

FUTURE NEWS

Volume 5, No. 2

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ENDEAVOR TO DISARM PREJUDICE

“The Lord is doing His work. All heaven is astir. The Judge of all the earth is soon to arise and vindicate His insulted authority. The mark of deliverance will be set upon the men who keep God’s commandments, who revere His law, and who refuse the mark of the beast or of his image.

“God has revealed what is to take place in the last days, that His people may be prepared to stand against the tempest of opposition and wrath. Those who have been warned of the events before them are not to sit in calm expectation of the coming storm, comforting themselves that the Lord will shelter His faithful ones in the day of trouble. We are to be as men waiting for their Lord, not in idle expectancy, but in earnest work, with unwavering faith. It is no time now to allow our minds to be engrossed with things of minor importance. While men are sleeping, Satan is actively arranging matters so that the Lord’s people may not have mercy or justice.

The Sunday movement is now making its way in darkness. The leaders are concealing the true issue, and many who unite in the movement do not themselves see whither the undercurrent is tending. Its professions are mild and apparently Christian, but when it shall speak it will reveal the spirit of the dragon. **It is our duty to do all in our power to avert the threatened danger. We should endeavor to disarm prejudice by placing ourselves in a proper light before the people.** We should bring before them the real question at issue, thus interposing the most effectual protest against measures to restrict liberty of conscience. We should search the Scriptures and be able to give the reason for our faith. Says the prophet: ‘The wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.’

“Those who have access to God through Christ have important work before them. Now is the time to lay hold of the arm of our strength. The prayer of David should be the prayer of pastors and laymen: ‘It is time for Thee, Lord, to work: for they have made void Thy law.’ Let the servants of the Lord weep between the porch and the altar, crying: ‘Spare Thy people, O Lord, and give not Thine heritage to reproach.’ God has always wrought for His people in their greatest extremity, when there seemed the least hope that ruin could be averted. The designs of wicked men, the enemies of the church, are subject to His power and overruling providence. He can move upon the hearts of statesmen; the wrath of the turbulent and disaffected, the haters of God, His truth, and His people can be turned aside, even as the rivers of water are turned, if He orders it thus. Prayer moves the arm of Omnipotence. He who marshals the stars in order in the heavens, whose word controls the waves of the great deep, the same infinite Creator will work in behalf of His people if they call upon Him in faith. He will restrain the forces of darkness until the warning is given to the world and all who will heed it are prepared for the conflict.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 452.

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Future for America seeks to supply meat in due season for God's flock. It is present truth that the flock needs now:

"God cannot display the knowledge of His will and the wonders of His grace among the unbelieving world unless He has witnesses scattered all over the earth. It is His plan that those who are partakers of this great salvation through Jesus Christ should be His missionaries, bodies of light throughout the world, to be as signs to the people, living epistles, known and read of all men, their faith and works testifying to the near approach of the coming Saviour and showing that they have not received the grace of God in vain. The people must be warned to prepare for the coming judgment. To those who have been listening only to fables, God will give an opportunity to hear the sure word of prophecy, whereunto they do well that they take heed as unto a light that shineth in a dark place. He will present the sure word of truth to the understanding of all who will take heed; all may contrast truth with the fables presented to them by men who claim to understand the word of God and to be qualified to instruct those in darkness." *Testimonies*, volume 2, 631-632.

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Future News

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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

The last few months have been pretty much a blur of activity for Kathy and I. A few weeks in Australia, followed by a brief period at home, then a trip to Nevada, then off to London for a couple of weeks, then home for a few days, then off to a weekend meeting with the Spanish brethren in California, then a few days home and off to the Philippines for five weeks.

We have recently heard good reports from our Australian trip. Our purpose there seems to have been accomplished. Ron Goss reports that the printed material we hoped to encourage to be supported through financing and distribution is well under way. The message is getting handed out and money is arriving to print the material as needed. Praise the Lord, and thank you all for the support you provided that allowed us to have a part in this effort.

A VERY CLEAR WAKE-UP CALL

 Dear Jeff,

Thank you for the newsletter and tapes you sent. Together with your visit (and Ron Goss's) they have brought a very clear wake up call and we thank God for you ministry.

Please add my name to your mailing list for the newsletter and monthly tape. We will share them with others as able, as so many of our brothers and sisters in the faith, as well as our own family, need to realize that He is *even at the door*.

Just two days ago I was startled to see the headline in Queensland's, *Courier Mail*," (our major state newspaper), *Federal Push to Control Cults*. Its implications are obvious, and I have enclosed a photocopy.

When I came back from the GC in July I had some money left over, and I knew that one-day I would need it for something. Well now I've found out why I've kept the dollars all these months. Our Aussie dollar has fallen to about US 51 cents and so I'll enclose them for your ministry.

The presidential election results, or lack of them to this date, have been fairly well covered in Australia, and it seems to me that even though Al Gore probably had a majority, the Catholic & Christian Right forces, through the courts, will have George Bush enthroned. I'm sure the significance of this outcome will not be overlooked. May God Bless, protect, and lead you in your service and ministry for Him. Sincerely, K.M.—Australia

 Brother Jeff,

I have sent a portion of my money towards the Lord's work. I received the tapes, charts, quite a while ago, but haven't sent any money because I haven't worked for over a year. I used to work fairly far away from home but decided to give up my work for my family. In doing so I have become a stay at home dad and my wife went back to work. This transition wasn't easy for I am still having a hard time with it. At my old job I ran a company which occupied my mind quite a bit (too much) I have been praying about work where I live but the Lord hasn't shown me the way yet. I often wonder if I am not supposed to be working but doing God's work instead.

