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Promoting a Christian Agenda for the End Times

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NEWS

2003 Elections will be peaceful – Adeboye

Amidst the general apprehension in the country concerning the forthcoming elections in Nigeria, highly respected General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG), Pastor Enoch Adeboye has declared that according to the almighty God, the elections will be very peaceful. His exact words, “it will be so peaceful that, by the time it ends, people would wonder whether there was an election. Anybody who wants to disrupt the peace of Nigeria, God will put to sleep. You can quote me”.

Pastor Adeboye made this comforting declaration at the Special Holy Ghost Service organized by the RCCG at Abuja on Friday 24th May. Among the tumultuous crowd that thronged the Christian Praying Ground venue of the programme were the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Olusegun Obasanjo and the Senate President, Chief Pius Anyim Pius, among other dignitaries. All this of course does not mean that the intensity of on-going Christian prayers for the elections should be reduced!

Sweden set to criminalize opposition to homosexuality

The Swedish Parliament has passed a constitutional amendment that will criminalize criticism of homosexuality. Such a show of ‘intolerance’ will attract between 6 months to 4 years in jail. The measure, passed by 56% of the voters must still be voted on again after elections this September before it becomes effective. According to Annalie Enochson, a Christian Member of Parliament, this amendment is a **serious threat** to religious freedom and speech. (Please see details in www.traditionalvalues.org or www.family.org/cforum/fnif/news/90021073.html)

The reasoning behind this noble-sounding decision being promoted by New World advocates is that the world will become more peaceful if humanity can only be more ‘tolerant’. In other word, people should be free to promote any way of life they choose (indoctrinating many in the process) without being opposed or corrected in any way. → continued on page 2

Lagos State on the way to adapting World Core Curriculum on Education

Remember the World Core Curriculum? This is the curriculum designed by the acclaimed father of UN education, Robert Muller in partnership with someone called Djwhal Khul. That this latter openly acknowledged co-author is not a human being but a spirit being operating in the Tibets did not deter the UN from adopting this document as the pattern for global education in the very near future. (please see our previous

articles in Vol 2 No 6). Aspects of this document has been the backbone of the new curriculums being designed all over the world including Nigeria and South Africa as we have exhaustively mentioned before (Vol 4 Nos 4,5 and 6)

Now the Lagos State House of Assembly is spearheading an accelerated introduction of these ideas into the country. According to House Speaker, Olurunimbe Mamora, a new bill is being drafted to accomplish the UN objective for education. This include that “education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality..” as well as to “further the activities of the UN for the maintenance of peace”. (Comet, May 1, page 5). There is more beyond these apparently innocuous noble objectives. Recall that the UN holds that the occultic practice of Transcendental Meditation, for instance, is one excellent way of “fully developing” the human personality and that such should be included in educational curricula, especially at the university levels (see Vol 3 No 2).

In Nigeria, Sharia creeps down-South

Over 2000 Moslem youths displaying placards with inscriptions such as “Give us Sharia for peace to reign”, staged a rally around Ibadan, the Oyo State capital on April 30. Dressed in complete Islamic garbs including veils for the females, the demonstrators reportedly “triggered uncomfortable feelings among the on-lookers”. (Guardian May 1, pg 5) → contd on page 2

Priest openly denies Jesus as Son of God

A 54-year old priest in the Church of Ireland Rev. Andrew Furlong has repeatedly denied that the Lord Jesus is the Son of God. When put to Church trial for heresy, he chose to resign his office and keep what he calls his nearly 30 years conviction. The Bible states clearly that confessing that Jesus is the Son of God is a test to detect the spirit of the anti-christ (1 John 4:3,15). Earlier, the Archbishop of Canterbury himself has said that we could not really be sure whether Jesus rose from the dead or not, and that the issue is not crucial to Christianity (Vol 2 No 6). See however, 1 Cor. 15:14,17 for what the Bible says on the matter. Back home in Nigeria, acclaimed Gospel singer, Sonny Okosun → pg 4.

In Pakistan, death penalty for new Christian convert

25 year old Aslam Masih is the latest among scores of Christians (and other non-moslems) to be jailed for blasphemy in Pakistan. Any moslem who decides to change his religious conviction is already guilty of the charge of blasphemy, by definition → contd on pg 4

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Sweden anti-hate law (continued from front page)

So the 'wise' people have decided, and all of us (the majority) must fall in line. How long before this anti-christ philosophy currently being vigorously promoted in different aspects of life (environmental, ethics, etc) become one big fire that engulfs the current world order? Only the Church has the power to keep the restraints on (1 Jhn 5:5, 2 Thess. 2:7)

Sharia Creeps (continued from front page)

The fact is that despite considerable difficulty, Sharia legal system is gradually inching its way South of the Niger. The Oyo state governor, in particular, has been under considerable pressure in the past 2 years or so, to declare Sharia in the state, but so far he has continuously refused to do so. However, the race for a second term is on, and who knows...? For now in Oyo state, a non-governmental panel has been launched to oversee "civil sharia", while in the meantime, the State governor has been installed to the office of the main vanguard of Islam in all of Yorubaland. Hmm, let's keenly watch out to see what and where all this drama is supposed to lead !

