

EDITORIAL: Why We Publish Church Arise!

This issue of Church Arise! marks the beginning of our second year. We give all the glory and honour to our King, the Lord Jesus Christ Who not only commissioned us for the task, but also has been our sure support. It has been He, Who has made it possible for us to come out on schedule, regularly despite several natural as well as Satanic oppositions. We believe it will be in order for us to let our readers know just exactly what inspires us to publish and what our agenda is.

The Lord has laid it upon our hearts in no uncertain terms that “the time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand” (Mk 1:15). That which not only Mankind, but indeed the entire Creation, have been waiting for (for at least 6,000 years) is finally rapidly being unfolded in these last days. We believe the fulfilment of the Scripture in Dan. 2:44 about the God of heaven setting up a kingdom that would never end is just around the corner. These are the days that the saints of old looked forward to with great excitement and expectation. It is the beginning of the final restoration of Creation (Heb 11:39, Rom 8: 19ff).

To us it is therefore a great privilege to be on earth at this time. The love of Christ Jesus, and this little understanding of the times He has given us, therefore constrain us to respond to His call to take up this ministry. The Parable about the Kingdom of God in Mat. 13: 44 clearly teaches us that nothing is to be spared in our service to Jesus.

Now, only the pathetic minority are still unaware that at least some serious radical change is about to happen on earth as a new world order is being born. As our topical issue in this edition points out, the New Age movement in its myopic and sin-clouded perspective is frantically pursuing an agenda to bring this new world order about. However, a large number of those Christians who are able to see clearly the coming change are nevertheless completely, it seems, at a loss as to what to do about it. Many therefore resort to strategies such as ‘double-thinking’ and apathy (see vol 1, nos 5 and 6) to lull their spirits back to sleep and soothe their nerves. The others who manage to respond do so in the extreme. Recent history is replete with movements where people, supposedly Christians, have gone as far as committing mass suicide in anticipation of the coming of the Kingdom of God. More common however are cases of those who think that appropriate responses should include dropping out of school/work, or stopping to make long-term plans for the future. In short, these category simply stop “occupying”, which Jesus commanded. This position is just as dangerous as those who committed suicide. The correct position we ought to take in the face of the prevailing circumstances has been clearly spelt out in Scriptures, especially by the Apostle Peter in his two epistles, with a succinct summary given in 2 Pet 3:11ff.

The Lord has impressed it strongly upon us that this current spiritual transition period is a time of great power when God’s rod of power will proceed out of Zion – the Church (Ps 110:2-3). As important as it is for us to be aware of what programmes the antichrist will embark upon, after his manifestation, we believe the more important issue for us Christians is to understand our own calling in this time. The Church needs to arise and simply be the Church! In our opinion, what will eventually determine the time of the rapture (and the timing of associated events) is nothing else but the readiness of the Church for Her Groom. The Lord Jesus will be coming for a Bride ‘without spot or wrinkle’. (Rom 11:25, Eph 5:27).

Marks of the Church arising to attain this state will be visible in our playing our assigned role of being Salt and Light in Society. It will be manifested in holy and righteous living, bold and powerful witnessing, effective and fervent intercession etc just as at the beginning of the Church. Of course there will also be, just before the final end, the

separation of the chaff from the wheat when pretenders and the ‘mixed multitudes’ will be separated from the true Church in what is generally known as the great apostasy.

At Church Arise! LivingWater Ministries, we believe we have received Christ’s commission to keep these issues alive in the mind of the children of God. These are times when Satan is desperately making efforts to becloud the Christian’s vision through unrelenting pressure of modern living, circulation of bad news, and false interpretation of events. His only chance of standing up to the Church is to creep in unawares and contaminate the salt. At Church Arise!, we blow the alarm on him and hope the Church will respond. While thanking God for the support and acceptance we have received so far from the Church, we covet Her prayers for our further establishment in this our calling.

Topical Issue: The Dawn of a New Age

Welcome to 1999, the last year in this significant 6th millenium since Adam. At this twilight period, one of the most visible realities on ground is that we are at the dawn of a new age. In vol 1 no 5, we focused on the fact that the the world is fast becoming a global village with information transfer and interactions occurring in a flash. We can also see that a season of global peace among all nations is soon to be ushered in. Once the peace accord between Israel and the Arabs – which is still swinging in the balance – is resolved, others will be relatively trivial.. With the imminent collapse of the global economy (see page 2), the world economy is set to be unified, with the difference between the rich and poor nations becoming obliterated (talks about debt cancellation are rife even now). The bottom-line of all this is that, in the very near future, it will make little difference where on earth you come from or decide to live. As a matter of fact, all will be citizens under the same One World Government. Three basic facts, considered below, make this scenario, simply inevitable.

