



CHURCH ARISE!

Vol 14 No 1: January – February, 2011

Promoting a Christian Agenda for the End Times

Church Arise! Marks ten years of formal commissioning in April

It looked just like yesterday that Bishop Francis Wale Oke, leading a team of several other anointed men of God came to Ile-Ife to officially commission the Church Arise! LivingWater Ministries. But it's now ten solid years, praise the Lord! After three years of informal operation, (including publishing the bi-monthly newsletter, CA!), we were led to seek the laying-on of hands by the Church for strength and grace to fulfill the ministry evidently committed unto us by the Lord.

The vision for the work had been received during the 3rd God's End-Time Army Conference, convened in March 1997 by Bishop Francis Wale Oke. Joining the Bishop to lay hands on Dr and Mrs Joshua Ojo on April 6 2001 were Pastor Adewole Haastrup, then state Pastor of the RCCG, Osun State, His Royal Highness, Pastor Julius Fatanmi (the Olura of Ira and chairman of CA! Board), and Mrs O. Ayeni, among other Christian dignitaries.

To mark the tenth anniversary, we will be releasing a sequel to our 2001 book titled The Time is Fulfilled. The sequel will be a Trilogy – titled Behold I come quickly Books 1-3. Book 1 is subtitled Alerts from Science and Technology, Book 2 is a compilation of Signs from Society and Governance, while Book 3 is subtitled Warnings from Religions and Spiritual Expressions. The books are an orderly and indexed compilation of the contents of Church Arise! from Volume 4 no 3 to date. ➔ page 3

Pastor Ayo charges on Coming Elections: RSVP

"I would say to Nigerians, for once, let us see Nigeria as a project.... Let us see Nigeria as a project worth sacrificing for. We must all agree and say, I will register. Then make a selection of who you would vote for. Don't let people intimidate or buy you, because if they give you money - how much would they really give you? - if they come into office, they are not obligated to give you anything because they had given you what is due you for the next four years. So, **Register, Select**, then when it's time to vote; go out and **Vote and Protect** your vote. That is **RSVP** It's very important. That is part of the sacrifice"

Pastor Ayo Ortsajefor, President, Christian Association of Nigeria. (www.vanguardngr.com/2010/12/religious-leaders-sue-for-peace-at-christmas/)

Earth in Convulsion

The above expression borrowed from the [2011 prophecies](#) of Pastor E.A. Adeboye best describes the present situation on planet earth. First is the political turmoil currently engulfing the Gulf and Arab states. It all began in Tunisia on December 17 2010, when a policewoman confiscated the unlicensed vegetable cart of a street trader, [Mohamed Bouazizi](#), and refused all reasonable entreaties. This is a fairly common incident in several parts of the world -, Nigeria not excluded. So when a desperate Bouazizi doused himself with some inflammable liquid and set himself ablaze, something snapped in the previously docilely watching masses; and they took to the streets. When Bouazizi eventually died on January 4, 2011, the protests – fanned by facebook and youtube, went out of control. At the end of the day the President, [Zine El Abidine Ben Ali](#) was forced to resign his 23 year old reign and flee to Saudi Arabia. ➔ continued on page 2

Islamists raze Churches in Ethiopia

About ten thousand rampaging Moslems are, as at press time, attacking Christian Churches and properties in Asendabo Jimna Zone and other western Ethiopian towns. And the government is claiming it can't do anything to stop the rampage.

At the last count, the rioting Islamists have razed down 13 Churches, a bible school and over 150 houses belonging to Christians. The attacks, began after the Friday prayers on March 2, on the allegation that some Christians had desecrated the Qur'an. . Read details about the Ethiopian attacks as reported by local Ethiopians, citing the International Christian Concern at www.ethiopianreview.com/content/32041