Sharia dressing imposed on Christians in Bauchi

At the Federal Medical Centre, Azare in Bauchi State, all nurses and midwives are now required to dress in the Islamic mode dictated by the Sharia legal system. Some of the Christian staff who refused to comply have been reportedly relieved of their jobs. Decrying this situation, Bauchi CAN has issued a statement urging the FG to immediately address the injustice displayed on the issue. The body also noted that Christians and Moslems had been co-existing peacefully in the state before the introduction of Sharia. (Guardian May 26 pg 25)

Meanwhile, authorities at Adeyemi College of Education are expressing discomfort at increasing number of people who walk the College streets totally veiled. Given the peculiar problems on ground, the College authorities believe wanted cult members might have started using this method to move around *in cognito*. How good if Islamic ladies who want to show their commitment to the Koran will go the whole way and simply remove themselves entirely from co-educational public institutions as recommended in the Koran for pious women!

Meanwhile, the Supreme Council for Sharia has in a recent communiqué "directed that Islamic scholars, committed Moslems should participate FULLY in partisan politics and vie for any political office that will facilitate the implementation of Sharia" (The Comet May 1). This directive is quite legitimate of course. But it should alert serious Christians to take serious matters serious.

US donates fingerprint unit, scanner, others to Nigerian Police

"In line with its efforts to fight crime worldwide, the US government has donated a fingerprinting and training unit worth \$28,000 to the Special Fraud unit in the Nigeria Police" reported the Guardian on May 1 (p4 The story continued: "In a recent statement, Deputy

Police Commissioner Haz Iwendi indicated that the Nigeria Police has started to work hand in hand with US Secret Service to ensure more effective investigations and probes against the activities of crime syndicates.."

In case you have been skeptical about emerging technologies (especially dealing with global surveillance!) reaching the less developed countries in this generation, perhaps you need to have a re-think? (see also page ***)

Minister advocates for accelerated growth in smart-card technology in Nigeria:

Science and Technology minister, Prof Turner T. Isoun at the launching of Smartcard Society of Nigeria has said there was need for an **accelerated** growth in the smartcard industry for the realization of "our desire to build an e-economy". Among the goals to be pursued is the development of "chip operating systems that support multiple applications and secure independent data storage on one single card" – as in using the same card for fool-proof identification, as well as for commerce (among other possibilities); such that no one living will find life easy without acquisition of one such card.

Availability of remote-controlled rats now publicised

Comet May 3, on page 9 reported that "by **implanting** electrodes in rats' brains, scientists have created remote-controlled rodents which they can command to turn left or right, climb trees and navigate piles or rubble etc." Although this development was reported in the scientific journal *Nature*, only in May this year, similar experiments as these have been carried out for decades, particularly in military and intelligence services labs – (eg see Peter Schrag's book "Mind Control" – available in our Library).

The selling point of this particular project at this time is the possibilities of fitting such rats with tiny video cameras and using them to search for disaster survivors in say a collapsed building or in places with difficult terrains. Even with this kind of perspective, it won't be long when it will become justifiable to use remote-controlled men in some situations (as is already happening in military exercises using mind-bending chemicals).

'Women in ministry' quagmire

In 1999, an ordained Methodist minister underwent a sex-change operation, turning the then Rev. Richard Zamostny of Rockville, Md, into the Rev. Rebecca Ann Steen. Now Rev Rebecca wants to resume ministry but is caught in on-going debate on ordination of female into the clergy in her Church. She has been convinced to surrender her credentials and accept voluntary leave.

Christian Leaders urge boycott of new Gender-Neutral Bible.