Fact No 1: The establishment of the above scenario is one point where Satan actually totally agrees with the Lord Jesus Christ! You may wish to compare the goals of the satanic new age movement (discussed below) with such passages of the Scripture as Isa. 11:6ff, Psa 87:4. Both sides are talking of peace and brotherhood of man – the question is who can offer true and lasting peace, and what should be the basis for such?

Fact No 2: The Lord Jesus Christ, to demonstrate clearly His wisdom and superiority, is allowing Satan to have a go at trying to establish the above Utopia first. According to Scriptures, for three and half years, Satan’s man, the antichrist will succeed in creating and holding this Utopian society together using the principles of humanism. This will have no place for a Creator God, but will rather exalt the ‘inherent’ goodness of man; and will be based on practices of the occult including sexual perversion (homosexual, incest, bestiality), abortion, etc. After the initial three and half years however, things will break down (afterall only in Christ Jesus do all things hold together (Col 1:17), and the antichrist and his citizens will thereafter reap, for the following three and half years, the fruit of their rebellion to God’s order. After this seven years of manifestation of the failure of Satan, Christ will subsequently establish His own version of One World Governement, based on righteous principles, first for a thousand years; and thereafter eternity will be ushered in.

Completely oblivious to this clearly stated programme of God, Satan's nerve centre for actualizing his version of One World Government, is working at full throttle to realize his goals. Hence today, we see a flurry of satanic activities, with increasing brazenness, in their efforts to infiltrate all aspects of society, before crashing the old system in order to introduce the new. We strongly encourage the reader to educate themselves from the several good Christian books available on details of the goals and strategy of the new age movement. Based essentially on ideas from Buddhism and Hinduism, the new age movement hides under the cover of high-tech to sell its main message that man can become a god, all-wise and immortal (same story as the deception in Eden, see?)

With nearly a billion people dabbling into some form of new age practice or the other, the movement is gradually succeeding in its intention of gaining footholds in all aspect of society- education, religion, law, industry, entertainment/sports, etc. Magic, religion, science, art and technology are all being integrated to form the basis of a new One-World Religion. The new age movement believes in the so-called astrological ages of Man. One popular explanation of the ages (each supposedly lasting 2,000 years) is that Adam was the herald of the Taurean Age (the bull), Abraham that of the Age of Aries (the ram), while the Lord Jesus supposedly ushered in the Piscean Age (fish). In this new age myth, the Age of Aquarian (the water carrier) is supposed to begin next millenium – i.e. next year. It is expected to be the age of the fulfilled man, when mankind will literally 'evolved' into gods!

How can we recognize the 'new age' operators today? Main outposts for the movement include such occultic groups as Hare Krishna, Rosicrucians, Eckankar, etc; cults such as Jehovah Witnesses, Mormons etc; and several other religion and practices which encourage people to open their minds to receiving so-called 'Divine Guides' indiscriminately. These may even include so-called 'sincere' Christians who are more concerned with 'visions' and 'experiences' rather than a living relationship with God. Any Christian ministry that is out to 'prove some points' is also guarantee to be an easy prey for new age influence and idea. Other signposts of the new age movement include the innumerable little movements, such as feminisists, gays, greens, etc that crop up every day.

Fact No 3: The new age movement considers as its mortal enemy, fundamental Christianity (see quote in Vol 1 No 4). In fact this is the ONLY idea the movement cannot tolerate. New Agers believe that by the time their new age is revealed (next year, many of them hope), 'every vestige of Christianity' will have been eliminated. Let no one be deceived, "the coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan with all power, signs and lying wonders" (2 Thess 2:9). The New Agers, being blinded to the truth of Scriptures, are cocksure they are going to have the upper hand. In their myopia and typically satanic manner of peddling half-truths, they fail to see the whole Truth, and so are in for a rude shock.

Indeed the Bible also agrees the Church will not be around to witness/interfer with Satan's version of One-World Government. However it will not be because the gates of hell have prevailed against Her, rather it will be because She will be keeping an important appointment with Her Groom, the Lord Jesus Christ in the skies! During the 7 year period in under discussion, Saints will appear before the judgement throne of Christ (2 Cor 5:10) and will also participate in the Lamb's Marriage Supper

(Rev 19:7-9). While Satan might call this sudden departure of the Church at the commencement of the antichrist's reign a UFO invasion or whatever else he chooses, the Saints of God will recognize this as the Rapture.

The fulfilment of all these **realities** is at hand.

