

Editorial:

When we described our last edition as the most-difficult-to-produce issue of Church Arise!, we had no way of imagining we will be writing the editorial of the current edition (Vol 3 No 3) 23 days behind schedule! Part of the delay is due to the 10 day Boot Camp with its demands on energy, time and finances. However, the more significant cause of the delay is the social climate in Ile-Ife due to the inter-communal war reaching unprecedented levels. Not only were public utilities paralysed, human lives became treated as a cheap commodity. We thank God for His mercy on our printer, who escaped death with a high-velocity bullet lodged in his scapula, a mere few inches from a major artery. Once again, the Lord has prevailed, and here on the street we are with our May-June edition.

Many times we just cannot but be bothered at CA! seeing the attitude majority of Christians show towards events around us. When shall we finally understand the implications of all these issues daily unfolding around us, all portending ominous signs? For instance how can we forget that Christianity (not considering Judaism) is the only religion that does not allow co-habitation with any other religion? The early Christian martyrs were not killed because they believed in Jesus, but because they chose to believe in Jesus ALONE. With the advancements being made by advocates of a one-world religion + One world government, growing intolerance of 'intolerant religions' etc, the earlier we face the reality of first subtle and later open persecution, the better for us – if we would not go into apostasy. The time is now for us to make up our mind what our response will be when faced with choosing between the incoming One-world ethic/image or the fiery furnace as did the 3 Hebrews; or between refusing not to pray to Jehovah and spending the night in the Lions' den rather than playing religion, deceiving only ourselves. These are not mere idles words please, the first step towards our arising as the Church is to have a sound assessment of the situation of ground.

Our special thanks to the 3 readers who responded to our "unusual appeal" last edition. It was so gratifying receiving your donations, just at the precise points of needs!

As expected we present this edition of Church Arise! with a flavour of history. Read, meditate, and arise and shine!

NEWS

Aso Rock Chapel Launched

To the glory of God, a Christian Chapel has now been built in Aso Rock, the seat of the Nigerian government. The all-marble House of God which was commissioned by President Olusegun Obasanjo was formally opened by Namibia's president, Sam Nujoma, on Easter Day. Only about 2 years ago, Aso Rock, was the veritable home of all manner of mallams, marabouts, and occultists imported from all over the world, particularly from Francophone West Africa. This was in addition to 3 standing mosques in the estate., The "Great Omission" of the designers and builders of Aso rock is now rectified –in glorious style. Hallelujah, for the LORD our God the Omnipotent reigneth!

"Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober" - 1 Thess. 5:6

Pockets of Storms

Meanwhile the devil's retreating from Nigeria has not been without a fight. From Offa to Saki, from Imo to Akwa Ibom, to Ile-Ife - the devil is desperately seeking to cause chaos for the country. OPC, APC, Massob.. but the real battle is between Satan

and the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Satan is always a loser. Church, keep on praying for the triumph of the Gospel. (2 Thess 3:1)

CAN Alleges Abduction Of Christian Ladies In Zamfara

Guardian on its front-page of Friday April 21 carried the story of 2 ladies well-known to be Christians who were abducted by Sharia operatives in Zamfara. The ladies managed to escape in movie-like fashion. Sharia spokesman in Zamfara denied any attempted abduction, insisting the ladies were found near an hotel and were only to be judged by Sharia laws for this transgression. There are also reports of female students being constantly harassed in the state. Sharia laws forbid friends, cousins, in-laws etc of different sexes being seeing together in public. It does not seem much interested in people's moral life in the private.

Pastor Adeboye visits OAU May 30th.

The General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God, Pastor Enoch Adeboye is billed to visit the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife on May 30, for Bible Study. It is to be a regular inter-denominational activity such as he used to carry out in the University in the eighties; and which practice is still on-going at the University of Ibadan. Venue is the Amphitheatre, at 4.30 pm. All are free to attend.

United Nations Group Calls For All Nations To Surrender Their Sovereignty.:

A UN-sponsored group calling itself the Earth Council has drafted a charter, called the 'Earth's Charter' calling on all nations to embrace the formation of a One World Government and surrender their national sovereignty for the "greater good of a singular global order". The Charter, which was finalized at a meeting held at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, (UNESCO) headquarters in Paris March 12-14, said that in order to 'move forward' as humans, 'we must join together to bring forth a sustainable global society founded on respect for nature, universal human rights, economic justice, and a culture of peace.'