Middle East: Lessons from Sudetenland

Koinona House in the February issues of their newsletter, published a three-part series with the above title, extracted from the book *A Place Among The Nations*, published in 1993 by current Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu. It's really amazing how the current developments and dilemma in the Middle East parallel events leading to World War II. Netanyahu describes in clear terms the strategic barrier that Czechoslovakia constituted to Hitler's plan to overrun Europe in his dream of starting the 1000 years rule of the Third Reich.: With the Sudeten mountains bordering Germany and Czechoslovakia being virtually militarily unassailable

by Hitler, the only option left for him to move forward was political. Hitler therefore clamoured that the Germans in Sudetenland who were minorities in Czechoslovakia were not getting their rights (a string of deliberately provocative, never-ending demands) and he was set to defend them. The whole world, desperate to have, in the word of Britain's Prime Minister Chamberlain "peace in our time" mounted obscene, shameless but irresistible pressure on Czechoslovakia to withdraw her troops from her own land. This done, Hitler wasted no time, in less than six months –on March 15, 1939, in rolling his tanks into the remaining part of Czechoslovakia, and WWII was on in full swing. Today, the whole world is mounting identical pressure on Israel to withdraw from the West Banks, land that historically had been Jewish for thousands of years and which are critical to her defenses. Read the entire article as first published by k-house in 1997 at <http://www.khouse.org/articles/1997/11/>

"If the Arabs put down their weapons today, there would be no more violence.

If the Jews put down their weapons today, there would be no more Israel."

Benjamin Netanyahu (www.ipi-usa.org/faq.htm)

Killings continue in Plateau villages. Divine protection for churches

The killing of Christians by so-called Fulani marauders continue in Plateau state. The latest is the slaughter of five members of the Bitrus family at Kai Village, Barkin Ladi LGA on Monday 14th March

According to a bulletin issued by the state police command, apart from the killings, nothing was stolen or destroyed. The police said that on the receipt of the information, security personnel rushed to the scene but they could not get the attackers. Unfortunately, a story all too familiar.

(www.compassnewspaper.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2347:-again-family-of-five-killed-in-jos-crisis&catid=308:headlines&Itemid=600)

Thank God however, for ultimate, unfailing divine security. As reported by the Sun newspaper (March 21, 2011): "Another major bloodshed was averted in Jos, the Plateau State capital, when two attempts to detonate bombs in two separate locations [on Sunday March 20] failed through divine intervention". It was gathered that two men, who were carrying bomb on a motor cycle heading for where to plant it had the device exploded on them around Duala junction between ECWA and COCIN churches at about 9.45 am when Sunday morning services were in progress.

According to the Daily Sun, yet another bomb blast was averted at the Mountain of Fire and Miracle Church, off Murtala Muhammad Way in Jos, when men of the Special Task Force, who were going

round the church during the service discovered a bomb, "which was capable of bringing down the whole building and even those around if it had detonated"

Immediately the bomb was discovered the church service was abruptly brought to an end and the area cordoned off. Although the Plateau State Commissioner of Police, Abdulrahman Akano confirmed that four youths had been arrested in connection with the explosive found near the church, we are yet to see any prosecution so far.

A Convulsive Earth (continued from page 1)

Inspired by the events in neighbouring Tunisia, it was the turn of the Egyptians to demand the resignation of President Mubarak, citing gross corruption and injustice. This was a very dicey one, for Egypt under Mubarak has proven over the years (since the murder of Anwar Sadat by Muslim extremists opposed to the peace treaty with Israel in 1981) to be pivotal to the strategic interests of both the United States and also Israel. Mubarak was however sorely disappointed to find President Obama rooting deeply for the Muslim Brotherhood-led opposition, and after several futile efforts to remain in power, finally handed over to the nation's military 17 tense days after. [see

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/01/30/egypt-revolution-2011_n_816026.html for details]

The blunt back-turning of Obama to a supposed ally in time of dire need was a shocking eye-opener to many Arab leaders – not the least Saudi's King Fahd, who was a personal close friend of Mubarak. Now the masses all across Arabia knew it could be possible to throw away the yoke of their oppressive dictators, while the dictators on their own knew no help would come from America. So as the unrest swelled up through Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Iraq, Yemen, United Arab Emirates and Mauritania, it assumes different colouration and resulted in different outcomes. One of the major factors that was stirred up, was the ancient rivalry between Shiite (as in Iran) and Sunni (as in Saudi Arabia) Moslems. For instance the "pro-democracy revolution" in Bahrain quickly assumed the religious picture of Shiites challenging a Sunni king. With this interpretation, Saudi Arabia justified the sending of a 1000 strong troop to Bahrain, under the auspices of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

One country where the division between the revolutionists and the sitting dictator was maximally exploited was in Libya. Ghadafi showed no emotion as he ordered his fellow countrymen, in their hundreds, mowed down by machine guns and aerial strafing. Libyan soldiers who refused to shoot were summarily executed, and very soon mercenaries from

Chad, Dafur, Guinea, Nigeria (north to be sure!) and elsewhere were recruited in exterminating the demonstrators - famously described by Ghaddafi as "cockroaches!" The carnage is on-going as we write, and even western media have started to call the demonstrators, "rebels".