I was rather overwhelmed when I opened the original package of tapes. I thank you for them and thank you for sending them in faith. Please continue to send me the monthly newsletter to myself and my brothers and sisters. I will continue to save my money here and there to help you continue with the Lord's work. When I get another significant amount saved I will send you some more. Sorry about this handwriting, this letter is very spontaneous as I clean our house here today. Please e-mail me when you receive this letter. Thank you again. Brother in Christ, P.M.—Australia

 To My Brother Jeff,

Just a short note to thank you for tapes and magazines. I have been listening and reading diligently every day these truths that all people should know. I am receiving a wonderful blessing from the Lord as He is leading me into greater truth. Jeff my wife and I have had a very trying year as our 15 year old son left home over Sabbath issues mainly, and it really knocked us around as he showed so much promise spiritually. On top of that financial struggles, and other

family dramas had made us very aware that the war is real. I praise God though Jeff, for our trials for He has drawn me into a much more trusting and intimate relationship and woken me from my slumber. I don't want to put you up on a pedestal, I know you don't want to be there but He used your willingness and research to help draw me to Him, so thank you once again. I look forward to meeting you again in the Incorruptible Kingdom of peace and safety, but until then, my prayers will ascend for you ministry and your family. Stay humble my brother. Please pray for our family. Christ-like Love, D.B.G.—Australia

We are still hearing good reports from our camp meeting presentations earlier this year in Canada. After the camp meeting we went from about five people in Canada who received our newsletter to ninety-one. We hear on a regular basis of studies, which are taking place there, covering the prophetic material we shared and then sent.

VIOLATES THE PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY

 Dear Jeff,

I attended your meetings at Pugwash, Nova Scotia. Here's a thought that crossed my mind after reading *The Great Controversy*, 441:

“‘And he had two horns like a lamb.’ The lamblike horns inicate youth, innocence, and gentleness, fitly representing the character of the United States when presented to the prophet as ‘coming up’ in 1798. Among the Christian exiles who first fled to America and sought an asylum from royal oppression and priestly intolerance were many who determined to establish a government upon the broad foundation of civil and religious liberty. Their views found place in the Declaration of Independence, which sets forth the great truth that ‘all men are created equal’ and endowed with the inalienable right to ‘life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.’ And the Constitution guarantees to the people the right of self-government, providing that representatives elected by the popular vote shall enact and administer the laws. Freedom of religious faith was also granted, every man being permitted to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience. Republicanism and Protestantism became the fundamental principles of the nation. **These principles are the secret of its power and prosperity.** The oppressed and downtrodden throughout Christendom have turned to this land with interest and hope. Millions have sought its shores, and the United States has risen to a place among the most powerful nations of the earth.”

Mrs. White makes it clear the will of the people in choosing its leaders are key to its power and prosperity. *Newsweek's* December 25 issue had this to say: “After a narrow win in the US Supreme Court and a Gore concession, President-elect George W. Bush spoke from the Texas House.” Al Gore is quoted as saying “Now the US Supreme Court has spoken. Let there be no doubt, while I strongly disagree with the court's decision, I accept it.”

This does not sound like the people choosing it's own government. This court action goes directly against the Declaration of Independence; it violates the very principles of democracy. Also each of the previous governments, which didn't win the popular vote, but won the electoral college, had very poor mandates with bad economies. From my way of thinking the first key has been broken Republicanism has fallen, and surely Protestantism can't be too far behind with a Sunday law and fully breaking the last key! Please send me your thoughts on this. Thanks, T.

Editor's note I think the Constitution does provide for the Supreme Court's involvement in the last election. My views about the election run in a different line of thought. If we study the martyrdom of Stephen in the book of Acts, we see a very consistent pattern for how God accomplishes His executive judgment. By “executive judgment”, I am referring to the punishment aspect of judgment.

In the story, Stephen is used by God to rehearse the covenant, which ancient Israel had agreed to uphold. Stephen's speech was in agreement with a courtroom verdict. God set forth the initial arrangement, then through Stephen, demonstrated how Israel had broken the agreement. All this was done before executive judgment was pronounced. This is the Biblical pattern of how God deals in His executive judgments. In the story of Stephen the Jews were familiar with the covenant and the history that followed. Part of their anger was their recognition that Stephen was delivering a legal summation against them.

According to Sister White, the United States has been the most highly favored nation upon earth. She states this truth many times and in many ways:

“The Lord has done more for the United States than any other country upon which the sun shines. Here He provided an asylum for His people, where they could worship Him according to the dictates of conscience. Here Christianity has progressed in its purity. The life-giving doctrine of the one Mediator between God and man has been freely taught. **God designed that this country should ever remain free** for all people to worship Him in accordance with the dictates of conscience. **He designed** that its civil institutions, in their expansive productions, should represent the freedom of gospel privileges.” *Maranatha*, 193.

Connected with this truth is the responsibility the United States has been given to protect—*religious liberty*. When the Sunday law of Bible prophecy is enacted, in fulfillment of Revelation 13:11, ‘national apostasy, will be followed by national ruin’. This national apostasy, which destroys religious liberty, is directly connected to the document—which we know as the Constitution. When the Sunday law arrives—simultaneously, the Constitution will be overturned. At the stoning of Stephen the Jews knew the covenant, and their national history. Stephen simply placed these in the context of a legal pronouncement.

