA
July 28-29	Benny Hinn Partner Conference	Phoenix, AZ
July 30-31	Women of Faith	Chicago, IL
July 30-Aug. 1	Preparedness Expo	Seattle, WA
July 30-31	Promise Keepers	Tacoma, WA
July 31	F.O. F.—Renewing the Heart	Denver, CO
Aug. 2-6	Kenneth Copeland	Forth Worth, TX
Aug. 6-7	Women of Faith	San Jose, CA
Aug. 6-7	Promise Keepers	San Antonio, TX
Aug. 13-14	Promise Keepers	Charlotte, NC

LEAVES OF AUTUMN

By Denise Matlean

Billy Graham Crusade—Indianapolis, Indiana, June 3-6.

Steve Spencer (with Joshua and Kelsie), Steve Spence and I joined Mike Williams, Thursday, June 3rd at the RCA Dome in downtown Indianapolis to pass out *A Time for Joy*.

Although we were there almost three hours before the event was to start, the crowds were already gathering, and by the end of the evening we had handed out 11,000 magazines.

Friday, we figured out the number of magazines we had altogether—Steve Spencer, Steve Spence and Mike Williams had all brought magazines so we were unsure of the exact amount of literature we had on hand. When we thought of the projected attendance we realized that we would, in all likelihood, not have enough literature to hand out; so Steve Spencer called his wife, Tanna, and asked her to find an “eleventh hour worker” who would be willing to join us, and bring some more literature. Kevin Kaufman agreed to stand in the gap and to be that worker. So Friday night we handed out *America—Superpower of Prophecy*. Again it was in the neighborhood of 11,000-12,000 pieces.

We all camped at a near-by State Park, and a good portion of Sabbath we were studying God’s Word, and walking in the beautiful works provided us by the Creator. Even though dimmed by the corruption of nearly six thousand years, the beauties still shown through. As Mike and Steve Spence went for a walk on the trails they met a young couple also out for a walk. Steve started talking to them about the watercress which was in the stream by which they were standing, and showed them what it was. From that beginning, the topic of conversation went to simple eating, to the time of the end and the events which are rapidly coming upon this world. Soon they were deep in a discussion of God’s Word.

Mike returned to camp to get his shopahar—an antelope antler which had been fashioned into a horn to blow which was similar to those used in Bible times. After he had told Josh that he was going back to join Steve and the couple he was studying with, he followed Josh’s suggestion and took some literature with him. Soon Steve Spence was back at the campsite with the couple, Bibles were spread on the table and the Bible study continued. They wanted to know everything, and seemed to absorb it like a sponge. Steve gave them more literature and several books before they left. It is beautiful to see how God will work through us if we will just place ourselves at His disposal.

The people at the Crusade were expecting a large turnout Saturday night and we did not want to miss anyone, so Steve

Spence, Mike and I went to the Dome. We were shortly joined by the Spencers and Kaufmans.

Things went fairly normal until about halfway through the meeting. At this point a couple came out of the Dome. They were in their mid-twenties; he was black, she was white. He had her by the wrist and was pulling her along behind him. I smiled and attempted to hand him the literature. He pushed it aside, mumbled something and went on. As he dragged his wife past me, she reached out and took the literature. She sent me a pleading glance. So I did something which is totally out of character with me. I went after them.

“I’m sorry, sir,” I said to him politely. “I didn’t hear what you said.”

“I don’t need any religious fanatics in my life,” he responded.

I was at a loss as to what to say, sent up a prayer for guidance and asked, “Do you think I’m a religious fanatic?”

“Not you. Billy Graham.” And he was on his way again.

I stood there uncertain as to what I should do. But as he turned away, I heard him say under his breath, “It’s too late for me anyhow. Salvation’s not for me.”

Then I knew why I had followed him. God wanted me to show this man that he could be saved—that it was not too late.

I went after him again, and tried to tell him that God loved him and that Jesus had died for him. I told him that it was not too late for him to be saved.

He vehemently told me that God did not love him; that God didn’t care whether he lived or died. “Everything in my life has gone wrong,” he insisted. “Everything. God doesn’t care about me.”