Anti-One World Government Protests in Washington D.C. (April 16-17):

Over 600 protesters were arrested of the several thousands that thronged Washington DC to protest against the Bretton Woods Institutions (IMF and World Bank) which are seen as the agents of globalization. With placards shouting "No to Globalization" the demonstrations were disruptive enough to lead to the closure of US government offices and the drafting of the National Guards onto the streets.

In a similar vein, at the recent meeting of the G77 in Cuba, spokesman for the group, Nigeria's President Olusegun Obasanjo, said poor countries are not yet ready for globalization. He added that as things are, the developed countries stand to enjoy the advantages of globalization while the other countries will bear the brunt of all the disadvantages (Guardian April 18 pg 2).

Meanwhile UN Secretary Koffi Anan continues to prepare the grounds for the coming Millennial Summit this September. On April 3, he set out the agenda for the meeting in his 58 page Action Plan released on that day, stretching the "workability and desirability of globalization". See more details in Guardian April 23, pg 6. In similar veins, the ECOWAS hopes its common passport will be ready in 4 years time. A common currency, much earlier.

Those who look to globalization as the vehicle to bring in economy and political freedom to all mankind should read Rev 13 again. What will result is an unprecedented absolute enslavement for all mankind – poor and rich, slaves or free.

A Brief History Of One World Government. The One-world government idea is by no means a novelty. At Babel, men decided to build a city and a tower to prevent the dispersion of mankind. However Acts 17:26-27 says God separated man so that he may seek Him. After the failure of the first effort at Babel, many others have come and gone –

from Nebuchadnezzar to Napoleon, to Hitler. However this time around, with the entire world already reduced to a global village via the internet and related technology and also current efforts to build a one-world religion, man is at the very brink of finally ushering in a one world government. But we know how it will all end! Daniel 2:44 says a stone supernaturally cut, will strike at all man's effort and scatter it into dusts. The real one world government to come will have Jesus Christ as the undisputed King!

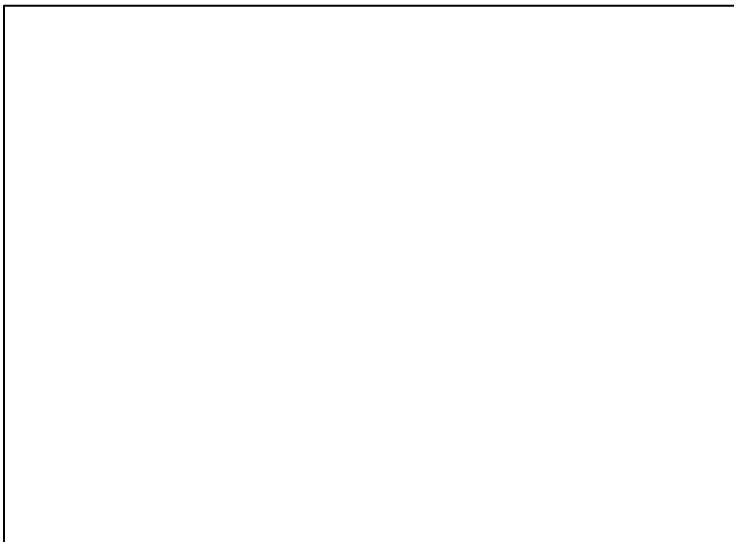
Evil men growing worse and worse (2 Tim 3:13)

Vermont State became the 1st state (April 26) in the United States to approve a law giving gay and lesbian couples the same benefits as married couples. Under the bill (79 votes to 60), same-sex partners will be allowed to apply for a licence similar to a marriage certificate, giving them same benefits as married couples on matters such as life insurance, health care, child adoption and custody, etc. Thankfully, California voters backed a pre-emptive move in March to ban official recognition of gay 'marriages'