In the United States, previous to last October, the citizens of this country barely knew the Constitution at all. Suddenly the election arrives, and within a few short weeks, virtually everyone in the United States has been given the most intensive crash course into what the Constitution is, and how and why it works, its history and development, and on and on. The news reporters during that time-period, were often commenting on how much of the Constitution we did not understand prior to the election. Then began the crash course in “civics and the Constitution”.

The election from my point of view was more significant in that it was apparent that God was allowing light to go forth to the people of the United States concerning their responsibility as the citizens of this country, to uphold religious liberty, by protecting the principles enshrined in the Constitution. I believe this is evidence that God’s executive judgment against this country is about to take place. He has given light about the Constitution, just before we deny it, and bring upon ourselves national ruin. God never changes. The Constitutional crash course was in once sense His mercy and another His pronouncement.

“The people of the United States have been a favored people; but when they restrict religious liberty, surrender Protestantism, and give countenance to popery, the measure of their guilt will be full, and ‘national apostasy’ will be registered in the books of heaven. The result of this apostasy will be national ruin.” *Review and Herald*, May 2, 1893.

NEXT FOUR YEARS TUMULTUOUS

No matter who serves as president, the Religious Right will demand action on a number of its pet causes—religious school vouchers, public school prayer, charitable choice, restrictions on reproductive freedom [abortion],—you name it—the list seems endless.

Although the Religious Right lost many key Senate and Governor’s races, according to an AU analysis, **two-thirds of the candidates backed by the Religious Right in competitive races for the House of Representatives won!**

To make matters worse, the House and Senate are narrowly divided. I expect the next four years to be crucial—and also tumultuous.

Finally, the Supreme Court is closely divided over the issue of separation of church and state. One or two new Court appointments could shift the balance [of power] in either direction.

What does this mean? **For the first time in modern history, all three branches of**

government could end up under the influence of the Religious Right. This is the day the Religious Right has been waiting for. *Americans United for the Separation of Church and State newsletter*, November 15, 2000.

Editor's note: Now that the elections are over, the observation is fulfilled: "For the first time in modern history, all three branches of government" **are** "under the influence of the Religious Right."

 Hi Jeff:

Hope your stay and presentations in London were successful and that people were awakened of how close we are of our Lord's coming. Did you cover similar materials as at the Maritime Camp meeting? Let me know when your next newsletter and tape will come out. Wishing you all a wonderful holiday.

We will be visiting my folks in Sweden for the holiday, as I have not seen them since 1997. I will get back to you when we return in January. A number of my friends in Newfoundland received the tapes and the magazines (newsletters) that you sent me. They really find them encouraging and I know that they will order some of your tapes. Bye for now, M.

P.S. Let me know how things went in London.

Our trip to London was very successful. The ice storms which initially struck my home delayed my arrival in London for five days. This allowed Tico and Mary Ann to trade off the speaking slots between themselves. Due to this Tico had ample time to cover his material. He needed the time for he left about a week before Mary Ann, and Mary Ann left about five days before I returned home. The ice storm forced us into God's schedule for the meetings. Tico presented the three angels of Revelation fourteen from the perspective of victorious Christian experience. The brethren were blessed and overwhelmed with the message. Barriers that had existed within the dynamics of the meeting were removed by such a powerful statement at the opening of the presentations.

The barriers had been erected in a large part due to a few self-supporting ministries in the US, who had taken great time and effort since my first trip to London, a year and a half ago, to undermine our prophetic material and attack the messenger. The Lord controlled the meetings in such a way to eliminate much of the resistance which had been created. Mary Ann's material was of such a complete and practical measure that more than one person gave testimony that they had come to recognize the health message in a way they had never seen it before.

As the meetings closed, a large group of those who attended made a covenant together to begin meeting, on a regular weekly basis, to practice and master the art of water treatments, fomentations, and poultices. The brethren there are committed to becoming proficient in the work of being medical missionaries to those around them. Through the meetings, Mary Ann would close with a demonstration on how to apply a simple remedy. Invariably the next evening someone in the audience would give testimony that the previous evening, when they went home, someone in their family would become ill and they would have to use the very remedy which Mary Ann had taught that very night. The Lord was running a school on simple remedies, which went beyond Mary Ann's efforts.

The end of the meetings emphasized the prophetic truths which are identifying how close we are to the end, and the people left the meetings praising the Lord for such wonderful and complete light. The meetings were truly powerful. Soon we hope to have them all available on audio cassette, though they are currently being edited in London.

FOOD ALLERGIES

90% of all food allergies are caused by a handful of proteins found in nuts, wheat, milk, eggs and seafood. *Newsweek Special Edition*, December 2000.

Dear Jeff,

Here is a check to cover my bill, plus some extra to help spread God's end time message. Also I enjoyed your tape the *Hour of Adventism's Visitation*. I am also curious as to how you became an Adventist. Thanks, C.

Dear Brother Pippenger,

Your last audio is profound. Time is so short. Spread your message everywhere, our people need it. We will share this tape with all who will hear it. God Bless, R.J.M.