Of course, all these developments cannot be cheery news for Israel. The Arab dictators, under America's patronage, have played pivotal role in maintaining peace in the Middle East by defending Israel from the Arab's masses who are under a religious conviction that Israel should not exist. Now, that is changing! Furthermore, Obama has never hidden his disdain for Israel since coming to power, and the only favours Israel still get from her traditional greatest ally only come as a result of pressures from the US Congress. The European Union has always been anti-Israel, and Turkey under Erdogan moved against her traditional ally Israel several months ago – with the Flotilla incident marking a record low in their relationship. Even a traditionally quiet and neutral country like Japan recently issued a strongly anti-Israel's statement adding to the pressure that Israel should give up the strategic West Bank and become totally defenseless. (http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2010/3/0311_01.html). And so, as the company of Israel's ally diminishes very rapidly, the prophecy of all the nations agreeing to attack Israel (Zech. 12:1-3) looms. But Israel not only has one of the best intelligence and military forces in the world, it is also a nuclear power. And like one of the great Judges of that nation, Samson, it is not likely Israel would allow itself to be wiped off the map without taking the world along with it. Does that sound like Armageddon?

But the convulsion of planet earth is beyond the man-made turmoils in the Middle East (not to talk of what would now amount to 'skirmishes' in countries like Ivory Coast), there are also "acts of God" – as people refer to natural disasters. Beginning from the floods and mudslides in Rio de Janeiro, flash floods in Australia and New Zealand, the North American winter storm, to the on-going earthquake and accompanying tsunami in Japan (which struck, incidentally on the same day Japan released its vicious anti-Israel statement), several thousands of human lives have sadly perished.

Human lives and property losses apart, there is the additional fear of the future with respect to the irreplaceable basic need for Energy. Now with the on-going leakage of radiation from one of the nuclear reactors at Fukushima, Japan in the wake of the earthquake and tsunami, these formidable facilities suddenly don't look as safe as people thought – or rather, the magnitude of havoc that could result from

the admittedly very very slim chance of accident, has become very daunting and scary! As pointed out by one writer, though the current magnitude 8.9 earthquake is the largest in Japan's recorded history, it is clear that it would not be the last! If this one could compromise the "fail-proof" reactor at Fukushima, who can be sure of what would happen, sometimes in the future, to the dozens of other reactors located on other earthquake-prone sites in Japan? These grievous concerns arising at a time when many are reading the events in the Middle East as a wake-up call to diversify from fossil fuels to other alternatives (nuclear being the prime alternative) is confounding mankind. To cap all these avalanche of landmark tumultuous events, is the announcement of the find of 16 trillion cubic feet of gas reserves in Israel – making it a fresh target not only to those who wanted to take over that land for religious reasons, but now for economic reasons. In fact, according to Bible prophecies, one of the major reasons for the attack by the nations on Israel, like the gulf war on Iraq, would be to loot (Ezekiel 38:10ff) (<http://www.thenational.ae/business/energy/discovery-of-giant-gasfield-sparks-frenzy-in-israel>).

Dear reader, if you think all these convulsions of the planet earth is merely fascinating reading of events that don't affect you personally, please think again. The end of the current world order is right across the corner. Unlike those caught in the spates of disasters highlighted above, you still have the opportunity to re-locate yourself out of disaster region. Noah's Ark is still boarding! No matter your current circumstances, you don't have to go hell. Turn to Jesus *in all sincerity* today in order not to miss the imminent Rapture. This is a personal decision that would profoundly affect the rest of your life and eternity. **And the best time for that decision is NOW.**

CHURCH ARISE! Ten years of God's Grace (continued from page 1)

All these will be available, in the first instance, as e-books which can be freely downloaded from our website (www.churcharise.org). Also to be released is a must-read book *How is the gold become dim!*—providing original little-known facts and details on evolution of norms, doctrines and practices in the Cherubim and Seraphim Society – an indigenous Church movement in Nigeria. Dr Ojo spent the first thirty years of his life (and the first ten of his Christian life) in this Church movement, and so writes as a privileged insider. By God's grace, the paper versions of these books will be released as soon as the financial details can be settled.