Report Card on Gethsemane 2000 Boot Camp

The Boot Camp organized by CALM more than lived up to expectations. For 10 days, some 60 participants (including 33 pastors and heads of ministries) from 30 different churches spent time in the presence of the Holy Spirit and drank deep of the Living Water presented through God's anointed servant, Revd John Challender from Milwaukee, USA. Each day featured 6 hours of teaching and 4 hours of prayers. The evenings were spent watching videos or general christian discussion. The abundance of testimonies resulting from the Camp proved that it was time well spent. Commenting on the Camp and the absence of hypes usually associated with such events, Dr Isaac Oluwaleye, Pastor Rhema Chapel Satellite Church and one of the Camp officers said, "One thing I learnt is that miracles and things of eternal value come to pass so simply it is possible to miss them!"

Tapes and transcripts of messages delivered at the Bootcamp are available for borrowing [free of charge] at our Library. You can also obtain your own personal copies for keeps. at N80 per tape and N20 per transcript. The list of the messages is available at our Secretariat.



Class Picture of Participants at Gethsemane 2000 Boot Camp

THE NEAR FUTURE – WHAT WE BELIEVE

At Church Arise! LivingWater Ministries, we believe that the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is imminent. We believe however, as the Lord has affirmed in the Scriptures, that no man will be given any dates for this event - and so we must remain ready at all times.

We further believe that as a build-up to the coming of the Lord, the world is currently irreversibly headed for a one-world government, and a one-world religion. This is the essence of Secular Humanism.. Today, and before all these happen, the Church is designed and called to reign and manifest the glory of Jesus. As the only opposition to humanism – claiming to be the ONLY way, and proclaiming Christ as King, the Church should brace up for some

stiff challenges and persecutions of all sorts. However, as the Lord assures us, the Gates of Hell can never prevail against the Church. As long as the Church is around on earth, the full purposes of the Forces of darkness can NEVER be realised.

CALM LIBRARY: New Books

- ***Biblical Basis for Modern Science** – Henry M. Morris. [Reference]
 - ***The Modern Creation Trilogy**
 - Vol 1: Scripture and Creation {3-day loan}
 - Vol 2: Society and Creation {3-day loan}
 - Vol 3: Science and Creation {3-day loan}
 - ***Dinosaurs by Design** – Duane T. Gish [Reference]
 - A woman rides the beast:** (The Roman Catholic Church and the Last Days) – Dave Hunt (3 –day loan)
 - Is the AntiChrist Alive and Well?**– Ed Hindson (Circulation)
 - The Spiritual Man** - Watchman Nee(circulation)
 - The Ministry of God's Word** – Watchman Nee (circulation)
 - Brokenness:** The secret of spiritual overflow – Zecharias T. Fomum [Circulation]
 - Understanding the New World Order** – Roy Livesey [Circulation]
 - Left Behind** – Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins [Circulation]
 - Cancer Ward** – Alexander Solzhenitsyn [Circulation]
- *Asterisked books are donations from the Institute for Creation Science, USA

CALM: AVAILABLE RESOURCES FOR CHURCHES

Appointments for Mission Engagements (Speaking and Video Shows) may be made at our Secretariat or by phone/e-mail. Please endeavour to give a month's notice.

Also available, a 7 Lesson New Convert's course (Going For the Gold) and a 10-Lesson Discipleship Course (Following The Master). Materials available free of any charge and you may adapt to fit your Church's particular needs. Church Arise! also has access to a pool of anointed teachers of the Word who will be willing to teach these materials free of charge (but for their traveling expenses) at your Church. Contact us for more details.

FAMILY

A CALM Counsel

Timothy had a good heritage passed down to him through his mother from his grandmother. Even though, he was very young, he started very early with God. With moral and spiritual support from elders like Apostle Paul, and with the help of the Holy Spirit, he did not allow his intelligence to be played upon. So, he was spiritually, morally, psychologically and mentally sound.

Parents, you should have a sound plan for your children's future – in all aspects of their lives. Children learn very fast, and there is no amount of "protection" you may want to build that can completely insulate your child from the larger society. It's much helpful to CREATE the time to invest in these young ones the resources that can overcome that which the World is throwing at them. And the Key Resource? Yes, Jesus is it (1 Jhn 4:4).