Dear Jeff Pippenger,

You make me aware more and more as I read you newsletter and listen to the tapes you send that our Lord is coming very soon. Please pray that I may be ready. I thank you so much for all the tapes you have sent me, but I would also like to study with your notes that go along with certain tapes. I would like to order these notes so I may study more deeply. Also is you have any material on The Eleventh Hour Worker, please let me know. Thank you. Sincerely, V.R.

We hope the interview with John Robbins which we are sending out with the newsletter is understood from the point of view as a discussion with a potential *eleventh hour worker*. If you have recently been added to our mailing list and did not receive part one of the interview, let us know and we will send you that tape. The principles identified in his book are a real eye opener, to the inroads which popery has made in our country and the world.

WELFARE CHECK FOR EVERY PERSON

Geneva, Switzerland—As government leaders from 170 nations deliver their official addresses on social development needs and progress at a special session of the UN General Assembly in Geneva, across the street thousands of other UN delegates are discussing ways to meet those needs through UN agencies.

Thomas Jacobson, senior policy analyst for *Freedom Alliance*, attended a session today, titled, *Basic Income For All People*. "While well-intentioned," Mr. Jacobson said, "the UN delegates are proposing systems that would give the UN a measure of control over every person, nation and economy in the world. Plus the UN would have its own currency and banks, and have a gigantic computer with information about every person on the face of the earth. That is alarming!"

The idea of giving every person in the world a basic income, or yearly welfare check of approximately 250 UN dollars, was invented by the late Pieter Kooistra, an artist from the Netherlands. His idea is being passionately pro-

Special Notice

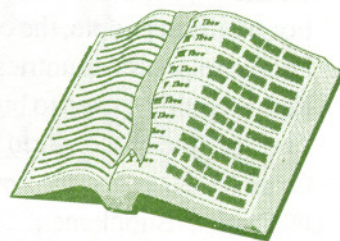
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Bible

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Bible

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The Deluxe Study Bible no longer is available in Burgandy.



moted before the UN and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that work closely with the UN.

Here are some of the basic elements of the proposal:

The money: 250 UN dollars to each person each year (may be in UN currency or UN bank debit card);

- For 6 billion people, the cost would be at least 1.5 trillion UN dollars per year;
- People in poorer countries would receive more, which would increase the cost;
- Funds could be used to buy food and necessities, but the “rich” could not use funds for food;
- The “people of the world would decide; what goods and services could be purchased”;
- Over 15–20 years, the amount would be increased to about 3,500 UN dollars.

UN Banks, “Supplemental Economy” and “Field Representatives”:

- UN would have a central bank and local banks;
- An entirely separate “supplemental economy” would be developed using the UN currency;
- There would be a central computer system that would know how much each person may spend;
- Every 1,000 people would be represented by a UN field worker, who would, for each person, enter into the global computer personal information and items approved for purchase;
- Those who are found guilty of any type of coercion or fraud would be banned from the system.

Mr. Jacobson concluded, “What is being proposed by these UN delegates is nothing short of global government with great potential for misuse.”

Editor’s note: If you have read *Ecclesiastical Megalomania*, you would recognize this proposal as a Catholic economic principle.

GLOBAL FUTURE-SHOCK

In the 1920’s, as today, progress in communications and transport led many to believe that an irreversible process of international cooperation had begun. Then those hopes were dashed by a surge of protectionism and an explosion of nationalism and hatred.

This kind of comparison overlooks one crucial point. The process of globalization has gone much farther today than it had 75 years ago. The revolution in information technology and communications, the scope of economic and business integration, and the volume and extreme mobility of international financial flows are creating conditions that make this process truly irreversible, whatever the bumps in the road. So, the real question is not whether globalization will proceed, but how smoothly.

In many ways, the man-in-the-street has become the opposition. People’s sense of alienation is aggravated by the feeling that the future is coming at us too fast and too brutally. We don’t know who is governing whom, and the traditional system of representative democracy no longer responds to the new social, psychological and economic realities produced by globalization. *Newsweek Special Issue*, December 2000.

SUPPLIED BY ROBINSON



Dear Brother Pippenger,

In your talk, *The Refreshing*, you quote extensively from *Review and Herald*, April 27, 1911.

I looked this article up and noticed extensive italicization. Since Sister White rarely used italics, I wondered if they were supplied by the author of this article, D.E. Robinson.

I do not have access to the *Unpublished Manuscript*, written in 1899, to which he refers, but I did look up *Testimonies*, volume 1, 353–354, and there are no italics. Nor did she use italics in *Testimonies*, volume 8, 117; *The Great Controversy*, 604–605, 448–449; or *Review and Herald*, August 13, 1897, also quoted by Robinson. All italics in the *Review and Herald*, April 27, 1911, are supplied by Robinson.

I only mention it because you made a point of saying more than once that Ellen White used italics to emphasize certain points. She didn’t. She almost never placed forceful emphasis on her written words, relying herself on the Holy Spirit’s power to impress minds, and not on her own emphasis. Sincerely, K.H.

Editor's note: Thank you for the clarification. The italics in *Review and Herald*, August 27, 1897 have always seemed significant to me, in the sense that they clearly emphasize when and where the mark of the beast and seal of God are placed in the prophetic sequence of events. Both, of course, take place at the Sunday law. I will cease to state, as I have done in the past, that Sister White italicized the parts in the passage, but would note that the italics only clarify what is stated. I would also add that Ellen White provided for members of her Estate to do minor editorial revision on her writings for the sake of clarity. D.E. Robinson was part of the EGW Estate and therefore was acting within the scope of authority set forth by the prophet herself.

