

Keep this Subject before the People

"When all is apparently secure, and men retire to contented rest, then the prowling, stealthy, midnight thief steals upon his prey. When it is too late to prevent the evil, it is discovered that some door or window was not secured. 'Be ye also ready: for in an such hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.' People are now settling to rest, imagining themselves secure under the popular churches; but let all beware, lest there is a place left open for the enemy to gain an entrance. Great pains should be taken to keep this subject before the people. The solemn fact is to be kept not only before the people of the world, but before our own churches also, that the day of the Lord will come suddenly, unexpectedly. The fearful warning of the prophecy is addressed to every soul. Let no one feel that he is secure from the danger of being surprised. Let no one's interpretation of prophecy rob you of the conviction of the knowledge of events which show that this great event is near at hand."

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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.

The cost of this newsletter and audio tape reaching a home is approximately \$3.50.

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.

MINISTRY UPDATE

Since our last newsletter I have spoken in five cities over four Sabbaths in the state of California. Tomorrow I fly out for meetings in the Orlando, Florida area. In November, I travel to Dominican Republic with Tico Restrepo translating. Several other speaking engagements are in the planning phase. We appreciate your financial and spiritual support that provides for the traveling to present the spoken word.

You noticed the change in the newsletter's title to Future News. We believed this name was more in line with our emphasis on prophecy, as prophecy is—**Future News**. We changed the name to make that emphasis while retaining some name recognition.

My wife Kathy and I are diligently trying to bring our new country home, office, and garden into order here in Bonnerdale, Arkansas. We have been buried with work and appreciate your patience as we set up the newsletter production and the sending out of book and tape orders from this new location. Currently we are starting to think that we have finally settled into things here, where we can begin to address things as they arise. For several weeks now, it seemed as though all we were doing was playing catch-up with the work of this ministry. We now have a FAX number which is 870-356-3767. The 888 number is the same.

At the beginning of October we are paying for a printer to travel to Armenia, Colombia to train workers and setup the print shop at the Restrepos ministry. This work has been under way for a few years now and it is

wonderful to see the Lord finally bringing it to a point where Spanish literature can begin to be produced. The first project Future News is helping with is the translation and printing of the book, Truth Triumphant. If you haven't read that book, you should. If you have read the book, you will no doubt understand what a blessing it will be for it to be produced in Spanish. Our need in this endeavor is to help finance the travel and living expenses of the printer. He lives in Washington State and we expect the amount for one month of his service to be approximately \$2500.

Another venture we are supporting is the setting up of a printing facility in Cuba. Steve Dickie at Strawberry Meadows is leading out in this work. When you see how the Lord has opened doors to allow a printing operation to go into communist Cuba, you realize it is the Lord who is behind this project. Steve is praying for between seventy-five and one-hundred thousand dollars to put the operation in place.

We are still actively supporting Literature Evangelism in connection with Ron Goss and the ministry Project Restore. Brother Goss is being used by the Lord to print large volumes of magazines on the Sabbath and the United States in prophecy, which are handed out free of charge, at large gatherings all over the United States. We have been helping to finance the expenses involved with distributing this truth filled literature at Promise Keeper meetings, Woman's Promise Keeper meetings, Billy Graham crusades, Kenneth

Copeland crusades. We thank you for the support which you have previously provided, and ask for your continued support as we attempt send out some "leaves of Autumn."

Our newsletter and tape ministry has been well received over the past two years and we especially want to thank you for supporting that on-going work as well. We also intend to return to the Philippines next April for another evangelistic effort.

Personally, my wife and I are praising the Lord that He has finally taken us to a country home. Time is rapidly running out. Jesus is soon to return, and it is obvious that as God's people-we have left to many things unfinished in our service for Him. We thank you all for both the financial and spiritual support of this ministry, allowing us to have a part in this final work. Looking at what is taking place in the world today only confirms the emphasis that is found in the passage from Fundamentals of Christian Education, on the front cover of this newsletter. These end-time events are about to arrive, "suddenly and unexpectedly". I pray that we all will be ready.

"We have no time for dwelling on matters that are of no importance. Our time should be given to proclaiming the last message of mercy to a guilty world. Men are needed who move under the inspiration of the Spirit of God. The sermons preached by some of our ministers will have to be much more powerful than they are now, or many backsliders will carry a tame, pointless message, which lulls people to sleep. Every discourse should be given under a sense of the awful judgments soon to fall on the world. The message of truth is to be proclaimed by lips touched with a live coal from the divine altar.

"My heart is filled with anguish when I think of the tame messages borne by some of our ministers, when they have a message of life and death to bear. The ministers are asleep; the lay members are asleep; and a world is perishing in sin. May God help His people to arouse and walk and work as men and women on the borders of the eternal world. Soon an awful surprise is coming upon the inhabitants of the world. Suddenly, with power and great glory, Christ will come. Then there will be no time to prepare to meet Him. Now is the time for us to give the warning message." Testimonies, volume 8,36.



THE FINAL RISE AND FALL OF THE KING OF THE NORTH

This is a five-part, ten-hour presentation covering Daniel 11:40—45. Each video is \$10.00. For a limited time we are offering the entire series for \$45.00.

WHO THEN CAN BE SAVED?

"What's in a Name?"

By Pat Rampy

It is generally known that it has been the practice of some cultures, both ancient and modern, to assign children a name that in some way reflects the actual or hoped-for character of the child. Expectant parents often buy booklets containing lists of names, with their ancient meanings, hoping to find a name for their child that describes the character traits or accomplishments they hope their child to have. When God made man in Genesis 7:2, He formed him from "dust", evidently clay, and named him "Adam", literally in Hebrew, "dirt". Not very imaginative, we might think, but exactly accurate and applicable to all mankind.