News:

LEKKI '98

Anti-Aging gene – immortality in sight/
(New Horizon, VOA – Saturday 26/12/98)

World oil prices glut – nigerias income reduces by 50%.
No anxiety for the child of God. We believe our God holds all the aces!

Middle East Peace Accord: Still Awaiting the Rapture?

Plants breeders right – watch out for our article on disease control by genetic engineering in next edition

British Mother....

Occultic hardsell (seefolder)

Imf

Presidential moral chaos 'Revd' Banana,

Profile of Alexander Soxheitsky/

GTM hooks bride. The amiable brother 'Laolu, itinerant minister famous for his mobile library is no longer a bachelor. On Dec 19 Bro Laolu and Sis were wedded at the Gateway Baptist Church Ile-Ife. In the spirit of Zec. ... we now expect a hundred –fold increase for the Good Time Merchant Outreaches. Amen.

Quotes

"What is more worrying is the fact that persons otherwise regarded as good Christians have been involved in various scams, especially in the financial sector. Many have used the cover of Christianity to perpetrate 419 – not Phillipians 4:19, but stealing by false pretence"

- Well-known economist and born-again Christian, Gamaliel Onosode

In his paper presented at Christian men's convention of The Redeemed Evangelical Mission, TREM (TELL, 26/10/98)

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“ Bishop David Oyedepo (ministering at Lekki '98)

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Human Organ theft racket rocks the US.

The story below is yet another indication of the signs of the times we are in. It tells of a rapidly increasing racket in human organ theft – with the organ stolen from life, unsuspecting people! If you are a business traveler, especially in the United States, then you need to take this seriously. And we understand that "this ring is well organized, well funded, has very skilled personnel, and is currently in most major cities and recently very active in New Orleans". Let's cite a typical true life scenario:

“The crime begins when a business traveler goes to a lounge for a drink at the end of the work day. A person in the bar walks up, they sit alone and offers to buy them a drink. The last thing the traveler remembers until they wake up in a hotel room bathtub, their body submerged to their neck in ice, is sipping that drink. There is a note taped to the wall instructing them not to move and to call 911. A phone is on a small table next to the bathtub for them to call. The 911 operators have become quite familiar with this crime. So he instructs the business traveler to very slowly and carefully reach behind them and feel if there is a tube protruding from their lower back. The business traveler finds the tube and answers, “Yes”. The 911 operator tells them to remain still, having already sent paramedics to help. The operator knows that both of the business traveler’s kidneys have been harvested.”. Each human kidney is worth \$10,000 on the black market in the US.

Readers may check the story out from the original source: Michele Shafer – DML/Lab Administration Medical Manager Research & Development 15151 NW 99th Street Alachua, Florida. Phone: (904)32615, Fax: (904) 462-2148.

Nigerian readers may recollect a time when the male genitals and female breasts, were reportedly being stolen off people, by satanists employing “black arts”. The story of a man who gouged out the eyes of a lady in Oshodi, Lagos for rituals, at a price of N1million (The Guardian 15/01/98 pg 4) also made headline news. Now as the story from the United States shows, though Satan may adopt different strategies at different times and places, his ultimate mission to steal, kill and destroy humanity remains the same. Christian, watch and pry!

Meanwhile

The FBI raided the Los Angeles home of a man, James Cohan, who advertized he would arrange organ transplants for fees of \$125,000 - \$225,000. He was arrested Oct 5 last year in Rome for allegedly trying to broker a kidney transplant. (CNN 8/11/98).

“The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, they they might be saved”

2 Thess. 2:9-10.

LEKKI '98

As yet another sign of the times we are in, an estimated 5 million people gathered at Lekki Beach in Lagos, Nigeria for an all-night prayer meeting. It was the largest gathering ever of human beings on one location since the beginning of the world!

Tagged Divine Visitation, the meeting drew seasoned men of God from all over Nigeria and beyond. Quoting the prophecy in Isa. And pronouncing it as being fulfilled in that meeting (on the night when bombs began to fall on Iraq), from Israel blew the Jewish traditional Shofar (ram horn) at which all 5 million people gave a tremendous shout of victory. The servant of God, Pastor E.A. Adebayo rounded up the night with his ministrations which started around 1.30 am.

All current prophets of doom, who have been ‘predicting’ what they think will happen in Nigeria this new year, certainly don’t have any idea what really happened at Lekki. The victory has been won already through Christ Jesus. Church, work out this victory with your fervent prayers.