“If the light of truth has been presented to you, revealing the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, and showing that there is no foundation in the Word of God for Sunday observance, and yet you still cling to the false sabbath, *refusing to keep holy the Sabbath* which God calls ‘my holy day,’ you receive the mark of the beast. *When does this take place?*—When you obey the decree that commands you to *cease from labor on Sunday and worship God*, while you know that there is not a word in the Bible showing Sunday to be other than a common working-day, you consent

to receive the mark of the beast, *and refuse the seal of God*. If we receive this mark in our foreheads or in our hands, the judgments pronounced against the disobedient must fall upon us. But the seal of the living God is placed upon those *who conscientiously keep the Sabbath of the Lord.*” *Review and Herald*, April 27, 1911. Emphasis in the original.

“Rome’s Arraignment Of Sabbath- Breakers”

65¢ Each

PRAYER REQUESTS



Dear Jeff and Kathy,

I pray you and your family is doing well. I appreciate, and am greatly blessed by the tapes and newsletters you send me every month. Kathy I hate to tell you that the tape on *The Rise and Fall of the King of the North*, second half is still bad. I am sending funds for items needed and please use the rest any way that will help God’s cause. Kathy I want to thank you so much for sending my daughter the tapes and newsletter. May God continue to bless you, and yours.

Please continue to pray for my husband who’s in a nursing home. Also for my daughter her husband and my extended family. Bless all of you. Your Sister in Christ Jesus, L.L.

Please pray for my wife and my son for their salvation. Keep up the good work! I really enjoy your newsletter and tapes. May God bless and keep you always! Your Brother in Christ, S.H.



Dear Jeff,

Thank you for all you do for the Lord. You and yours are in my daily prayers. Thank you for your taped messages I listen to them carefully several times. Pray for a family who lost their wife and mother in a sudden death.

Especially pray for J. who is divorced with an 8-year old son who is in an affair with a man she hopes to marry eventually. He is a dentist. Pray that he will prove to be the support to J. he professes to be, and the he will prove to be

honorable. Thanks! Also pray for my 86 year old husband (of 58 years) who is failing in health, and needs to be converted. He doesn't spend much time reading and studying the Bible and the Inspired Writings. Thank you and God bless you in 2001! In Christ's Love, A.



Dear Friends,

What a thrill to receive the surprise package filled with your tapes and materials! Thank you, thank you, thank you! You are welcome to use J.'s music on you teaching tapes. J. loves to sing for the Lord and be a blessing for others, drawing them closer to Jesus. I'd like to mention to our church family the idea of having you come and speak to us at our church. We'll keep in touch. Keep you eyes upon Jesus and imitate His loving character. T.C.

I leave for Philippines tomorrow, and it was just a few days ago that we returned from meetings in California. Steve Dickie, who operates a ministry called *Strawberry Meadows* was there with us. His ministry helps brethren set up printing operations around the world. He has set up one in the Ukraine, Colombia, Mexico, and is currently working in Viet Nam, Africa, Cuba, as well as traveling with us to the Philippines to see if he can help the brethren in Cebu increase their printing facilities and capabilities. He had a need for a video camera to produce some videos about his current projects. We at *Future for America* had also decided to purchase a video camera to put a few studies on video-tape. We brought together the assets of both ministries to purchase the equipment. We also had Glenn Woiler come to the California meetings. He has run video departments at a couple different ministries, as well as producing the videos we currently sale. He had helped select the video equipment, and at the California meetings, he taught Steve and me the rudiments of operating the equipment. We ended up with ten hours of presentations in Spanish. The speakers were myself, Steve Dickie, Pastor Restrepo, and his wife Dr. Nely Restrepo. The meetings were excellent and productive in more ways than one.

I will be taking the video equipment with me to the Philippines in order to practice this new task and document the work we are involved with over there. Steve will give the gospel presentation at the first series and his wife Donna will give the health presentation. Part way through the first meeting two other volunteers will come from the states to help. Bob Hendricksen will help in the building of the two churches and Grace Takomi will help with health evangelism. The second series, will be given by our friend from London, brother Russell Williams and his friend Wesley is coming to help as well. La Wanda Hurst will be giving the health presentations. Please pray for these meetings, as they will no doubt still be under way when you receive this newsletter.



Dear Brother Jeff,

Our family here hopes all your travels have been enjoyable for you and your family. How tiring from here to there. An exciting time, and deeply solemn. We are looking forward to seeing you again here in California, and pleased to hear that Kathryn will be joining us as well. We ask for your prayers to join with ours that new people might come and hear the message God has given you. For your trip here we are sending the enclosed money from Brothers J.V., C.R., and C.F. We realize the traveling expenses and give this to you for tickets or whatever you need. I'd like to express how joyful we are to have you and Kathryn, as well as, Pastor Restrepo's family here the first weekend of January. May God Keep You Close, C.R., C.F.—CA

San Diego Union-Tribune, January 5, 2001—**Mary Seated Beside Christ**

“The world of today is in desperate need of a mother,” whispered Professor Mark Miravalle as he sat behind his desk at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio, carefully fingering a string of rosary beads.

Half a world away, inside the Vatican, yet another enormous box arrived filled with petitions asking Pope John Paul II to exercise his absolute power to proclaim a new and highly debated dogma: that the Virgin Mary is a co-redeemer with Jesus and cooperates fully with her son in the redemption of mankind.