More good news. Starting from April 3, our blog <http://churcharise.blogspot.com/> will now be updated

with new articles and commentaries EVERY WEEK. The blog is where to get fresh information from us, just as the website is the place to get our archived materials and an incredibly vast amount of other resources including links to other ministries. By the way traffic to our website, coming from about 40 countries from all continents, more than doubled last year relative to 2009. Please be our guest today!

We sincerely appreciate and thank everyone who has encouraged us so far - with letters, finances, and most important of all, prayers. We trust God, for you and ourselves, to keep growing in leaps and bounds till the Trump of God and the voice of the archangel bring this present dispensation to a close. Please remember that might be sooner than you are currently thinking!

Update on murderous abortion doctor “ I don’t know what I did wrong!”

We provide an update on Dr Kermit Gosnell, the West Philadelphia doctor who specialized in late-term abortion, particularly for black girls (see last edition of CA!). Dr [Gosnell](#) said at his arraignment in Court that he did not understand why he was being charged in the deaths of the babies.” According to the grand jury “He told his staff that this barbaric conduct was standard medical practice. It was not. It was criminal behavior” [Gosnell](#) was jailed without bail.

(www.washingontimes.com/news/2011/jan/25/checks-of-pa-abortion-clinics-find-some-problems/?page=1).

Church Arise! certainly understands the confusion of Dr Gosnell. He apparently can't understand what to him is the out-of-proportion rumpus to his choosing to kill a few hundred condemned infants immediately after their induced birth rather than kill them with the same scissors inside the wombs of their mothers in the name of abortion! [Please read the rest of this article on our blog at <http://churcharise.blogspot.com/2011/03/update-on-murderous-abortion-doctor-i.html>]

Caught on Camera: How Planned Parenthood encourages prostitution of teens

A recent large scale expose of Planned Parenthood by the NGO Live Action is making the rounds on the internet. Right on (hidden) camera, PP staff from many centers across the USA gave brutal counsel on how pimps and prostitutes using little children (as young as 13 years) as sex-slaves could procure abortion and other “reproductive health care” for these unfortunate children, using free government’s fund. In law and by society’s moral standard, the PP officials were required to have reported the cases to government. Unfortunately for the PP, the convincingly real “pimps and prostitutes” they were

speaking with were professional actors and actresses [which brings out a new ministry for Christian actors!] Check details (videos and transcripts) at LiveAction sites(<http://liveaction.org/traffick>)

Sex slavery of youngsters now a global epidemic

While the world’s attention is gripped by the massive convulsion currently shaking the planet (from social upheavals to natural disasters of flash floodings, earthquakes and tsunamis), it is easy to overlook a no less catastrophe that is consuming the world, pointing at the imminent return of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is the thriving sex slave business.

A recent article in the NEWS OF THE WORLD (Feb 13) indicate that an incredible 13 million children have been enslaved worldwide, with the current annual figure standing at a staggering 800,000. Most of the sex slaves are from developing countries of the world, including Africa and Eastern Europe. At least 30,000 abused sex slaves die every year as a result of different ailments and maltreatment. However, organizations such as Planned Parenthood [PP] and their many collaborators (many of them hiding under nice-sounding programmes in Secondary and Tertiary institutions of learning in Nigeria) would have us focus on providing treatments for these ailments rather than cutting from the roots the business of sex-slavery itself. This is the core issue in the new sex revolution that is threatening to engulf the world right now. Is making abortion, licentious sex, etc safe what matters or the morality of it? Incidentally improving one of these (e.g. safety) will dramatically worsen the other (i.e. morality), as found out by an Indian community where improved social and reproductive health care for prostitutes made it so inviting that husbands and fathers had to protest the impact on their society (see Vol 7 No 4) .