British Children cry against smacking

Guardian April 17 reports: "Some 100 British children marched at the weekend to Prime Minister Tony Blair's residence demanding that parents be barred from smacking their children as a means of punishment"

Organized by a children's right group, Article 12, says "all physical punishment of children, including smacking should not be acceptable in the eyes of the law". Corporal punishment was banned in British public schools in 1986 and in private schools last September, however, the law allows parents to give "loving smacks without aid of instruments". It is this law that the so-called Children's right

group is after. A leader of the group, Anglican priest Charles Dodd retorted: "there is no such thing as a loving smack".

What a sad development in a country that used to sell Biblical principles all over the world! It is not clear how else a parent may administer punishment to his child, in a country where child-neglect charges can easily be leveled were a parent to use non-physical means to correct his ward.

US Federal Report Says Thousands Of Women Brought To The USA As Slaves

The Dallas Morning News (April 3) reported: "As many as 50,000 women and children from Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe are brought to the United States under false pretenses each year and forced to work as prostitutes, abused laborers or servants, according to a CIA report that is the government's first comprehensive assessment of the problem. The carefully annotated and exhaustively researched 79-page report 'International Trafficking in Women to the United States: A Contemporary Manifestation of Slavery' - paints a broad picture of this hidden trade and of the difficulties that government agencies face in fighting it. U.S. laws do not provide substantial penalties for this kind of problem. Over the last two years, while up to 100,000 victims poured into the country and were held in bondage, federal officials estimated that the government prosecuted cases involving no more than 250 victims.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Doomsday 'Marian' Cult In Uganda

The news concerning the doomsday cult, Movement for the Restoration of the Ten Commandments of God in Uganda, reverberated throughout the world and is on record as the biggest mass murder in history - with the number of known victims well exceeding 1000. Joseph Kibwetere, the mentally unbalanced millennial cult leader, called his church building, littered with statutes of 'Jesus' and 'Mary', the Ark of Noah. According to a feature in Newsweek (April 10), Joseph Kibwetere, owner of a Catholic boarding school, was completely mesmerized by the woman, Credonia Mwerinde, who claimed she had visions of the Virgin Mary, beginning from 1988. Messages allegedly given by 'Mary' through Mwerinde (a.k.a. the Programmer) thus formed the central doctrine of the Movement. The several hundreds who were strangled, mutilated or burnt in various locations by the Movement's leadership, believed in Mwerinde's promise of safe passage through the 'gates of Heaven' in the Ark when the world would end - according to her, on December 31, 1999.

It is quite unfortunate that while a vast fraction of the inhabitants of earth are too busy to think about their eternal future, so many of those who are keeping eternity in view will swallow any lie of the devil to soothe their anxiety concerning eternity. The devil is certainly very serious with his business of stealing, killing and destroying. Where and how, dear reader, do you worship God? How about your loved ones? Today, several thousands flock to cults such as the Church of the Latter Day Saints (who believe that Lucifer is the brother of Jesus Christ and that God was once like us, and we too shall soon evolve to become like He currently is, etc); or to Jehovah's Witnesses (who believe that Jesus Christ was a created being, specifically the archangel Michael now promoted, etc); not to talk of scores of cult assemblies masquerading as pentecostal churches but built around charismatic leaders, and not on the one irreplaceable Foundation, the Lord Jesus Christ(1 Cor 3:11). Dave Hunt believes the countless of alleged apparitions of Mary being reported is only setting the ground for the eventual great deception. Check details in the book **A Woman Rides the Beast**. The challenge for true children of God in this age is truly enormous!

Isn't the only hope for the planet that the industrialized civilizations collapse? Isn't it our responsibility to bring that about?

Maurice Strong

(Former UN undersecretary and a current leader in the globalization efforts)

Floods...

"For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now" Rom 8:22. As further signs that the planet

earth is expectant of a new world order, natural disasters continue to be witnessed all round the globe in increasing frequency. The flooding in Mozambique made world news headlines for several days, only to be followed by a similar one in South Africa. And as the world heaved a sigh of relieve over that, it was Hungary's turn. The floods are not merely high-speed flow of large body of water, but are often accompanied with mighty gales of wind. We should learn, not only in the suddenness with which these floods arise, or the total reduction of all the people affected to a common level (whether previously rich or poor), but also from the attachment of humans to material things. In Hungary, with over 11-metre water level and massive destruction everywhere, several of the affected residents still were reluctant to leave their material possessions!