As I tried to assure him that God did love *him*, and that Jesus died for *him*, he started pulling his wife away again, and yelling, “I don’t want to hear it!” She tried to tell me some of the things that had gone wrong in his life, but it was difficult to hear over his yelling, “I don’t want to talk about it!” I did, however, hear that he had gone to prison for something he had not done and been abused by the prison guards; his mother, a Jehovah’s Witness, had abused him when he was young. I heard “burned him with cigarettes,” but at that point his voice was very loud and I could not make out most of her words.

I went after him again. “I am going to pray for you,” I said. “I don’t want to hear it! *I don’t want to hear it!* I don’t want to hear it! *I don’t want to hear it!*” He yelled. His wife grabbed his arm. “Listen

FUTURE EVENTS

June 24-28 Mexico City

This is Future for America's second trip to this group of about 150. We are investigating the possibility of Steve Dickie setting up a print shop for the brethren there and we are making preparations for a meeting September 22 through 27th with Tico and Pastor Restrepo.

July 22-August 6 London, England

Jeff will be speaking nightly on the weekdays and three times on Sabbath, giving a total of 11 presentations.

August 21 Redlands, California

Jeff will be speaking in the Redlands Historic SDA Church for the entire Sabbath.

August 28 Angwin, California

Jeff will be speaking at the Angwin Village Church

to her," she pleaded. "Listen to her." She kept pulling back on him and pleading with him to listen to me, so he stopped and gave me a chance to say something.

"I am going to pray for you," I repeated, "but you have to know what I am praying for."

"I don't want to hear it," he said again, but his tone was quieter.

"I am going to pray that you feel God's love, and that you feel Jesus' arms around you."

"It won't do any good," he said as he tried to pull his wife away. She broke loose from his grip and ran back to me. She threw her arms around me. "Pray. Oh, please pray," she begged me, almost in tears. "I'm a believer, but he isn't; and he is so bitter."

I assured her that I would be praying for them, and then they were gone.

This young man's situation lay heavy upon my heart, and as it was a quiet time right then I prayed for them then and there. I knew that he must be feeling a lot of pain, because you don't get that bitter without a lot of pain. I also felt that the Holy Spirit was drawing him, and he was resisting.

Soon the people were coming out of the meeting. I started handing out literature, but all I could think of was his voice as he said, "It's too late for me anyhow. Salvation's not for me." He had sounded so hopeless. God laid the burden of this man's soul upon my heart, and soon I was telling his story to some of the people and asking them to pray for him.

I told the people that I knew God was going to do it. I didn't know how, but I knew He would. I wanted prayers ascending from

all over Indianapolis for this man. Prayer promises came from almost everyone. In this fashion I was able to talk to the counselors and those helping with the crusade. They had been cold and aloof, but now they prayed with me, and thanked God for putting me there and giving me a burden for this man's soul. I did not hand out very much literature that night, but as Mike and Steve Spence were doing their individual witnessings, I was praying with many different groups. Many told me that they would have their churches pray on Sunday. It was after midnight when we headed to camp, but we were all on a spiritual high.

Earlier in the day I had wished that I knew how to speak to people in such a way as to draw them to God. I was told that God would give me the words if I would make myself available. Shortly after that I read a quote which kept coming to my mind:

"The Lord imparts a fitness for the work to every man and woman who will co-operate with divine power. All the requisite talent, courage, perseverance, faith, and tact will come as they put the armor on."—*Colporteur Ministry*, 14.

Sunday we went to the Dome early again. This was supposed to be the last meeting that Billy Graham would ever hold in Indianapolis, and they expected an overflow crowd.

The day was hot. Being from Alaska, I have a problem with heat. I was forced to go into the air-conditioned handicap entrance to cool off. But God was very good, and it was not too long before I was back passing out the literature. In the meantime, one of the Dome employees had passed out the literature for me! I am sure that was not in her job description!

Soon I realized why Satan had tried to keep me from passing out the literature. I had people coming up to me telling me that they had prayed for this man, and that their whole churches had prayed for him. Many of the women hugged me and asked God to bless me for caring. Those who had not taken any literature before, now took it—even the crusade personnel! I could not hand it out fast enough! Hands were even coming from behind me and taking the literature off the stack. God *did* give me the words—just as He had promised—and that night the blessing was doubled unto me. Several people tried to pay me for the magazines, but I told them, "The magazines are just like salvation—they are free to all. All you need to do is accept it."