New Age and the Marriage Institution

The New Age movement is out to destroy all existing, Bible-based institutions and replace them with its own ideas. The new age idea of marriage is currently being

presented through the musician formerly known as Prince (he has dropped that name for an unpronounceable symbol). The musician and his wife of 3 years have concluded plans to annul their marriage. On Valentine’s day, they will then be rejoined in what he calls a “symbolic” ceremony (CNN 16/12/98). What could be the motive behind such moves except just to discredit the marriage institution?

Steep Decline for Global Economy

The current economic order has been thoroughly well subverted and is on its way out. From Asia countries to the Americans, and so-called oil-rich countries, the economies are in deep troubled waters. In Nigeria oil glut is leading to as much as 45% loss of revenue for the government.

The Russians are not mincing words in declaring who they think is responsible – the IMF and the World Bank and its other institutions. According to Yuri Luzhkov, mayor of Moscow and a strong potential candidate for the presidency next year, the massive privatisation of state assets by Russia’s IMF-backed reformers and the recent collapse of the government’s debt market are a swindle. Leaders from Asia and other Third World countries are also singing the same song concerning the IMF. Ironically, British Prime Minister, Tony Blair, whose countryman John Keynes, was the leading figure behind the creation of both institutions in 1944, is joining in the criticism of the operations of the IMF and World Bank. (TELL 26/10/98). The two institutions are known to be firmly under the controls of One World Government advocates.

The bottomline? Brace up for a new world economy order.

Genetic Engineering ushers in a new age

The VOA on Saturday 26/12/98 announced that the gene responsible for aging might have been identified. One implication of this is that it might soon be possible to control aging. In other words, immortality might be appearing on the horizon.

Genetic engineering is the field of high-tech which allow the genes (the materials that determine the destiny of the cells) to be manipulated. Its application in the field of agriculture has produced various exotic and high-yielding species. One attending fact however is that such genetically engineered species are produced sterile. In what is known as Planters Breeding Right (a kind of copyright), the new fruits are produced seedless so that the consumer cannot grow them on his own. This action **found necessary** by the breeders, of course, is a direct affront on God’s order in Gen. 1:11. Equally serious, the action will effectively ensure that everyone depends on the coming One World Government, for their food. In case someone thinks it will require some tremendous effort to get rid of the natural seeds in the face of exotic, high-yield, disease-resistant but seedless species, let us ask how many dare plant their maize these days without getting the special improve seedlings from some government department – year after year.

Please watch out for a detailed discussion on the implications of Genetic Engineering, applied to human beings, soon.

Nigeria: Islamization attempt alert.

The Police IG was reported to have issued, late last year, a 24-hour alert to Police formations throughout Nigeria

over alleged plans by the Shiites fanatics to cause religious war in all parts of the Country. (Nigeria news Network, 29/10/98). The reports added that following months of secret monitoring of the activities of the muslim fanatics, Nigeria security operatives have confirmed that the plans (including physical training) to turn Nigeria into an Islamic country had been completed. Apart from the Islamization agenda, the Shiites are also reported to be irked by the non-release of their leader, El-Zakzaky by the Head of state, during the current mass release of political prisoners. The group “vowed to use all force at their disposal to effect their leader’s release and throw the country into chaos”. It is not clear how the group thinks it can achieve the Islamization of Nigeria by brute force or similar antics.

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Questions, comments, or substantiated information of relevance to this newsletter are welcome. We thank you for your interests.

[OAU gets full Internet Connectivity](#)

The Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife is set to become the first Nigerian University to achieve full Internet Connectivity. As at press-time, the linking of the Institution to the Internet via VSAT at 64 kilobits per second is about being completed. This will be the first major opening of the Internet to thousands of Nigerians at the comfort of their offices and homes. Facilities to ‘surf’ the web are being provided.

Indeed the future, as we alerted in our article in vol 1 no 4, is here already. As we congratulate members of the Great Ife community, and wish them a profitable time on the net, we hope people will keep the issues raised in that our article to mind – watching what web sites they visit and refusing to get addicted to the Internet.

[Christians Allege Harassment in Ilorin.](#)

The Christian community in Kwara State has urged the Head of State, Gen. Abubakar to urgently wade into alleged incessant harassment of Christians by people suspected to be muslim fanatics, reported the Guardian on 10/12/98. The latest in the series of attacks was the demolition of the Church of God mission International building in Agbo Oba area of Ilorin, valued at about N1.5 million. Rev David Salami, Chairman of the Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria in Ilorin asked Government to compensate the Church lest Christians seek redress via a “physical option”.

Answers to Personality Quiz in vol 1 no 6:

1. Saint Augustine of north Africa
2. Blaise Pascal
3. Jimmy Carter

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