...and volcano in Japan!

In Japan, the eruption of Mount Usu volcano has led to more than 16,000 abandoning home to escape for dear life. According to Fox News report (April 3), 'more than 50,000 may have their lives completely changed'

Thot: Just as it doesn't count for anything, in a natural disaster of the types mentioned above, whether you are a good person or not, so also is it futile to seek to escape the moral, technological and environmental crises that are currently threatening to engulf our world today by trying your "best to be a good person". The entire purpose of this newsletter is to sound the alarm - Escape for your life! Jesus Christ is the only Way of escape provided by a loving God for those in a doomed world, who would be obedient. (1 Jhn 5:5, Jhn 3:16).

Britain Close To Approving Cloning Of Human Embryos For Research

The London Telegraph (April 3) reported that the cloning of human embryos for medical research, which could allow scientists to create spare parts for the body, is expected to be approved by the Government after an inquiry has concluded that the potential benefits outweighed the ethical problems. A panel of experts led by Dr Liam Donaldson, the chief medical officer, has agreed to recommend changes to the law to allow the use of cloned embryos in what is called 'therapeutic cloning'.... The Government is already facing a public backlash over trials of genetically modified crops and the use of genetic information by insurance companies; but scientists believe that they could treat a wide range of diseases if they are allowed to develop the technique, and that it is too late in the day to talk of killing cloning research.

THE AIDS-CURE ISSUE still remains unresolved. After an NTA newsline documentary has produced several evidences, of people who have been to Dr Abalaka without any success, of Prof Mrs Akinsetan**... reporting Dr Abalaka's refusal to accept the patients brought by her NGO (she now heads the Presidential Commission on Aids), and Dr Abalaka's non-willingness to co-operate any further with the NTA after having secured nation-wide publicity though the authority, it seemed clear that Abalaka must have been a fake. However another angle has been thrown in by the claim by Chief Air Staff, Isaac Alfa and his Army counterpart that 30 ECOMOG soldiers have been cured of HIV infection by the controversial doctor. Gov. Orji Kalu of Abia is offering sponsorship for Dr Abalaka while the President has shown enough interest to set up a body to investigate the claims and counter-claims. In the meantime, please stay off Aids.

In a related story sent to us from the United States, it is reported that needles infected with HIV virus are being set up in cushions of seats at Cinemas and other public facilities! The figure for HIV in Nigeria is given by the UN as 5% and is considered catastrophic.

Remember Lot's wife" - Luke 17:32

Exhortation: Are you ready?

People ask me "Do you really believe that Jesus Christ is going to come back to this world again? Yes I do. The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ is coming again and I don't see any other hope for the world because we're heading towards a catastrophe in our world

The Word of God speaks of the **certainties** of the end of the world. Jesus said, "As the days of [Noah] were, so shall the

coming of the son of man be” (Mathew 24:37). What were the days of Noah like? And is there a parallel now?

One word that is used to describe the days of Noah is wickedness. The people were very wicked. “Every imagination of their thoughts was evil”. It seems as if they stayed awake at night thinking up new ways to do evil. It was a world in which marriage was abused. The people were corrupt and were violent. It was a world in which there was a lot of religion, but it was decadent religion. In that world, God had warned them, “unless you repent and turn from your sins and change your ways, you’re going to face judgement”.

In all that corruption, Noah dared to walk with God. Noah believed in God, and true faith determined how Noah lived. The Bible says, “By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared..” And God said, I’m going to save you and your family when the destruction comes”. True faith determines how you live. Do you worship God in your home? Do you have Bible reading and prayer?

Today the only bright spot on the horizon of this world is the promise of the Coming again of Christ, the Messiah. We can’t go on much longer morally. We can’t go on much longer scientifically. The technology that was supposed to save us is ready to destroy us. New weapons are being made all the time, including chemical and biological weapons.