It's really amazing that so-called educated people could come out boldly to attack the simple and beautiful blueprint for the expression of sexuality as designed by the Creator of sex: have all the sex you wish, but only within the context of a marriage contract! This guarantees security not only for the couple but also the products of the sexual act, and as well provide safeguards against emotional heartaches, and a battery of STDs, the latest being HIV/AIDS. To really see the seriousness of these sex czars and their utter disdain for the rest of society and our sense of morality, download a copy of their latest report at

www.glaa.org/archive/2010/woodhullreport1019.pdf

While majority of the trafficked sex slaves are young naïve girls lured into cities with offer of good fortune, such as Irina of Chermigov in Ukraine cited by the News of the World, others had a rough idea of

what awaited them in the city. However, by the time they face the reality of having to sleep with about a dozen men every day, seven days a week, they realized too late that their future is quite bleak. They also discover too late that they are quite expendable as their pimps have a ready supply of fresh replacements for them! In a recent local example published in the PM News report of Friday 4th February, when a 13-year old girl brought to work as a sex slave complained to her aunt that she was suffering severe pains in her private parts (after two months of daily sex with up to 10 men), the aunt only encouraged her to work harder. It was only because of the pain and the lack of attention that she finally absconded from her brothel room and was picked up by the police. But the really sad aspect about such stories, as lamented by a law enforcement officer, is that as soon as such sex-slaves are returned to their parents/guardians in the South-South, fresh attempts are made to send them back to Lagos. In other words, the primary pimps were the parents of these unfortunate children themselves!

Death of a gay activist

The murder of David Kato, Ugandan gay activist on January 27 made global headlines, as to be expected. Many are cashing in on it to seek concessions for homosexual activism. Even after the murderer of Kato, Nsubuga Enock has confessed, clarifying that the gruesome murder was over personal issues and neither for robbery nor lifestyle, gay activists insist the murder must have been provoked by a newspaper report which last October published pictures and addresses of several Ugandan gay activists, including Kato's. As far as the majority of world's news outlets are concerned, the police must be covering up the hate crime! (www.advocate.com/News/Daily_News/2011/02/03/Uganda_Police_Kato_Forced_Killer_Into_Sodomy/)

From all indications, the murderer was even a sleeping partner to Kato; and is known to be a criminal. As a matter of fact, David Kato had just bailed Nsubuga out of jail (on January 24) and had him stay with him for two days, just before his death. What then is there to cover up? Who can keep a tab on how many people have been killed by dissatisfied lovers, all over the world all through history? Does Kato's homosexual activism absolve him from reaping what he sowed? [Please read the rest of this article on our blog at <http://churcharise.blogspot.com/2011/03/death-of-gay-activist.html>]

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. Galatians 6:7

Prostitutes Pushed to dance on Lagos Streets by foreign funded Sexuality NGOs

With apparent pomp, placards and banners, about 50 commercial sex workers and sponsoring sex activists reportedly marched through the streets of Ikoyi, Lagos to mark the International Sex 'workers rights Day on March 3.

(<http://thenationonlineng.net/web3/arts/life-midweek-magazine/29915.html>)

The "peaceful protest march" was carried out under the banner of the African Sex Workers Alliance (ASWA) Nigeria, described as "a coalition of NGOs working to promote equity and justice among citizens." ASWA's continental head office is housed by the Sex Worker Education & Advocacy Taskforce (SWEAT), an NGO based in Cape Town, South Africa. The self-labeled "gender and economic rights organization" has presence in six East/South African countries and is reaching out of that enclave to make Nigeria the seventh.

Oddly enough, in its self-assigned task of "leading the fight for sex workers' respect and rights" the ASWA says it is "advocating the de-criminalisation of sex work..." But what de-criminalisation?. If sex works were being treated as a crime, why do we have all the brothels openly practicing their trade without government's molestation?

Speaking to the press, Executive Director of Safe Haven International in Nigeria and coordinator of ASWA, Magaret Onah revealed the true desires of her organization as she "called on government, especially the Lagos State government, to come up with policies to encourage sex work". ASWA is out to raise more prostitutes, by emboldening, encouraging and even deceiving them. Pure and simple.

The truth of the matter is that the so called ASWA is nothing more than a group of individuals backed by limitless funds from the Bill Gates of this world (see previous editions of CA!, e.g. vol 13 no 4) with a mission to promote prostitution. With only a fraction of the budget they spend on advocacy and "fighting for respects", these NGOs could as well have taken majority of people who were pushed into prostitution by socio-economic situation out of their humiliating and destructive profession.