Often, some years into a child's life, a nickname might be assigned if the given name seems to have been inaccurate, or if some major event seems to indicate a dominant trait of character. In this writer's case, my given name is Celtic for "Noble", but after wrecking my first car my friends thought the term "Crash" was more appropriate for several years. As the years have gone by it seems that both names are more or less accurate. In the Bible we find several instances where individual's names have been modified or permanently changed.

We read that God modified the names of Abram, "Exalted Father", and Sarai, "Dominative", or "Domineering"; to Abraham, "Father of a Multitude", or "of Nations", and Sarah, "Princess" (still a dominant position), when they entered into a covenant relationship with Him in Genesis 17:5, 15. In Genesis 32:28 God completely renamed Jacob, meaning "Supplanter", or "Usurper", dubbing him "Israel", meaning "A Prince With God", having princely power with God and men, after he realized his own dependency on God. We read also that Moses altered the name "Oshea", meaning "to save", to "Jehoshua" (Joshua), meaning "Jehovah is salvation". Numbers 13:2, 16; 14:6. Jesus Himself also used the custom of nicknaming in reference to some of His disciples. James and his brother John He called "Boanerges"- "Sons of Thunder", Mark 3:17. Simon, He permanently surnamed "Peter"- (Greek, "Petros") literally, "A 'small' stone", while referring to Himself as "this Stone"- (Greek, "Petra") literally, "A gigantic boulder", and a certain Jesus was nicknamed by the disciples "Barnabas"- "Son of Consola-

tion" when he made a large monetary gift for the support of the early church (Acts 4:36-7). In the pronunciation of the Alexandrian Jews, the word Jeshua, or Joshua (Nehemiah 8:17) was altered into Jesus. Hence 'Jesus' is read for Joshua in the Greek of the New Testament and retained in the King James Version in Acts 7:45 and Hebrews 4:8, margin. Joshua, by his work and the meaning of his name, is a type of Jesus. Literal Israel was led into the land of promise, not by Moses, whose name means "drawn" (Exodus 2:10, margin), but by Joshua. Joshua encouraged Israel to possess the land, saying "Jehovah is with us" (Numbers 14:9). So, spiritual Israel is led into the eternal Canaan by Jesus, "Jehovah Saviour".

Jesus is also referred to by a number of symbolic names used throughout Scripture. For a few examples, He is the "Seed of the Woman" (Genesis 3:15), "Shiloh"- "Whose it Belongs" (Genesis 49:10), the "Branch of David" (Isaiah 4:2), "Messiah, the Prince" (Daniel 9:25), "Michael- 'One Like God', your Prince" (Daniel 10:21), ["Christ", and "Messiah", are Greek and Hebrew, respectively, for "Anointed One", (Matthew 1:16, margin)], the creative "Word" of God (John 1:1), "Son of Man" (Matthew 8:20), and the "Stone" (Matthew 21:44), "Cornerstone" (1 Peter 2:6), or "Rock" (1 Corinthians 10:4). In Revelation 12:7-9, besides Michael, the representative of God's authority, we find the names used to designate the great fallen foe, the opposer of God and man, Satan, the "Adversary", or "Enemy" (Zechariah 3:1, margin). Satan's heavenly name, "Lucifer" (Isaiah 14:12, margin), meant "Day Star", "Light Bearer", or literally, "Lumens Ferry". Scientists use the term, "lumens" to describe the strength of a light source, and we all know what a "ferry"-boat is for. The word "devil", means "Slanderer", or "Accuser" (Revelation 12:10-12), and the symbolic names, "dragon" and "lion" (1 Peter 5:8) suggest his ravenous desire to devour the saints of God. When designated as the "serpent", his cunning craftiness and deceptive powers are referred to. All Hebrew names beginning or ending with "El" have meanings linking them with God. (Even the word, "God", in the Hebrew, "Eloim", Contactually a plural, literally translates as "Gods" in

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YOUR LETTERS . . .


 Dear Jeff,

I have heard some of your tapes regarding end time events. I found the tapes and literature very interesting. Would you be so kind to send me some tapes and literature. I actually heard the tapes before I left South Africa, from Somerset West, Cape Province in South Africa, where they told me about your tape ministry. May God bless your tape ministry. With Christian greetings, HB

 Dear Future for America,

I just love the tapes and letters you keep sending me. I sure wish I had more tapes like the one's you have sent me. I can think of lots of people I would like to send them to. Thank you. God Bless you always, R P

 We thank you for the complete series, The Crowning Act. It has been informative and helpful and we share your material with others. May God continue to bless your work.

 I hope that the Future for America newsletter can arrive so each heart that need God's Word and to feel spiritual peace and hope for future. Please don't forget us in your prayers. It's my only hope to be close with God forever. Pray also for my family, my two children, and my husband.

 Future for America,

I want to thank you for the material on the prophecies in Daniel that you recently sent out to me. I am also grateful for the monthly tapes and newsletters you send that are so full of information on the times in which we live. They are great for sharing as well and have opened the eyes of several friends. I pray the Lord will continue to bless the work you are doing.