When is the end of the world coming? The end of the world is coming for you the moment you die, and that could be any time for any of us. We never know. Jesus said, “Of that day and hour knoweth no man, no not the angels of heaven, but my Father only” Don’t guess or speculate. We simply do not know. **Are you ready for that if it happened today? Do you think that He is coming today? Jesus said, “Be ...ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.”** (Math. 24:44).

And you are to be prepared. What have you done spiritually in your life to prepare for that moment when your heart stops beating? The end of the world may come for you at anytime. You may be expecting to live many more years, but you don’t know for sure.

What then do you have to do? First repent of your sins willingly and make a commitment to Christ. Let Him come into your heart. Secondly, come by faith. Put your trust in Him and say Lord, I give myself to you.

You may have been baptized. You may have been confirmed. You may belong to a Church. You may be a good person. You may do all the good that you can think of, but all of that isn’t enough. You must come in childlike faith to Jesus who died on the cross for you. Who rose again. Who is waiting for you to make that commitment. Do it today.

Billy Graham (Culled from a message posted on his website, www.theway.billygraham.org in May 1999)

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

Historical Personality Focus: David Livingstone

In a world where young qualified professionals from Africa (Christians and non-Christians alike) are trampling over themselves to emigrate to Europe at the slightest opportunity, it is appropriate, useful and timely to consider the sacrifices made by identical young qualified professionals who left native Europe to dwell and die in Africa – so that Christianity might be planted here! In an age where coming to Africa was as good as a death sentence, [West Africa in particular became known as the ‘White man’s grave], young men

and women nevertheless left loved ones, comfort and prospect to obey the Great Commission of carrying the Gospel all over the world. It is of course not wrong to want to live anywhere on the globe as one might desire, but whatever we do, we need to understand that one day we shall stand at the judgement seat of Christ to receive rewards for our service for the kingdom of God. You and David Livingstone will be judged by the same standard!

David Livingstone was born in Blantyre, Scotland in 1813. His parents were poor and godly, members of an independent church. At ten years of age, he began work in a local cotton mill, with a book propped up on the machine. By this means, and through night classes, he built up some general education. Converted and convinced that he had a missionary calling; Livingstone studied medicine in Glasgow and London hospitals and theology in England. At age 28 he came to Africa and facing incredible odds and experiences, traversed lands previously uncharted till the time of his death in 1873.

As an explorer, Livingstone ranks with the greatest. He **walked** further – across what is now South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Mozambique, Malawi, Tanzania and Eastern Zaire – and recorded better than most of his contemporaries. He held to his early belief in the ultimate unity of all truth, biblical and scientific. But a mastering motive for his journeys was that they could help drain ‘the open sore of Africa’, the Arab slave trade.

His relations with Africans were excellent; his failures mostly with Europeans. His strategy was not to exploit but to liberate. In this he contrasts with Cecil Rhodes, the other major British figure significant in Central Africa.

Though technically a missionary for only half of his thirty years in Africa, Livingstone saw all his work in the context of a providential plan in which gospel-preaching, the increase of knowledge and the relief of suffering marched together. The Anglican Universities Mission to Central Africa owed its inspiration to David Livingstone – through a speech he gave in Cambridge in 1858.

Culled from an article by A.F. Walls. in *A Lion Book. The History of Christianity*, 1977.

“I place no value on anything I have or may possess, except in relation to the kingdom of Christ. If anything will advance the interests of the kingdom, it shall be given away or kept, only as by giving or keeping it I shall most promote the glory of him to whom I owe all my hopes in time and eternity” -David Livingstone (from an entry in his journal)

A total population of 250-300 million people, a 95% decline from present levels, would be ideal

Ted Turner (Owner of CNN, on the world population he would love to see in the new world order. Quote from Gary Kah’s *One World Religion*)

The prudent forsees evil and hides himself. But the simple pass on and are punished Pro. 22:3. Dear friend, can you still not see the handwriting, clearly on the wall: of an imminent One World Government? An imminent One World Religion? Do you honestly think all these have nothing to do with you? You need to give serious thoughts to making Jesus your hiding place. If you are already born-again, know that the day of testing is all but at the corner. Prepare your mind, begin to free yourself of all extra weights and the hold of the world today. See you at the Judgement Throne of Christ.