As revealed in the news report, "ASWA is currently being run by a group of NGOs working with sex workers until the sex workers are empowered to run ASWA themselves." Meaning? ASWA is nothing more than foreign-funded NGO staff, trying to raise, encourage, and embolden local prostitutes. . How far are these sex NGOs ready to go in putting sex work on the same level of respectability as being a school teacher? We reported in vol 9 no 3 the case in Berlin of a young lady who having lost her job as a waitress refused to accept one

as a sex worker in a brothel. She was consequently threatened with losing her unemployment benefit for refusing legal work! The argument, as we have been told endlessly in the case of homosexuality, is that you are not allowed to denigrate the choice of others

According to Rex Ajenifuja, described as the Lagos Coordinator for Nigeria, “global partners” organized their African minions into ASWA for the first meeting in South Africa two years ago – confirming that the initiative and funds are from outside Africa. Obviously, these externally-funded agents driving the sexual revolution in Africa are the real danger. The actual sex workers practice their trades in shame and quietness, with many of them nursing the desire of someday getting out of the demeaning and dangerous business. Our so-called educated and rights advocates come along [inspired by foreign funds] to goad the confused sex-worker into the open and encourage them to express how proud they are of their business. How can anyone in their right senses be proud of presenting himself/herself naked to just anybody that comes along (irrespective of age, mental/social/health status, etc); and for a token, yield up that naked body for whatever would catch the fancy of this total stranger!

Even without addressing the graver issues of ritual sex, bestiality, and the ultimate rendezvous with the “devil and his angels” in hell fire, it’s clear that these hapless pawns in the hand of the NGOs are billed to start experiencing hell on earth in just a matter of years if they persist with their trade. Getting these people to come out and dance on the street (obviously for a fat fee) only takes their humiliation and de-humanization to a new low! It’s a sign of the times that these NGOs are just too influential for government to do anything about them, except perhaps curry their favour and ask for good words to be put in for their political aspirations with the Bill Gates and Warren Buffetts of this world. The recent Wikileaks confirm this scenario! (see for instance <http://techrights.org/2010/12/20/pfizer-scandal/>)

Are you a prostitute – either official or unofficial? Jesus loves you and He will provide you with genuine help if you will allow Him. Please contact a Pastor in a serious Bible believing church near you to find out how. Please do that TODAY. (Source:<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NIgerianWorldForum/message/98728>)

US passports move closer to gender neutrality

The words “mother” and “father” will be removed from U.S. passport applications and replaced with - ‘parent one’ and ‘parent two.’ FoxNews reported on January 7. Article continues on our blog, <http://churcharise.blogspot.com/2011/03/us-passports-move-closer-to-gender.html>

Cooperation and Tolerance gone too far

While Islam continues its desperate concerted efforts to destroy Christians and Biblical Christianity, some so-called Christian leaders appear to be totally oblivious to the dangerous developments and we have previously reported how a church in Germany at one time, raised money from her members to help build an imposing mosque in that country!

Unfortunately, such evident lack of discernment by Christian leaders continues to be displayed at deeper levels today. In the news recently is the Claremont School of Theology, located in Southern California, USA, which has announced that it will be partnering with Jewish and Islamic schools to offer clerical training to students of various faiths. Please read the rest of this article at

<http://churcharise.blogspot.com/2011/03/cooperation-and-tolerance-gone-too-far.html>

Commercial Bio-engineered fuel now feasible?

A US biotechnology company, Joule Unlimited, says it has invented a genetically engineered organism that simply secretes diesel fuel or ethanol wherever it finds sunlight, water and carbon dioxide. The Cambridge, Massachusetts-based company says it can manipulate the organism to produce the renewable fuels on demand at unprecedented rates, and can do it in facilities large and small at costs comparable to the cheapest fossil fuels.

What can it mean? [To read the full article, please go to

<http://churcharise.blogspot.com/2011/03/commercial-bio-engineered-fuel-now.html>

Topical issue continued (from back page)

- with the key point being that this is the major route facilitating interfaithism and through which the predicted end-time apostasy is taking roots Please try and meditate on this point!