Miravalle, 41, began the petition drive four years ago from his obscure position as a professor of Mariology—the study of Mary—at one of the most conservative Catholic universities in the nation. Since then, the pope has received more than six million signatures from 148 countries asking him to give the Virgin Mary the ultimate promotion.

In addition to ordinary Catholics, Miravalle has received support from 550 bishops and 42 cardinals, as well as from Cardinal John O’Conner and Mother Teresa.

If Miravalle’s campaign succeeds and John Paul II proclaims the Virgin Mary as a co-redeemer, she would be a vastly more powerful figure, something close to a fourth member of the Holy Trinity and the primary female face through which Christians experience the divine.

Specifically, Roman Catholics would be required to accept three new spiritual truths: that Mary is co-redemptrix and participates in people’s redemption, that Mary is mediatrix and has the power to grant all graces and that Mary is “the advocate for the people of God,” in Miravalle’s words, and has the authority to influence God’s judgments.

Pros, cons

For the millions of Virgin Mary devotees who have signed Miravalle’s petitions, these are an accepted part of their daily spiritual lives. They represent what theologians call popular piety, practices that are widely accepted by ordinary religious people over the learned objections of the establishment.

Indeed the idea has been present in Catholicism at least as far aback as the 14th century. There is also historic precedent for petition campaigns such as Miravalle’s. Two other Marian dogmas—the dogma of the Assumption in 1950, which declared that Mary was taken up, body and soul, to heaven after her death, and the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of 1854, which established that Mary was preserved from original sin—were both preceded by floods of petitions.

Yet within the Vatican, the dogma that Miravalle advocates has touched off a private holy war. Although it has the support of at least 12 cardinals in Rome, others fear that its acceptance would cause a major schism among Catholics and set back all efforts at ecumenism. Because the dogma would be an infallible proclamation by the pope, it would trigger a renewed debate over the role of the pope’s power in modern society.

“It seems to put her on an equal footing with Christ,” said Father John Roten, director of the International Marian Library in Dayton, articulating the primary reason for opposition. “That just won’t do.”

Father Rene Laurentin, a French monk and the leading Mary scholar in the world, agrees. In a fax, Laurentin said that the proposed dogma would be the equivalent of launching “bombs” at the Protestants and would deepen the breach between the Vatican and the Eastern Orthodox church.

“Mary is the model of our faith, but she is not divine,” he said. “There is no mediation or co-redemption except in Christ. He alone is God.”

Papal ally

Pope John Paul II has made no secret of his devotion to Mary. He has the phrase *totus tuus* (which in Latin means “totally hers”) as his papal motto and credits the Virgin Mary with saving his life during the 1981 assassination attempt and for the fall of communism.

He has used the phrase “co-redemptrix” six times in his papacy to describe Mary, which has lead Miravalle and his petitioners to hope that during his lifetime the pope will proclaim her co-redeemer.

Miravalle has visited privately with the pope several times, but he would not say what happened during his meetings. “All I can tell you,” Miravalle said fervently, “is that I am personally confident that the holy father will make this solemn definition of the Mother of Jesus at the most appropriate time. It’s not a

question of if. It's only a question of when.

However, Joquain Navarro-Valls, spokesman for the Vatican, repeated a statement made by the Vatican in 1997, which said that "there is no proclamation of a new dogma on the Madonna under study either by the holy father or by the International Theological Commission."

The Reverend Paige Patterson, president of the conservative Southern Baptist Convention, the largest denomination of Protestants in the United States, is horrified at the mere suggestion that Mary might be a co-redeemer. "Such a view is clearly heretical," he said. "In order to be a redeemer, it would require a person to be perfect. It would require a person to be God. We certainly don't believe she was God."

Some liberal Protestants have lone argued that the Catholic Church has used the symbol of the Virgin Mary to restrict women's possibilities by keeping women obedient to the teachings of the church. Retired Bishop John Spong, one of the most controversial figures in the Episcopal Church, says that Christians need a feminine symbol for God, but said such a symbol needed to be created by women, not "a bunch of men sitting around in Rome in their frocks."

THE MOST DIFFICULT SPEAKER



Dear Jeff,

I'm sending a donation to another ministry this time, but I wanted to write you a note. I think you may have heard it before. **You are the most difficult speaker to listen to because you are so fast, with great urgency, and cover so much ground.** Nevertheless, most of what you cover is so vital (especially these last two tapes I've received) that I don't want you to take this as a criticism. Speaking (of talking) privately into a recording machine is very different, and more personal, than speaking before a live audience. If I asked you to slow down, line upon line, here a little, there a little, you would perhaps do it for part of one talk and then rev it up again, so I won't make that request.

I will pray that the Lord's spirit will be manifest in you in an increased measure, that more urgent messages are imparted. God bless you and your wife in your faithful ministry to Him. Sincerely, K.H.

LOW-CALORIE CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA

The signs of change are everywhere. Christian rock and gospel music, traditionally at the fringes of the pop charts, have increased sales 75% in the last four years. They now out sell classical and jazz music combined.

Religious novels, once relegated to the backwaters of the publishing industry, have broken into the mainstream. The most notable example is the *Left Behind* series, apocalyptic fiction novels that have collectively sold 18 million copies, and has even been made into a movie.