A broad coalition of Church and Ministry leaders has urged a boycott of the controversial new gender-neutral version of America's best-selling Bible, the Today's New International Version (TNIV). More than 100 influential pastors, theologians and ministry heads, from conservative evangelicals to Pentecostals in the statement jointly signed said that "the TNIV is not sufficiently trustworthy to commend to the Church". Among those who signed the statement are Jack Hayford, James Dobson and Charles Colson. The

gender-neutral Bible arose from the thinking that it is wrong and inaccurate, to think of God in terms of the male gender and that divinity/spirituality could be expressed equally well as either male or female. This is surely another of the so-called “post-modern” madness. And the objective in sight is hardly hidden: if the Bible cannot be physically removed from the earth, it can be effectively removed by being corrupted. Talk of contaminating the salt. Thank God, He who is in us is greater than he who is in the world

YET, THE GATES OF HELL CAN NEVER PREVAIL

Despite the onslaught of hell against the Truth of the Gospel, the true Church in the various denominations keeps marching on. As exemplified by this recent statement from Anglican Archbishops all over the world: “In the light of **current challenges** to historic Christian doctrine from various quarters, and of the growing influence of different kinds of “post-modern” theory which question the very idea of universal and abiding truth, the Primates wish to re-affirm the commitment of the Anglican Communion to the truths of the fundamental teachings of the faith:

- **Our God is a living God**
- **Our God is an incarnate God**
- **Our God is a triune God**
- **Our God is a saving and serving God**

Declaration by Anglican Archbishops around the world at Canterbury in April. Guardian May 5, page 25

On-route to Global Surveillance

The Sept 11 terrorist bombings continue to usher in new developments/restrictions leading to a world order/structure that will eventually produce the anti-christ. Now, the International Association of Travel Agencies (IATA) is seriously advocating for the use of biometrics under an initiative for a global standard for the digital identification of air travelers.

Already, SAS airline is developing a smart card technology that uses a traveler’s fingerprint as a identity check. The smart card stores passengers’ fingerprint, which can be read, without contact, by a card scanner. The passenger only presses a finger against a screen and his identity will be verified when the fingerprint is ‘locally’ matched with the fingerprint stored on the smart card. Hence, using this ‘local matching’ method, SAS’s Tommy Lumdin says, “travelers (now) carry their own personal information and we can thereby resolve the problem of personal integrity”, i.e. privacy issues.

The article published in the Guardian of May 17, page 52, concludes in the following words: “More innovations are expected in the **months** ahead in the global efforts to make air travel secure and expeditious at the same time”. Some airports, including Amsterdam’s Schipol., have already launched the use of ‘eye scan’ for frequent travelers, who can then zoom through the various security arrangements. Conservative fellows will have to stay on the queue.

Bush versus Bin Laden, who is winning?

The Taliban has been removed from government in Afghanistan and many people, particularly in that beleaguered country, are heaving sighs of relief. But has the United States won the battle against terrorism? Added to the previous reports that Osama bin Laden is still alive is the latest confirmation by Interim Afghan government interior minister, Yunis Aununi that Mullah Omar, the Taliban leader, is certainly alive and probably still plotting. In fact, the United States believes the last word has not been heard from Al Queda. According to Vice President Cheney at a Press briefing on May 19: “In my opinion, the prospects of a future attack against the United States are almost certain. It’s not a matter of if, but when”.

Recently, an American Al Queda operative was caught trying to put together a radiological ‘dirty’ bomb. The International Atomic Energy Agency in recent press releases have been warning that due to security lax, there are over 100 countries in which such a bomb could be built today by terrorists. (see IAEA.org press briefs)

The only thing that is sure in all these is that the New World Order advocates will continue to use the prevalent situation to actualize their bizarre plans leading to one world government - many of which plans nobody could have dared to suggest under normal circumstances. Both Bush and Bin Laden are mere pawns in this end-time process of ushering in a new world order.

Protein Folding and Evolution

Researchers at IBM are currently trying to build a super computer that will simulate the process by which cells in our bodies carry out one of their routine jobs – folding protein molecules, correctly. To accomplish this simulation, the IBM has found it has to build a supercomputer with about one million microprocessors and which will run 500 times faster than the fastest supercomputer yet in existence today. They call this computer “Blue Gene”.

Even for Blue Gene, the trivial task of folding a modest 300-residue protein is expected to last about a year of round-the-clock processing. Yet this is what most of the 75 trillion cells in our bodies have to do, routinely within seconds – if life is to go on. (See *Nature* 416 April 4, 2002 and ICR Acts and Facts Vol. 31, June 2002). How incredible that some people could dare to ascribe all these to mere chance and random processes! Would Blue Gene just evolve of itself out of nothing without a designer? How true the words of King David, “The fool has said in his heart, there is no God”

Search for extra-terrestrial life.

Have you heard that NASA is now confident there might be life in Mars, following pictures of ice (water) taken by their latest unmanned probe? And this has once again put the shine back on the question: Are we (earthlings) alone in the world? Common, what do you think? Go ahead and answer the question!