I have a question in regard to Jeff's comment that probation closes for Adventists when the Sunday law is issued. Does he mean the Sunday law, which requires Sunday worship on Saturday? I know the Sunday laws will be progressive till they reach the point where we are persecuted for worshipping

on Sabbath even though we are not working on Sunday and using Sunday for missionary type work. What are your understandings on this point and what information is it based on? Thank you again. Yours in Christ, MS

[Editors note: The Sunday law that is the dividing line for Adventism, is two-fold in nature. It forces worship on Sunday and persecutes for upholding the seventh day Sabbath]

"A time is coming when the law of God is, in a special sense, to be made void in our land. The rulers of our nation will, by legislative enactments, enforce the Sunday law, and thus God's people be brought into great peril. When our nation, in its legislative councils, shall enact laws to bind the consciences of men in regard to their religious privileges, enforcing Sunday observance, and bringing oppressive power to bear against those who keep the seventh-day Sabbath, the law of God will, to all intents and purposes, be made void in our land; and national apostasy will be followed by national ruin." Review and Herald, December 18, 1888.

"The Sabbath will be the great test of loyalty; for it is the point of truth especially controverted. When the final test shall be brought to bear upon men, then the line of distinction will be drawn between those who serve God and those who serve him not. While the observance of the false sabbath in compliance with the law of the state, contrary to the fourth commandment, will be an avowal of an allegiance to a power that is in opposition to God, the keeping of the true Sabbath, in obedience to God's law, is an evidence of loyalty to the Creator. While one class, by accepting the sign of submission to earthly powers, receive the mark of the beast, the other, choosing the token of allegiance to divine authority, receive the seal of God." The Great Controversy, 605.

T I M E L I N E S

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



PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS & RELIGIOUS LIBERTY-CHURCH STATE NEWSFLASH!!! AUGUST 23, 1999. MARK OF THE BEAST GOES TO COURT AND THE STATE WINS!

On August 18, the California Supreme Court denied review of a religious freedom case involving "the mark of the beast," leaving intact an appeals court ruling in favor of the state. The case is James Brunson versus Department of Motor Vehicles. Mr. Brunson and five other plaintiffs object to the requirement that they supply a social security number in order to obtain a driver's license. They contend that such a use of the social security number constitutes the biblical "mark of the beast." Those who receive that mark will forfeit eternal life, they believe. [Adventists agree that one cannot receive the mark of the beast and eternal life both. We hold different views as to what constitutes the mark of the beast.]

It is easy to dismiss this case as insignificant because one disagrees with the biblical interpretation of the mark of the beast. This would be a mistake. Please consider: This case pitted the right of Christians to avoid receiving the "mark of the beast" against the state's interest in obtaining compliance by all with a general regulatory scheme. The state insists on collecting social security numbers in order to facilitate debt collection, including child support from deadbeat parents. However, at no time did the state present sufficient evidence that it would suffer any problems if it made exceptions for these Christian plaintiffs, or for others who hold similar views. A lower court twice applied the "compelling state interest test" under the California Constitution, requiring the DMV to demonstrate a compelling reason for forcing these plaintiffs to violate their religious faith. The lower court ruled in favor of Mr. Brunson and the other plaintiffs. On appeal, however, the appeals court insisted that California law follows the U.S. Supreme Court, and instead of

applying the "compelling state interest test," applied the "rational basis" test. Under this test, the only inquiry is whether there is a good reason or a "rational basis" for the law or government practice. No consideration is given to the impact on religious conscience whatsoever. Under this rational basis test, then, the appeals court ruled in favor of the state. This case stands as precedent for the authority of the state to impose the mark of the beast without any concern for protecting religious conscience! The decision highlights the need to pass comprehensive protection for religious liberty in the form of "RFRA" bills, religious freedom restoration acts, to restore the compelling state interest test. The Religious Liberty Protection Act, HR 1691, would adopt the compelling state interest test. It is pending in the U.S. Senate, having passed the House of Representatives. It needs your support. We are preparing a list of the U.S. Senators within the five states of the Pacific Union, and will be sending them out to you shortly. Please support HR 1691. In the Brunson case, we filed a request with the California Supreme Court, asking it to "de-publish" the appeals court decision, because it applied the wrong legal standard, and was in blatant disregard of California law. Depublication would mean that the decision still stands, with respect to that particular case, but it cannot be published, nor can it be cited in future cases as a legal precedent. Our request was joined by the ACLU, writing separately. The Court denied our request, so the case is final. [Any attempt to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court is unlikely, since the case was decided on state constitutional grounds.] Finally, please pray for the right "free exercise" case to be accepted by the California Supreme Court, and for that Court to approve the compelling state interest test under our state constitution.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY PROTECTION ACT (RLPA) PASSES HOUSE

In a vote held July 15, the House of Representatives passed the Religious Liberty Protection Act 306 to 118, with no exemptions that limit the free exercise of religion by prisoners, and no amendments giving precedence to gay-rights interests. The Senate will begin hearing debate on RLPA after it reconvenes after Labor Day. Taken from an August 2 newsletter by Chuck Colson's Justice Fellowship.

US LUTHERANS APPROVE "FULL COMMUNION" WITH EPISCOPALIANS

Denver, Colorado (ANN)—The Evangelical Lutheran Church of America voted August 19, to approve a document that makes possible full communion with the Episcopalian Church. The vote at the Lutheran's Church wide Assembly in Denver, Colorado, marks a major step in ecumenical efforts to bring about the "visible union" of denominations. A proposal will now be prepared which, if approved, would mean that the two denominations would adopt common strategies for evangelism and share clergy. In addition, Lutherans would accept the Episcopal position of the historic episcopate, the apostolic succession of bishops. At the same time, the Assembly voted to approve full communion with the Moravian Church.