Even in politics, Pat Robertson's Religious Right is a force to be reckoned with. Vice-presidential hopeful Sen. Joe Lieberman tied his political philosophy to his religious convictions, and it has become *deregueur*, it seems, for political leaders to name the Bible as their favorite book. No fewer than 96% of Americans tell surveyors they believe in God.

However, there are signs pointing in the other direction as well. In churches all across the country, rolls of parishioners are declining. Catholic priests and Jewish rabbis lament the rise in inter-faith marriages. And while so many believe in God, 58% of Americans believe religion's influence on society is diminishing.

Jack Miles, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *God, a Biography*, attributes this tension—a yearning for spirituality versus a seeming resistance of institutionalized religion—to America's individualist tradition. Given our inherent independent streak, he writes, "Americans are particularly at ease with forms of religious expression that require little in the way of organizational commitment and impose little in the way of group identity." *U.S. News & World Report*, October 23, 2000.

Editor's note: Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof. 2 Timothy 3:5.

EUROPE: THE UN-AMERICA

At the level of European institutions, the mood is *less Europe*, but at the level of European society it's *more Europe*. The society reflects its social liberalism. Capital punishment is unknown in the EU. Marriage is a dying institution. In 1999, 54 percent of all births in Sweden were out of wedlock, 39 percent in France and an astonishing 27 percent in supposedly devout Ireland. In Amsterdam and other cities, recreational drug use has been effectively decriminalized. Modern Europe is a post-Christian society. Throughout the continent, churches stand empty. Islam, however, is growing in influence. In France and Britain the most self-confident religious community is Muslim.

The unanswered question is whether social differences across the Atlantic will, in time, lead to political antagonism. In small ways they already have; not a single European government, for example, supports the American position on global warming, and none thinks a national missile defense system makes sense. More ominously, only Britain supports American policy toward Iraq. *Newsweek Special Edition*, December 2000.

SUPREME COURT TO HEAR NEW EQUAL ACCESS CASE

The Supreme Court of the United States has agreed to hear a pivotal equal access and treatment in public forums case which could decide whether the Court's unanimous ruling in the 1993 Lamb's Chapel case will continue to stand. The question to be considered is whether or not religious organizations have the right to use public buildings and facilities after regular business hours. In Lamb's Chapel the Court said "Yes", but it could just as well say "No" this and reverse its previous decision.

This new case involves a 1996 decision by the school district in upstate New York to prohibit the Good News Club, a community-based Christian youth group, from using a school facility after class hours-although school officials permitted other community groups to use the facility. The club sued the school district in 1997, and both a federal trial judge and another appeals court have upheld the school's policy by throwing out the club's lawsuit. Now the case has been appealed to the US Supreme Court.

There are six other similar cases pending in lower courts around the country. The Supreme Court's decision concerning *The Good News Club* case could radically affect the outcome of these lower-court cases. *The American Center for Law and Justice, Chief Counsels' Special Report*, December, 2000.

Editor's note: If Christian interests start losing in these court cases it may cause a popular backlash. Voters could quickly bring overwhelming pressure on the US Congress to make Sunday laws, hoping to insure the place of religion in public life.

"The dignitaries of church and state will unite to bribe, persuade, or compel all classes to honor the Sunday. The lack of divine authority will be supplied by oppressive enactments. Political corruption is destroying love of justice and regard for truth; and even in free America, rulers and legislators, **in order to secure public favor**, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance. Liberty of conscience, which has cost so great a sacrifice, will no longer be respected." *The Great Controversy*, 592.

PROPOSED EUROPEAN RELIGIOUS RIGHTS RESTRICTIONS

Concerns continue over various European proposals to restrict religious freedom, more so since such attempts are being taken seriously by the United States administration.

In a January 2 letter from Madeleine Albright, United States Secretary of State, to Joseph Grieboski of the Institute on Religion and Public Policy in Washington, D.C., the US administration comments on pending French legislation and notes that “the proposed legislation is part of a disturbing trend in western Europe, where some states have adopted, or are considering, discriminatory legislation or policies that tend to stigmatize legitimate expression of religious faiths by wrongfully associating them with dangerous ‘sects’ or ‘cults.’ Such laws and policies pose a danger to freedom of religion.”

In her letter, Albright also points out that countries have developed lists of supposed ‘sects,’ but that most are constructive and helpful members of the community.

“The vast majority of the religious groups on government lists are legitimate religious denominations. Most are responsible members of civil society who make positive contributions to the communities where they live and worship. We are concerned that legislation or policies that stigmatize these religious groups contravene international-and European-norms of religious freedom.”

Such concerns have long been at the center of opposition to proposed laws and government agencies on ‘harmful sects’ that have already been set up in France, Belgium and Austria, and are proposed in Poland, Romania, Hungary and the Czech Republic. [ANN Staff]

DANGEROUS TECHNOLOGIES

Peter Cochrane, the former chief technologist for British Telecom, envisions a world where chip implants are commonplace and ‘as desirable as mobile phones.’ Rodney Brooks, the director of the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, goes even farther. Over time, he says, ‘we will BECOME our machines.’

There have always been dangerous technologies. The 20th century, which might as well be called the age of industrialized murder, is only the most obvious example. But technology is upping the ante by creating fields where benign intentions could lead to brutal outcomes. This was the point of an article in the April issue of *Wired* magazine by Bill Joy, the chief scientist at Sun Microsystems. The title: *The Future Doesn't Need Us*.