Many Christians naively think that when folks from the Spiritual Formation movement speak of meditation, they are referring to the use of our minds to ruminate again and again over the gems in God’s infallible word. The truth of the matter however, is that new agers and mystics mean something quite opposite, teaching that meditation should involve shutting out the mind and entering a state called “the silence” – gateway to apparently limitless interaction with the spirit world. As explained by The Lighthouse, “the silence” is nothing other than the well-known “altered states of consciousness”. The Lighthouse further explains that “the premise of contemplative spirituality is pantheistic (God is all) and panentheistic (God is in all). Common terms used for this movement are “spiritual formation,” “the

silence," "the stillness," "ancient-wisdom," "spiritual disciplines," and many others.

The clear danger in entering altered states of consciousness (also achievable through many other means, including drugs, e.g. hallucinogenic "God's tea" - see vol 8 No 1; or even microchip implant – see vol 13 no 5) has been discussed in previous editions of Church Arise!. Such a state effectively gives demonic entities opportunity to take over the mind of the deceived.[How these entities manifest depend on the background and expectations of the persons involved – as ufos/extra-terrestrial aliens, 'angels of light', counselors, spirit guides, ascended masters, dead relatives, etc – see vol 7 No 3]. Altered state of consciousness has attained an epidemic proportion in our generation and is on display in various situations – ranging from shamanism, various mediumistic possessions in 'traditional' religions (Sango, Osun, etc), through "spiritual churches" like Olumba's Brotherhood of Star and Cross or TB Joshua's Synagogue, etc; But evidently, the last bus stop this movement is headed for, is the Bible-believing Evangelical Church.

Hence, the need to sound again these rather unpalatable but very necessary alerts and warnings. Obviously, those that would be used by the devil to infiltrate the Church have to be respected and possibly idolized charismatic leaders. Otherwise, infiltration simply won't work. However, infiltration and consequent apostasy in the Church during the end times, is a recurring theme not only in Bible prophecy (e.g. 2 Thess 2:3, 1 Jhn 2:18), but is a well-articulated strategy of the devil. The mystic and occult prophet Alice Bailey is considered the mother of the modern New Age Movement. She was the chief channeler for the demon Djwhal Khul, (the Tibetan Master), who dictated through her nearly 20 books. In the 1957 volume, *The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*. Djwhal Khul (through Alice Bailey) revealed the key strategies that the spiritual dark forces known as the "Hierarchy" hope to use to reveal or externalize themselves in the physical world.

One key strategy expressed is that the Christian Church would be infiltrated, and with its message modified, be transformed as an instrument for the Universal Religion of the 21st Century. According to Alice Bailey: (*see quotes and reference on our blog*

<http://churcharise.blogspot.com/2011/03/eastern-mysticism-creeps-settles-into.html>

All these we see unfolding all around us today, exactly as predicted!

In the United States (arguably still the spiritual capital of Biblical Christianity), the currently acknowledged most popular and most influential

pastor is Rick Warren. Unfortunately, his utterances, associations, and deeds over the recent years (see past editions of CA!) fits perfectly the Pauline description of "seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." (2 Tim 3:13.)

John Lanagan of [My Word Like Fire Ministries](#) has recently compiled some key quotes from key leaders in Contemplative Prayers and Spiritual Formation; and he shows how these quotes and leaders are affirmed and endorsed unto the Evangelical Church. by Pastor Rick Warren (*This article has been edited here for space. Please visit our blog, <http://churcharise.blogspot.com/2011/03/eastern-mysticism-creeps-settles-into.html> for the full article incorporating these quotes*)

And so, through such "a little-to-the-right, a little-to-the-left" panderings, Rick Warren manages to build fanatical supports on both sides of the divide. Especially from those who put "tolerance" and "unity" far above Truth and sound doctrine. This method is further demonstrated in recent weeks, by Rick Warren under his Daniel Plan. Here, to teach and mentor Christians on the supposedly secular subject of well living, Warren has engaged as resource persons, well known and outspoken [New Age teachers](#) who are guaranteed to bring in the subject of eastern mysticism into the business now and then in subtle or even not-so-subtle manner. It's like asking Pastors William Kumuyi and Enoch Adeboye to come deliver a week-long mathematics seminar at a mosque; and pretending to believe the audience will somehow be left unexposed to Jesus Christ!