Commenting on the decision, Dr. Gerhard Pfandl of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Biblical Research Institute said that this was a significant development in ecumenism. "We are very interested in these developments which reflect a desire by many denominations to unite. As Seventh-day Adventists, we hold in high esteem Christ's followers in other Christian churches," said Pfandl. "We also applaud any move which leads to a better understanding among Christian churches. However, we are concerned over some statements that tend to suggest a dismantling of what the Protestant Reformation has achieved. While we cooperate with other churches and the ecumenical movement in the alleviation of human suffering, we do not aim for membership in the ecumenical movement, nor do we support any entangling merger or relationship that might endanger our distinctive witness."

HOUSE APPROVES FOUR RELIGIOUS BILLS

1. A measure permitting religious memorials and services in public schools, sponsored by Representative Tom Tancredo (Republican-Colorado), passed 300-127.
2. A proposal that denies attorneys' fees to people who successfully sue a public school that has violated religious neutrality, sponsored by Representative Jim DeMint (Republican-South Carolina), passed 238-189.
3. A "charitable choice" measure that would provide tax dollars to churches in dealing with juvenile justice, sponsored by Representatives Mark Souder (Republican-Indiana) and Phil English (Republican-Pennsylvania), passed 346-83.
4. A provision that would promote the display of the Ten Commandments in public schools, sponsored by Representative Robert Aderholt (Republican-Alabama), passed 248-180. Representative Aderholt is now pushing for a separate federal law for the same purpose in all public buildings.

Also, citing the recent high-school shootings, a resolution sponsored by Representative Helen Chenoweth (Republican-Idaho), and co-sponsored by Majority Whip Tom DeLay (Republican-Texas) and House Majority Leader Dick Armey (Republican-Texas), considered asking Americans to engage in "prayer, fasting and humiliation before God." The proposal said "it is the necessary duty of the people . . . to humbly offer up our prayers and needs to Almighty God" and "it is incumbent on all public bodies, as well as private persons, to revere and rely on God Almighty for our day-to-day existence." Parliamentary rules in place that day required a two-thirds majority to pass the House. The measure failed by only "a handful of votes." [about 9!] Representative Chenoweth plans to reintroduce her resolution.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AHEAD, AGAIN

Representative Joseph Pitts (Republican-Pennsylvania),-who was appointed last year to serve as a liaison between congressional Republicans and leaders in the Christian Coalition-distributed a letter to House members stating that Representative Ernest Istook (Republican-Oklahoma) is prepared to rein-

roduce his "Religious Freedom Amendment", and Pitts is looking for co-sponsors. [The numbers 224 for and 203 against in last year's vote narrowly missed the two thirds necessary to carry the House. Liberty, March/April 1999.] From a bulletin dated August, 1999 by Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

[Editor's note: These prospective new laws and Amendments only reflect the attitude of the general population in the United States.]

". . . rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance." The Great Controversy, 592.



BIBLE SCHOLAR: PROTESTANTS NOW MORE OPEN TO MARY

National Catholic Register, Lahti, Finland, August 8-14—Protestants in some mainline denominations have expressed "much more openness to" and appreciation of Mary as Jesus' mother in recent years said a presenter at a Society of Biblical Literature meeting in Finland. "There has been more interest in Mary as a figure within Protestant circles because of a new discovery by women, that they have a role to play within the Christian faith. A role that has often been overlooked," said Kenneth Høglund, professor of Biblical studies at Wake Forest University in North Carolina. Høglund, an active Episcopalian, was one of four people presenting papers during a session on "Mary Mother of Jesus" at the 19th international meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in late July. "This interchange has brought about a certain kind of ecumenical perspective and openness to each other's traditions and history that I think has been very healthy," he said.

"Romanism is now regarded by Protestants with far greater favor than in former years. There is an increasing indifference concerning the doctrines that separate the reformed churches from the papal hierarchy; the opinion is gaining ground that, after all, we do not differ so widely upon vital points as has been supposed, and that a little concession on our part will bring us into a better understanding with Rome. Protestants have tampered with and patronized popery; they have made compromises and concessions which papists themselves are sur-

prised to see, and fail to understand. Men are closing their eyes to the real character of Romanism, and the dangers to be apprehended from her supremacy. The people of our land need to be aroused to resist the advances of this most dangerous foe to civil and religious liberty." The Great Controversy, 563, 566.



ARCHBISHOP RAISES DOUBTS OVER RESURRECTION

Third Wayism is infecting everyone these days. Tony Blair has led the Third Way march in Great Britain, as the Clintons have here. The Third Way is socialism using non-economic means. It calls for a restructuring of the social, educational, religious, medical and other major institutions that create the framework for a modern capitalist society. Blair set the tone when his new education ministers started reforming Britain's national school curriculum. Among the topics immediately dumped from teacher lesson plans was Winston Churchill. No matter that Churchill had helped win World War II and had been a major figure for more than five decades of the century. No matter that some historians view him as the most important figure of the century. Blair's government had him stricken from all British history lessons. Such Third Wayism has a way of spreading like a bad disease. Earlier this week, Britain's Daily Mail reported that the archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey, has raised significant doubts as to whether Jesus of Nazareth ever rose from the dead. The archbishop's pronouncement might be akin to the pope stepping out on his balcony overlooking St. Peter's Square to announce he just realized he may not be a Catholic after all. Using the opportunity of the Millennium—which marks 2,000 years from the birth of the Jewish carpenter-Carey wrote to the faithful, "I can tell you frankly that while we can be absolutely sure that Jesus lived and that He was certainly crucified on the Cross, we cannot with the same certainty say that we know He was raised by God from the dead." Carey argued that the resurrection "goes against human experience, and our first instinct is incredulity." He also suggested the idea of the Resurrection may have helped contribute to the Holocaust. The archbishop is the head of the Church of England. He is the second-most prominent figure in

Christendom after the pope. He has now questioned the validity of the central tenet of all Christian belief. The Church of England, as a state-sponsored religion, has close ties to the state. The archbishop apparently didn't think he'd ruffle any feathers with Tony "Third Way" Blair. Carey blames the Jesus movement for all evil throughout history. He wrote that Christianity "has contributed to the oppression of women, to policies of imperialism, slavery and the repression of free speech."