There was another quote that came back to me that night:

"Those who at this time take up the canvassing work with earnestness and consecration will be greatly blessed. You have no time to lose. Give yourselves willingly and unselfishly to the doing of this work. Remember that it is evangelistic in its nature, and that it helps to give a warning which is greatly needed."—*Colporteur Ministry*, 15.

There is more to the story, but this is enough for you to see that God *does* desire to use us in His work, and if we will make ourselves available for His Spirit to work in and through, we, ourselves, will receive a tremendous blessing! He has promised and His word is sure!

There were many people who asked me to pray for them: Steve who had just had an operation for an aneurysm and was not doing well; Rose who had fallen; Rose's daughter in poor health and needing to walk closer with her Saviour; the girl who was being persecuted in her home because she had become a Christian; the group that were headed to a mission in Managua, Nicaragua; and many more.

There were many opportunities to talk to people about how to regain their health. One woman had three young daughters, one of whom had severe asthma and they had had to leave the Dome because of it. Steve Spence was able to share with her the connection between diet and asthma—the most likely culprit being dairy products.

There is also an excellent chance to encourage the people to learn more about the Bible and the prophecies. People are hungering and thirsting for the knowledge that most of us take for granted. Try sharing that knowledge with someone. You will be amazed at the response.

Are you thinking that you could never do this? Yep, that's what I thought, too. But if God can speak through Balaam's jackass, then maybe He can use us, too. If only we are willing He will supply all we need, moment by moment.

If you are unable for some reason to help hand out the literature, please consider helping fund this mission project. Your donation, marked Literature Evangelism, will ensure that it will be possible for more literature to be made available to God's hungry sheep.

Now I am asking you to pray for this couple. There is another meeting in Indianapolis in July, and I am hoping that I can be there again.

What a thrill it would be to have this man and his wife come up to me and tell me how God had answered all the prayers, and how he had come to know Christ and had accepted Him as his personal Saviour. What rejoicing in Heaven when he finally realizes that God does love *him*, and that Jesus did die for *him*, and that salvation is his for the asking.

Maranatha! Even so come, Lord Jesus.



PAUL HARVEY ON COLUMBINE HIGH SCHOOL

For the life of me, I can't understand what could have gone wrong in Littleton, Colo. If only the parents had kept their children away from the guns, we wouldn't have had such a tragedy.

● Yeah, it must have been the guns.

It couldn't have been because of half our children being raised in broken homes. It couldn't have been because our children get to spend an average of 30 seconds in meaningful conversation with their parents each day. After all, we give our children quality time.

It couldn't have been because we treat our children as pets and our pets as children.

It couldn't have been because we place our children in day care centers where they learn their socialization skills among their peers under the law of the jungle while employees who have no vested interest in the children look on and make sure that no blood is spilled.

It couldn't have been because we allow our children to watch, on average, seven hours of television a day filled with the glorification of sex and violence that isn't fit for adult consumption.

It couldn't have been because we allow (or even encourage) our children to enter into virtual worlds in which, to win the game, one must kill as many opponents as possible in the most sadistic way possible.

It couldn't have been because we have sterilized and contracepted our families down to sizes so small that the children we do have are so spoiled with material things that they come to equate the receiving of the material with love.

It couldn't have been because our children, who historically have been seen as a blessing from God, are now being viewed as either a mistake created when contraception fails or inconveniences that parents try to raise in their spare time.

It couldn't have been because we give two-year prison sentences to teen-agers who kill their newborns.

It couldn't have been because we teach our children that there are no laws of morality that transcend us, that everything is relative and that actions don't have consequences. What the heck, the president gets away with it.

Nah, it must have been the guns.

PHILIPPINES

By Jeff Pippenger

Future for America, Project Restore, Ray Heathman, David & Giovana Restrepo, as well as my wife Kathy and I, would like to express our appreciation for your support of our Philippines endeavor in the month of April.

Ray Heathman, Kathy and I arrived a week before David and Giovana. We held a 5-day prophecy school and philosophy of health presentation to a little over 100 pastors and Bible workers from the Visayan Mission in the Philippines. According to our human evaluation the work appeared to have been a great success. I had many pastors tell me that the prophetic information they received at the school was the information that they would be presenting to their flocks.