The dangers lurking behind Spiritual Formation, are best demonstrated by showing some of the "fruit" of Contemplative Prayer. As the Lord said, "By their fruits you shall know them". [Please read the full article on our blog at <http://churcharise.blogspot.com/2011/03/eastern-mysticism-creeps-settles-into.html>

. Here is part of the conclusion:

In his last book, father of spiritual formation, **Henri Nouwen**, writes: "Today I personally believe that while Jesus came to open the door to God's house, all human beings can walk through that door, whether they know about Jesus or not. Today I see it as my call to help every person claim his or her own way to God."—From *Sabbatical Journey*, page 51, 1998 Hardcover Edition

These quotes (all elaborated in Ray Yungen's book, *A Time of Departing*.) show clearly the destination anyone who delves into Spiritual Formation is headed for. The transformation won't happen overnight, but the destination is sure.

Wherfore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. 1 Co 10:12

TOPICAL ISSUE: Eastern mysticism creeps, settles, into the Church

Not many children of God in Nigeria will be familiar with the terms “contemplative spirituality” or “spiritual formation”. Yet, increasingly many are being introduced into these concepts, without actually being aware of their origin, and quite importantly, their ultimate destination. A few others would have learnt “wonderful” aspects of these practices, after which they swallow the entire concept line, hook, and sinker – just as intended by the purveyors of these dangerous concepts. It is elementary that any deception worth its salt would be packaged within at least 90% innocuous and probably useful materials.

Christians of our generation owe the Lighthouse Trails Research (<http://www.lighthousetrailsresearch.com/>) an immense gratitude for their painstaking efforts to clearly and patiently expose the great evil lurking behind the nice-sounding concepts of Contemplative spirituality. This massive and highly loaded site is set up specifically to alert the Church about the deadly threat creeping in into the Church from Eastern mysticism. As overall strategy, these new age gurus seek to draw Christians to occult practices rooted in Eastern mysticism under a veneer of Christian terminologies. The Bible talks about the devil turning himself to an angel of light in order to deceive! (2 Cor. 11:14)

What can be so dangerous about ‘meditation’? Of course the Bible encourages us to “meditate” on the word of God, and one doesn’t need a Gbile Akanni retreat to appreciate the spiritual value of ruminating over spiritual, and even every day, matters – as Isaac was reportedly doing while awaiting the arrival of Rebecca, as recorded in Genesis 24:63

The problem is that midway into such excursions into spiritual formation/contemplative spirituality, the definitions change! Furthermore, as people are encouraged to trust their “fresh experiences” more than “stale words of Scriptures”, key Christian doctrines become suddenly “non essentials” and disposable. The rest of the story is sadly all too common. We have cited several instances in previous editions (e.g. vol 9 no 3) of Church Arise!. (continued on page 6)

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EXHORTATION: A Tough Period Ahead

An Associated Press article the day Mubarak resigned under pressure quoted an Israeli official who said what everyone is thinking:

"We have a tough period ahead of us," Zvi Mazel, a former Israeli ambassador in Egypt, told Israel TV. "Iran and Turkey will consolidate positions against us. Forget about the former Egypt. Now it's a completely new reality, and it won't be easy."

It appears that Egypt will become an overt threat to Israel, with Iran and Turkey in the north providing same. The odds are good that other regimes in the region will fall, like Jordan. Suddenly, almost overnight, nightmare scenarios are falling into place.

But, my friends, we are not like the unbelievers. We know who is in control. In the literal end, we are going to God. He is the Master of the universe, and He is never surprised.

Let me be frank: I have problems just like you do, probably many of the same ones. I never remember seeing so much anxiety and almost crippling stress, both from people I know and just watching the news. Egypt’s disintegration certainly doesn’t help.

However...we must keep our eyes on the prize. What a magnificent time to be alive! I am watching the nefarious schemes of men who want to wrap the world in evil. Yet I am absolutely certain that our God is in complete control.

Israel is not going to disappear, you will not disappear, God’s word will never disappear. He has promised us over and over again....that He is the ultimate safety.

If he promised us individual peace and rest (Matthew 28 and elsewhere), and we see age-old prophecies being fulfilled now with the speed of a bullet train, can we make the decision to embrace joy? I am happy. As I see the dark shadows spread over the earth, I know that a bright and eternal morning is just ‘round the bend.

Let us pray for those poor souls in Egypt, who do not know truth. Let us pray for our leaders, that they also find discernment.

God is magnificent and majestic and in complete control. His word cannot and will not fail. We are going through a tough period, but it does have a period at the end of its sentence.

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(Culled from www.raptureready.com/rap15.html)

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