Sherry Turkle, a social psychologist at MIT and the author of *Life on the Screen* says, “We have to fear not so much the computers as our responses—not so much that the computers are going to take over as that we’ll become LIKE the computers . . . that we’ll begin to experience ourselves AS machines.”

Brooks foresees a gradual convergence of humans and intelligent implants, to the point that the difference between the two becomes both physiologically and philosophically meaningless. Even with humans, he says, “there is nothing beyond physical principles going on. There is no soul, no elixir of life, nothing beyond molecules working together in the mindless, fixed ways that the physics of their constituent particles dictates.”

Who, then, can speak on moral issues? Certainly not the engineers. Ellen Ullman, a former computer programmer and the author of the 1997 book *Close to the Machine: Technology and Its Discontents*, says that “the problem is not the technology, which in any event can’t be stopped. The problem is that engineers are making decisions for the rest of us.”

Programmers are hired guns, she says, and they are the last people “to understand what is an acceptable risk.” *Newsweek Special Edition*, December 2000.

"HOMOSEXUALITY IN SCHOOLS" BILL TO BECOME LAW IN FOUR DAYS

Sacramento, CA—Beginning January 1, 2001, two bills will go into effect as California law. AB1785 requires pro-homosexual tolerance education at all public schools and all grade levels, including Kindergarten. A similar bill going into effect, AB1931 will provide taxpayer funded grants to take children on field trips to teach them diversity and tolerance of homosexuality.

To counter this assault upon the rights of many parents whose personal or religious beliefs do not agree with this non-academic instruction, the Pacific Justice Institute launched today its Parental Opt Out Program. This program will provide a standard opt out form for parents wishing to ensure that their children are not exposed to such controversial and potentially harmful social instruction. In addition, the Pacific Justice Institute is offering free emergency legal counsel to all parents either having questions about the form or facing these controversial school activities.

"Without question, California is a pluralistic state with parents having a wide range of values regarding what is best for their children," said Brad Dacus, president of the Pacific Justice Institute.

"It is our goal to ensure that the public school districts in this state will still respect such diversity in view of these controversial laws."

Parents wishing to order a copy of this opt out form can do so by contacting the Pacific Justice Institute at our toll free number 888-305-9129.

"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.

NO DANGER OF SUNDAY-LAW LEGISLATION

Ad criticized as anti-Catholic

A group has criticized a full-page advertisement in the *Des Moines Sunday Register* as anti-Catholic. *The National Catholic League for Religion and Civil Rights* wrote a letter to the newspaper asking it to "not accept any more of these bigoted ads." Officials with the Des Moines Catholic Diocese also expressed concern about the ad.

Register President and Publisher Mary Stier said the information was clearly labeled as a paid advertisement of the Eternal Gospel Church. "Their advertisement was not a position or policy of the *Register* itself, and it was not something our staff authored or originated," Stier said.

"We take our responsibilities seriously," she said. "Our role is not to silence speech even if we might disagree with its message. We also are respectful of those who disagree and take comfort in their ability to speak out. We will meet with leaders of the diocese in the near future to better understand their concerns."

The full-page treatise contained references that appear to be critical of the pope and the Catholic Church, as well as Protestants.

The Eternal Gospel Church, based in West Palm Beach, Florida, is made up former Seventh-day Adventist Church members. The Eternal Gospel Church was ordered to leave the church's General Conference because it created disturbances, said George Reid, director of the biblical institute of the Seventh-day Adventist General Conference.

The main message in the advertisement is that people must worship on Saturday instead of Sunday.

"We try to warn people against what they do because it is against God," said Raphael Perez of West Palm Beach, Eternal Gospel Church leader. "The special day of the Lord is Saturday."

Perez anticipates national laws will be passed that require Sunday worship. He contends enacting those laws would be a sign of the end of the world. Adventists believe Saturday is the Sabbath.

Reid said there is no danger of Sunday-law legislation. He also called Perez's ad campaign "manufactured danger."

"He's a loose cannon on the deck," Reid said.

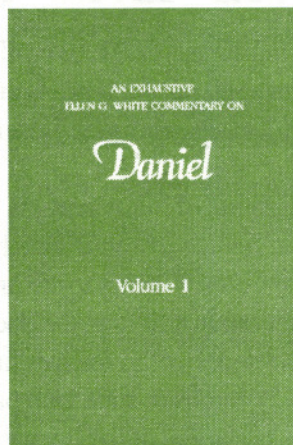
Hector Avalos, associate professor of religion at Iowa State University, said he does not think the nation is moving toward Sunday laws. "I think we're moving away from them," Avalos said. "At one point the Supreme Court thought they were good, but legally and culturally we're far away from this happening."

Seventh-day Adventists agree with much of what is written in the ad, but believe the advertisements put the church in a position where it appears to attack Catholics. "We denounce that kind of tactic," said Reid. *The Des Moines Register*, January 5, 2001.

"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." *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, 336.

"As the time of Christ's second appearing draws near, the Lord sends his servants with a warning message to the world to prepare for that great event. As the world have been living in transgression of the law of God, in mercy he sends a message of warning to arouse their attention and hold before them the law of God as a mirror into which they can look and discover the defects in their moral character. If they will at once make earnest efforts to remedy these defects, by repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ, they will be pardoned through the merits of his blood, for this is the only hope of the transgressor of the law of God. **But as in the days of Noah, there is with the majority a total disbelief of the testimony God has in mercy sent to warn the world of her coming destruction.**" *Signs of the Times*, January 3, 1878.

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