WHO DEFINES RELIGION?

WORLD, April 3—In many situations the government and its agencies get to define what they think is "religious" and what they think is not local churches shiver and shake these days when they begin talking about expansion of their physical facilities. Zoning experts have decided that while churches should enjoy freedom on some issues, the city will in its wisdom decide just how far such freedom should extend. "Worship" facilities may be uniquely religious, but "educational" facilities are not.

A parallel snag seems to exist with the United States Postal Service. God's World Publications, Inc., in addition to publishing *WORLD* magazine, also operates God's World Book Club—a service for families and schools that provides, by mail order, more than 3,500 titles of children's books. They ship about 1,000 items each day. Evidently a Postal Service inspector thought that the book title, "How To Draw Horses" wasn't religious enough. Although God's World Publishing, Inc. original application to mail at non-profit rates indicated they were a religious organization, their non-profit privileges were rescinded, causing their annual mailing costs to jump by over \$200,000.

[Editors note: It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see that such a happening could effectively kill a smaller ministry outright!] "While the Smithsonian Institution and the National Geographic Society go blithely on promoting their humanistic, naturalistic, and even atheistic philosophies of life to millions of children, enjoying the virtually automatic benefits of tax exemption and nonprofit mailing privileges, smaller organizations like God's World Publications operate in growing fear that some third-level bureaucrat somewhere might soon make the discovery that we aren't sufficiently "religious" by his defi-

inition to enjoy parallel advantages. City zoning commissions and the United States Postal Service should "back off and quit trying to define for the rest of us which parts of our lives are religious and which ones aren't. If they don't, religious freedom will soon mean nothing at all."



CREWS HUNT LAST VICTIMS OF GREEK QUAKE

(AP) Athens, Greece, September 14—Crews wearing surgical masks hunted Tuesday for the last victims of a powerful earthquake that left a death toll expected to approach 140. At least 127 people died from the Sept. 7 quake that flattened parts of working class and immigrant districts north of central Athens.



BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

National Catholic Register, August 8-14—More than 7.6 million viewers, including a "surprisingly high number of teen-agers," tuned in to a two-hour July 28, Fox Television program featuring supernatural occurrences. Included in the program were a statue that bled and a woman on whom the apparent wounds of Christ's passion, the stigmata, appeared before viewer's eyes. The program, "Signs from God: Science Tests Faith," claimed to bring rigorous tests to bear on the spectacular phenomena. Fox network chief executive officer, David Hall, told the Register that "we took manifestations of faith and tested them as the entire basis of the show and after our demonstrations we said, 'You, the public, are the jury and you have to make up your own mind.'"

"It was absolutely a great success for the viewers," Hall added. Based on affiliate member telephone calls, it was number one for the night among teenagers and all the calls were 100% positive." Curtis Talley, a permanent deacon who directs the office of Multicultural Ministries in the Diocese of Memphis, Tennessee watched the program. He said, "I found the man who was dealing with the presentations was very sensitive when he set out to demonstrate what had happened in these cases, and I found the evidence overwhelming."

"Are the people of God now so firmly established upon His word that they would not yield to the evidence of their senses?" *The Great Controversy*, 625.

TURKEY HUNDREDS INJURED IN TURKEY'S SECOND DEADLY QUAKE

CNN News, Turkey, September 13—Terrified residents jumped from windows Monday as a 5.8-magnitude earthquake jolted the same area of western Turkey where more than 14,000 people died in an earthquake last month. At least seven people were killed and more than 420 injured in the latest quake. The tremor sent thousands rushing for open ground. Most of the injured suffered broken bones as they jumped from buildings. A massive earthquake August 17 killed more than 14,000 and left many buildings uninhabitable. Thousands of families in the region have been living in tent cities in fields.

ILLINOIS E. COLI OUTBREAK SICKENS MORE THAN 140

(AP) September 11—More than 140 people were sickened with a potentially deadly strain of E. coli after partying in a cow pasture last weekend. State health officials were scrambling to reach more than 1,800 others who were there. It is the second major E. coli outbreak in two weeks. In New York state, two people have died and more than 600 others who attended a county fair have E. coli symptoms. New York health officials estimate as many as 1,000 people may have been infected, which would make it the worst E. coli outbreak in U.S. history. The worst outbreak was in 1993 when 700 patrons of Jack in the Box restaurants in Washington State were sickened by E. coli bacteria linked to undercooked hamburger and four died. No deaths have been linked to the central Illinois outbreak, but Health Department spokesman Tom Schafer said Saturday that 18 people had been hospitalized, 127 had reported E. coli symptoms and those numbers were expected to rise.