We Were . . . We Did

Due to the seriousness of the prophetic information that we share, we believed that in the environment which was primarily pastors, circumstances demanded that we be especially specific and pointed. This we were. Before we started I told Ray that this series had the potential to close the door of our service for us in this part of the Lord's vineyard, if it was not received in the proper spirit. Therefore, we had to present the most urgent and straight message which either of us had ever done. This we did.

We praise the Lord that during the time when a minority of the audience was vocalizing questions which were semi-disruptive, the Spirit of the Lord allowed the truth of the end-time message, and the necessity of health reform to be heard, understood, and acted upon. We had several pastors commit to vegetarianism, as well as decide to repeat the message of the approaching Sunday law, with all the implications about the close of probation for Seventh-day Adventists. This is the third country where God has brought pastors together to hear the prophetic information which *Future for America* presents. All those who attended the conference received their own copies of the notes and materials that we shared.

200 Baptisms

At the end of that week my wife returned to the United States. She had accompanied me by using accumulated air miles, and, as we knew that we would be apart for over two months, not counting a week in the middle, she attended the prophetic school. This was the first time she had gone through all the material from beginning to end at one time, though this was the tenth school we have had in the past four years. About the time Kathy was returning home David and Giovana were arriving from Venezuela. They were to hold an evangelistic series in a nearby city while Ray and I went on to the small town of Puru in the Comotes Islands. (Comotes means sweet potatoes.) Giovana is an MD and she presented the health message, while David presented the gospel. Ray presented the health message at our series while I covered the

prophecies. Both series were successful with a little over 200 baptisms resulting from the two series.

We have been invited back again next April to hold another series, and we have agreed to do so if the Lord reveals that it is His will—and if time lasts. I am not saying that the Lord is returning in eight months, but it would not be surprising to see the ability to travel in order to share the gospel become more and more difficult.

Speaking of difficult, in the next newsletter I will tell you about the most recent trip to Colombia where it gets more and more difficult to travel and work—almost on a daily basis—but that's next month. Back to the story of the Philippines.

I have always appreciated working with the Restrepos for a variety of reasons. One is that they have the clearest understanding on country living of anyone I have personally met. They allow the brethren to come and live with them on their farms, while the brethren learn through the experience of country living. By experience I mean all the aspects of country living, from organic gardening, walking with the Lord, true education, evangelism, Christian service and other aspects necessary in order to prepare our characters for eternity.

Living Without Money

One thing which they specifically teach the brethren who come to the country is how to live without money. Their premise is that if we must stand during the time when we can't buy or sell, that it is best to learn that experience before it is forced upon us. They have many testimonies about brethren who cannot handle being without money and eventually return to the cities in order to secure money, rather than learn through experience how to live without it. They also have many testimonies of how the Lord provides for all our needs according to His riches.

I am isolating this point because I saw many of the brethren we worked with in the Philippines learning that very experience, although not as intentionally as it is taught at the Restrepo's ministries. The brethren I met in the Philippines who are learning how to live without money, are learning it because they are working on the Conference payroll and they haven't had pay checks for three or four months—and this occurs on a regular basis. Not due to mismanagement, simply due to poverty.

Two Hours Turns Into Fourteen Hours

In any case I want to close with the testimony of a sister who works as a teacher in an academy. She shared with Kathy and I that she had not received a paycheck in four months. When I asked her how she managed she joyfully told us, "The Lord provides." Later, while waiting for David and Giovana to arrive at the airport she told me how she had done colporteur work on an island in an area which had never been entered by Adventism.

She canvassed this island and took many orders for books, but she knew from the attitude of those who placed the orders that she must return with the books by the date agreed upon—and no later—or these people would refuse to buy the books. Initially that was no problem, but when she finally received all the books to be delivered it was necessary for her to leave that day for the island in order to keep to the appointed time. Normally this would not have been a problem. But that day there was a warning that a typhoon was approaching. She determined that she must try to go—even with the threatening weather. She and two other sisters rented a twelve foot motor boat—including the man who owns and operates the boat—to take them on a two hour trip to the island where she would deliver the books. The two hours turned into fourteen hours.

Bail, Sing, And Pray

As they launched-off for the island the skies grew dark, even though it was still morning. The clouds were thick and dark. Then it began to rain . . . and rain . . . and rain. The two-foot waves eventually grew into thirty-foot waves. The rain was filling the boat so fast with water that for the next twelve to fourteen hours all the three sisters could do was to bail out water. But not only was the driving rain filling the little boat, the waves were crashing all around them. They thus began a ritual of three things. They would bail water, sing, and pray.

In the beginning the boat-owner would curse at them for praying, but eventually he became so preoccupied with trying to manage the boat that he left off his tirades. They came to a point where they knew that their only hope of rescue was if another larger boat would recognize their distress. They directed their prayers after that goal.

In time a boat arrived, but though it was larger than what they were in, it was too small to help. But seeing their distress the boat did provide help in another way. It shined a spotlight on them. This was done in order to try and allow a larger boat to see their distress in all the darkness and billowing waves. The light was a great comfort to the girls, but it brought with it a different type of anxiety—for as it illuminated the little boat, it also illuminated the water around the little boat. What they saw circling the little boat was a multitude of sharks!

As she told me this story at the airport she pointed to the three-story building that we were sitting next to. She stated that the waves that had been rolling around that little boat had been much larger than the height of those buildings. All the girls could do was pray, sing, and bail water.

Never Saw the Boat

Finally a larger boat saw their distress, pulled near and took them to the dock where they had hoped to arrive twelve hours earlier. As soon as the large boat arrived, the boat that had been shining the spotlight disappeared. The men on the large boat testified that they had never seen that boat, but they were amazed as to why the little boat the girls were in had been illuminated by light when there was nothing around but the angry seas.

“What Religion Are You?”

At the dock, they were physically and emotionally exhausted. Several things then happened. First the man from whom they had rented the boat—and who initially was cursing them for praying—asked them, “What religion are you?” They told him, “We are Seventh-day Adventists.” He replied, “The Seventh-day Adventist God is the real God.” He continued to explain that every time they would sing it would become easy for him to control the boat, but when they stopped he would lose control once again. Then they began to recognize that they had been singing off and on for almost 14 hours.

A Phone Call

When they arrived at the dock there was a man there that was waiting for them in a car. He said he had a phone call telling him to come and meet these girls just when they arrived. No one knew of their travel plans that day, and they still know of no one who made that call. Nevertheless, the man took them to his home and they began to try and get dry after 14 hours of rain and salt water.

Being emotionally drained the three girls wanted some dry clothes, and the wife of the man who picked them up had some clothes to share, with the exception of underclothes. For some reason the girls had a great desire for not only dry exterior clothes, but they also wanted dry underclothes. The clothes they had brought were in a cloth bag that had been at the bottom of the boat, totally submerged in water through the entire event. Yet, as they began to pull out the soaked clothing to wring it out and let it dry, they found that their underclothing, in the soaked bag—was totally dry!

The next obstacle was the main purpose of the trip. They had come to deliver books, but the books had been in cardboard boxes, totally under water for many hours, and the cardboard had become so wet that it was almost all totally gone. But, as they began to take the books out of the dilapidated cardboard, they found that the books were totally dry.

And that is how the Advent message was first delivered to that particular island in the Philippines. I hope that I have the faith to pray, and sing, and to do the work at hand when I am thrown into that life and death test which we know will come if we remain faithful during this time of earth's history.

I hope that you will have that faith as well. Once I had heard this testimony—in much greater detail than I just shared, for it took three hours for her to tell it—I realized how she had the faith to work in God's cause without getting a paycheck. I also understood that she really had experienced what she spoke of when she had said, “The Lord provides.”

It is time now to experience the great truths which we know as Adventists, because the time is near when if we only know these truths, the testing time will demonstrate that we do not experience these great truths. Then Christ will pronounce against us, “Depart from Me for I never knew you.”

JULY SPECIALS



Conscience—Your Inner Voice, Thomas A. Davis

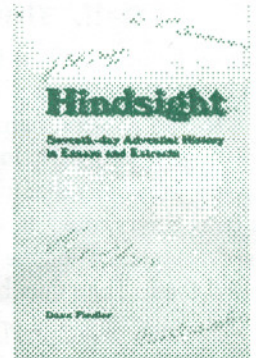
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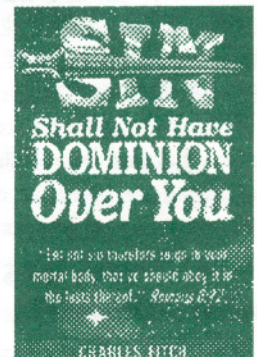
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