HIV RISES 70 PERCENT IN RUSSIA SINCE LAST DECEMBER

(AP) Moscow, September 11—The number of HIV-positive cases registered in Russia jumped by 70 percent in the first eight months of 1999 as the disease spread rapidly among drug addicts, the Interfax news agency reported Saturday. Health Minister Yuri Shevchenko said the majority of new HIV cases were registered among Moscow drug us-

ers, according to Interfax. "Residents of Moscow and the Moscow region account for the unprecedented growth in HIV infection," he said. "HIV hit the circle of the capital's drug users and the infection skyrocketed." Although he said cases were up 70 percent, Shevchenko did not give any figures for how many people in Russia have HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. But the Health Ministry said in early July that the country had 15,819 HIV cases. Russian officials warn that the actual number of HIV cases may be up to 10 times higher than reported.

NEW YORK CITY BATTLES ENCEPHALITIS OUTBREAK

(AP) September 11—Workers on foot began spraying pesticide Saturday in Manhattan as the city continued its war on mosquito-borne encephalitis that has killed three people. Six other cases of the potentially deadly virus since September 2 have been confirmed and 89 cases are suspected. Mayor Rudolph Giuliani urged people not to be alarmed by the increased aerial and ground spraying, expected to continue at least through Monday. "There are a lot of misconceptions and people are frightened more than they should be," he said. "This is an infinitesimally small amount of people who are affected or will be affected."

TWO MORE CASES OF ENCEPHALITIS REPORTED IN NEW YORK CITY

(AP) New York, September 13—Two more cases of potentially deadly encephalitis were reported Monday as the battle against the virus-carrying mosquitoes continued with additional aerial and ground spraying. The new illnesses bring the total number of confirmed cases of St. Louis encephalitis to 11, including three deaths.

AFRICAN LEADERS DECLARE AIDS EMERGENCY

Agence France-Press, September 12—African leaders on Sunday said that AIDS, which has devastated populations across the continent, is a disaster requiring emergency measures. "HIV/AIDS is a national disaster in our countries requiring an emergency response." The leaders committed themselves to making AIDS issues a priority in all development

programs, and "to providing political leadership by increasing resources made available" to policy and legal affairs related to HIV/AIDS. The admission that the pandemic is a disaster came after several speakers called on the leadership to publicly recognize the magnitude of the problem and give it due attention. "There is an urgent need for all African countries to declare AIDS a national disaster," said a coalition of Africans living with HIV/AIDS, led by Lynde Francis and Moustapha Gueye.

US RELEASING UNPRECEDENTED LOOK AT Y2K PROBLEMS

(AP) Washington, September 14—In what promises to be the best road map yet for identifying global problems caused by the Year 2000 technology glitch, the State Department, Tuesday is releasing country-by-country warnings for Americans living or doing business in 194 nations. The unprecedented warnings will include details from countries where visiting Americans could be affected by power outages, water shortages and other potentially serious problems if computers are unable to recognize the four-digit date 2000 on January 1.

GENE STUDY: EAT LESS, LIVE LONGER

(AP) Washington—Genes that play a role in aging tend to stay vigorous in response to a low-calorie diet, says a study that may help explain why animals that eat less often live longer. Two University of Wisconsin, Madison, researchers said their genetic analysis of mice showed that genes that normally deteriorate with age tended to continue functioning in a youthful way when the mice were underfed. They said the study, to be published in the journal *Science* tomorrow, may explain why a reduced-calorie diet can cause mice to live up to 50 percent longer.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS' INCREASING POPULARITY

(AP) Sacramento, September 8—About one in four US children are going to alternative and private schools as choices other than neighborhood public schools are increasing across the country, a new study found. The percentage attending private school has remained at 10 percent for years. But

with newer options of charter schools, magnet schools, open enrollment and voucher programs, the alternatives—including private schools—account for a full 25 percent of US students. Researchers said they did not find a great deal of evidence that the alternatives improve student achievement, according to the study released today by the Policy Analysis for California Education.

DANFORTH AGREES TO HEAD WACO INQUIRY

(AP) Washington, September 8—Former Republican Senator John Danforth agreed today to oversee an independent review of the 1993 federal standoff with the Branch Davidians, government officials said. Attorney General Janet Reno was to announce the appointment tomorrow. Reno's decision on Danforth came as the top Republican in the Senate, Majority Leader Trent Lott, said he now has doubts about who started the fire that ended the fatal siege in Waco, Texas, and believes it is time for Reno to step down. **[Editors note:** Do you think there is a possibility that Religious Right/Christian Coalition extremists will use the Waco incident as a rallying call in the upcoming elections to unite all US Christians against the current bad, amoral, secular government?]

THE CHURCH REDUCING ADMINISTRATORS TO SAVE \$1m

September 8—The South Pacific Division hopes to reduce its number of administrators and save \$1.7 million a year.

CHURCH BELONGS TO LAITY SAYS PRESIDENT

Jan Paulsen, the world president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, has called for the laity to take over the church. "It's healthy for the Church that the laity take hold of the Church. It belongs to us," he told a laity seminar in Guatemala.

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

By Jeff Pippenger

IN THE JULY 1999 FUTURE FOR AMERICA PAPER I SAW THE SPECIAL DOCUMENT ABOUT EVANGELIZING SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS BY THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. I NOTICED THAT THE ARTICLE SAID THE GENERAL CONFERENCE SAID THIS WAS AN OFFICIAL VATICAN DOCUMENT.

WHERE CAN I GET A COPY OF THE VATICAN DOCUMENT AND COVER LETTER BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE?

WHO WAS IT AT THE GENERAL CONFERENCE THAT WROTE THE COVER LETTER?

WHY DOES THE TEXT IN YOUR NEWSLETTER DIFFER WITH THE TEXT IN ANOTHER NEWSLETTER, WHICH POSTED THE SAME DOCUMENT?

WHAT WAS THE SOURCE FOR THE BRAZIL LETTER?

The following note is a brief explanation of the two letters published in the July issue of Future for America newsletter. The letters under discussion I will call the "Brazil" letter and the "Vatican" letter. The copies of both letters were in our July newsletter. First the Vatican letter: Our version of the Vatican letter is different than the version published by Jan Marcussen because we both received the same document in Spanish, but used different translators. Jan's translator speaks Mexican Spanish, while ours speak Colombian Spanish. Each Spanish speaking country has its own variations on the Spanish language, and these minor differences answer the minor differences between the two versions. The translated copy from the General Conference leader is as follows:

**Division Interamericana April 15, 1999
For all the Union Presidents and local places of the Interamerican Division**

Dear Friends,

As you already know, I am not ingenuous. But while I was in a tour by the Centroamerican Union attending some marvelous meetings with pastors and

elders of churches, someone gave me a document concerning a Catholic plan to evangelize the Seventh-day Adventist Church. I didn't put much attention upon the document at the time I received it, with the thought that maybe it was a joke. But that night, opening my electronic mail, I received from a Stephen P. Haws, that I am enclosing with this letter. [We have the short note here mentioned, though not translated to English.] It did lead me to think that the information I received in Centroamerica was not a joke, and the plan presented to conquer lost territory maybe was true. . . . Let us continue praying and working. The time is short. It is my desire that He continues blessing you. Sincerely, Israel Leito, President

The Brazil letter:

Recently I was working in Colombia with the Restrepo family. We spoke in 5 or 6 different towns and cities on that trip. While in Medellin, which is where the Colombian Adventist University and Union offices are located the Restrepos received the Brazil letter which had been translated from Portuguese to Spanish. It had come from the Seventh-day Adventist Union offices. Weeks before a pastor had returned from Brazil to the Union offices in Colombia. He brought with him the letter, which they translated it from Portuguese into Spanish. After their investigation they determined that the letter was valid, and began sharing the document. When we arrived in Medellin, someone gave a copy to the Restrepos. When they told me of the content I asked them to translate it into English, which they did.

Later, on August 2, the Union offices in Colombia connected with the Orthodox Church in Brazil, and the Orthodox Church is now denying they published the letter. The emphasis in our newsletter was, among other things, identifying a specific sequence of developing events leading up to the Sunday law. Sister White emphasizes a three step sequence associated with Sunday enforcement. First "royal edicts" (and Dies Domini is one of those modern royal edicts); then calls for church councils to sup-

port the royal edicts; and last secular power used to enforce these royal edicts. The Brazil document is now being identified as false. Unfortunately, when the Seventh-day Adventist Church, at the Union level, endorses it as valid, I believed those that read our newsletter would want to know these things.

WHO IS BLACK POPE?

The black pope is whoever is the head of the Jesuits. There is no mystical identification associated with the term black pope. The typical garments worn by the Jesuits order of monks, is black in color. Because of this, the Catholic Church coined the term "black pope" for the head of the Jesuits long ago. It is not a black man, though in theory it could be, if a black person assumed control of the Jesuits. In the prophecies which Satan is bringing to Catholicism through the "so called" Virgin Mary, there is identified an internal struggle for leadership and control of the Catholic Church. This struggle genuinely exists in Catholicism. It is between the Jesuit branch with its Socialistic emphasis on the social gospel and the Opus Dei branch with its emphasis on traditional Catholic dogmas. The current pope is in the camp of the Opus Dei organization. The prophecies of Mary suggest that the current pope will soon be replaced by a "so called" wicked pope. The wicked pope comes from the Jesuit branch, and therefore is currently the black pope.

WHERE IS A MONETARY CRISIS INDICATED PRIOR TO THE SUNDAY LAW?

"And then the great deceiver will persuade men that those who serve God are causing these evils. The class that have provoked the displeasure of Heaven will charge all their troubles upon those whose obedience to God's commandments is a perpetual reproof to transgressors. It will be declared that men are offending God by the violation of the Sunday sabbath; that this sin has brought calamities which will not cease until Sunday observance shall be strictly enforced; and that those who present the claims of the fourth commandment, thus destroying reverence for Sunday, are troublers of the people, preventing their restoration to divine favor and temporal prosperity. Thus the accusation urged of old against the servant of God will be repeated and upon grounds equally well established: 'And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab

said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the Lord, and thou hast followed Baalim.' 1 Kings 18:17, 18. As the wrath of the people shall be excited by false charges, they will pursue a course toward God's ambassadors very similar to that which apostate Israel pursued toward Elijah." The Great Controversy, 590.

[Editor's note: There is an escalation of Sunday laws which reach a climax with the Sunday law that fulfills Revelation 13:11. That Sunday law is two fold in it's application. It will demands Sunday worship and persecute for uphold the true Sabbath. Every step that mankind takes away from its Creator in implementing a Sunday law brings a corresponding degree of the judgments of God upon men. That principle Sister White often cites: "national apostasy is followed by national ruin." The beginning of Sunday legislation will bring an increase of the judgments of God in their wake. How complete the economic crisis will be is uncertain, but we have counsel to use our funds in the Lord's work before this time period, which also indicates that we will run out of time to use them.]

"If we would follow the opening providence of God, we should be quick to discern every opening, and make the most of every advantage within our reach. . . . There is a fearfulness to venture out and run risks in this great work, fearing that the expenditure of means would not bring returns. What if means are used and yet we cannot see that souls have been saved by it? What if there is a dead loss of a portion of our means? Better work and keep at work than to do nothing. You know not which shall prosper—this or that.

"Men will invest in patent rights and meet with heavy losses, and it is taken as a matter of course. But in the work and cause of God, men are afraid to venture. Money seems to them to be a dead loss that does not bring immediate returns when invested in the work of saving souls. The very means that is now so sparingly invested in the cause of God, and that is selfishly retained, will in a little while be cast with all idols to the moles and to the bats. Money will soon depreciate in value very suddenly when the reality of eternal scenes opens to the senses of man.

"God will have men who will venture anything and everything to save souls. Those who will not move until they can see every step of the way clearly before them will not be of advantage at this time to forward the truth of God. There must be workers now who will push ahead in the dark as well as in the light, and who will hold up bravely under discouragements and disappointed hopes, and yet work on with faith, with tears and patient hope, sowing beside all waters, trusting the Lord to bring the increase. God calls for men of nerve, of hope, faith, and endurance, to work to the point." Evangelism, 62-63.

"Go to now, [ye] rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon [you]. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days." James 5:1-3

Who Can Be Saved?

Cont' from page 5

the same way that several "strands" make one "rope".) For example, Elimelech, "God is King"; Daniel, "God is my Judge"; Ezekiel, "the Strength of God"; Immanuel, "With Us is God", and Elijah, "God is Yahweh (or Jehovah)". Names beginning or ending with "iah", or "Jah", are also names of God: Isaiah, literally, "Jeshaiiah", means "Jehovah has Saved", and Jeremiah, "Jehovah Shall Arise". We are expecting someday to enter the New Jerusalem in heaven as our new and permanent home. The name, Jerusalem, (a plural word) means "Foundations of Peace". The original name of the city was "Salem" (Genesis 14:18), like "Shalom", meaning "Peace". In Hebrews 7:1-2 Paul makes a play upon the meanings of the names of Melchisedec and Salem: "For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, which is King of Peace." Melchisedec is definitely stated in the Scriptures to be a type of Jesus, having no beginning or end, (also Psalm 110:4) and Jerusalem, the city of the "Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6), is presented in the Revelation as the seat of the Messiah's spiritual kingdom, spiritual Israel-the Church, and also the capital of the eternal kingdom. Throughout Scripture, Jerusalem, the city of peace, is presented as the center of the great controversy between the forces of good and evil-between the principles which are the foundation for everlasting peace and the principles which create strife, death, and destruction.

The names written on the twelve gates of this city are "the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel", Revelation 21:12, and, like Melchisedec, spiritual Israelites are said to be "kings and priests" (Revelation 1:6; 5:10; 20:6). God recorded details associated with the giving of the names of Jacob's sons, and pointed out why they were called by their respective names. Because these names are mentioned in the book of Revelation where the completion of the work of God on earth is brought to view-the sealing "of all the tribes of the children of Israel" (Revelation 7:1-8)-these names and their meanings are especially meaningful to the remnant church. The order in which the names of the tribes of the children of Israel are given in Revelation 7 is also significant. They are not given in the order of their birth. Setting out the names in the order in which they are given in Revelation 7, we see that in this arrangement of the names according to their meanings and not according to their order of birth, we instead discover an acrostic that reveals God's message of assurance to those who are to be finally and forever sealed among the tribes of Spiritual Israel. (Read the meanings down as a connected sentence.)

Judah: "Praise" (All of the gates in New Jerusalem are primarily named "Praise", Isaiah 60:18.) **Reuben:** "Behold a son" (John 1:12; Romans 8:14-17.) **Gad:** "A company" (Revelation 7:9; 19:1-6) of sons, redeemed. **Aser:** "Happy" (John 13:17; 16:33.) **Nephtalim:** "Wrestling" (Genesis 32:24-30) in prayer. **Manasses:** "Forgetting" (Philippians. 3:13; Isaiah 65:17) self and the past. **Simeon:** "Hearing" (1 Samuel 3:10, "Speak, Lord, for Thy servant heareth".) God's word. **Levi:** "Joined" (John 15:1-7; Acts 2:47) to God and the Church. **Issachar:** "Hired Servant(s)" (Romans 6:16-22) doing His will. **Zabulon:** "Dwelling With" (Psalms 91:1; Isaiah 33:14) **Joseph:** "Added", or "Accumulating" (2 Peter 1:2, 5-7) sanctification. **Benjamin:** "Son(s) of the right hand."

The 144,000 are those who enter into salvation through the gates of praise after beholding the Son of God. They join a company of sons, who are happy after wrestling with the Lord in prayer, forgetting self and the past, through hearing the Word of the Lord. They are joined to the Lord as his hired servants, while continually dwelling with Christ and receiving the added blessings of sanctification which is the inheritance of the sons of His right hand. The meaning of the names in conjunction with the order recorded in Revelation 7 identifies the experience of the 144,000.

SEPTEMBER SPECIALS



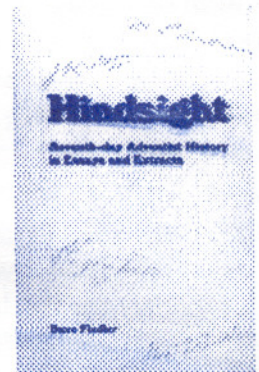
Conscience—Your Inner Voice, Thomas A. Davis

"We live in a bad day for conscience," writes the author of this little book. "Today, for many people, there are no moral categoricals. . . . Everything comes in grays." Consequently, we have a real potential for moral chaos on our planet, in which every individual does what is right in his or her own eyes. We recommend this little booklet as a useful tool offering important insights into this too often neglected and ignored but vitally important faculty of our moral being.

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