Anyone who doubts we are NOT ALONE must certainly be kidding! Especially if such a person

carries the title "Christian". The Bible is very clear about the answer. We CERTAINLY are not the only intelligent beings in the universe. Many people adapt self-deluding models to keep themselves confused. For example, there was this UFO-believing group that insisted that Elijah the Tishbite was only abducted by some alien space-craft! Without any doubts, Enoch, Elijah, and the Lord Jesus, men who once walked upon this earth and who vanished into apparent thin air, are today in a place habited by sentient beings. And by the way, your own stay on the earth is limited. Hell or Heaven, the choice is yours. For more information, visit a local Bible believing Church or alternatively, contact us at Church Arise!.

FAMILY

Ekiti blows hot-cold on Marriage Tax for Churches

According to the Comet of May 20 (page 3), the Christian Association of Nigeria in Ekiti state has confirmed receipt of a "directive" from the State government that Churches (and Mosques also) are now to pay a yearly tax of N77,000 before they could join couples together in holy matrimony. A few days later however, the state governor himself, Chief Niyi Adebayo came out to deny any such tax; and that the state was only asking for the existing charges of N500 to be paid for the cost of the stationary. Well, all is well that ends well. Taxing religious organization for the performance of their society-stabilizing roles is certainly appalling.

And Bishop calls for abolition of Church Wedding.....

Bishop Noel Jones in the United Kingdom is advocating that Church weddings be abolished completely to prevent people from "committing perjury" at the altar. This is because of the alarming number of people who reappear at the same altars after a few years to once again pledge to live "till death do us part" with other partners after their initial marriages have ended in divorce. The Bishop said the Church should have nothing to do with marriages, ordinarily; but for couples who accept they would be entering a lifelong commitment and who are so "religiously minded that they say, 'I can't believe that this marriage is proper unless God is involved in it' then the Church can (optionally step in to give a blessing)". (Guardian June 2, pg 27).

It is true that the divorce figures around the world continue to be a sad reminder of how the devil is perverting God's institutions in our world. But must the Church throw in the towel?

.....While Another gives blessing to unmarried couples, homosexuals

Bishop William Smalley of the Kansas diocese of the Episcopal Church (Anglican communion) has said his church will allow clerical blessings of homosexual couples, and heterosexuals who decide not to get married due to "financial hardship". According to Associated Press (4th July), the Bishop believes his

diocese is the first to bless unmarried heterosexuals, whereas with homosexuals, "others are doing it, but are very quiet about it".

In the meantime, the Rev. Samuel Edwards has quit the Episcopal Church to form a Southern Maryland mission Church for the Anglican Province of Christ the King. He said he was opposed to the Church's ordination of women and tolerant view of homosexual activity. He maintains that the church is "hell-bound"

Death for Christian converts (from page 1)

Although no death sentence has yet been implemented in Pakistan, many young Christian converts are languishing in jail, simply because they believe Jesus is the son of God. Under Pakistani law, only the word of a Moslem accuser is needed to prosecute a non-moslem for blasphemy, a situation which has led to religious persecution and settlement of personal scores. This of course provides a good excuse for New World advocates call for ban on religious proselytization and 'intolerance'. Christianity is the ultimate target for all these manouvres.

Sonny Okosun and Jesus (from page 1)

through his recent book is trailing the same path, and straining himself to 'show' that "Jesus did no miracle". With developments as these, who but a hypocrite can still keep asking for signs that we are in the endtimes?

Food Summit hosted by FAO

The Food Summit of the Food and Agriculture Organisation held beginning June 10, with a stated goal of halving the number of hungry people in the world to around 400 million by the year 2015. Not all who attended saw things the same way with the FAO however. Said Jose Bove, a French leader of the anti-globalization protest, "**It is not a problem of quantity of food, it is only an economic and political problem**"

Gospel Power

Police have been called in to process thousands of pounds of stolen goods handed in by committed Christians after they sat through a sermon on the commandment; "Thou shalt not steal". Items including 1,500 pounds sterling in cash, diamond, jewellery, watches and wallets have been left in "honesty bins" by Church goers who attended the meeting at the Norfolk Showground at the end of May. British preacher, John John urged his 3,500 -strong audience to go home and think about things they had acquired dishonestly. The power of the Gospel was adequately demonstrated throughout the week as 90 items were deposited anonymously in the bins. (Guardian June 9 Pg 28, based on report from the Telegraph)

Disasters around the world: humanism is helpless

148 die as EAS plane crashes into a busy Kano neighbourhood. 6 passengers survived.

225 persons die as Taiwan Airliner crashes into the sea on its way to Hongkong (Guardian May 26, pg 1)

15 die in plane crash in Tunis (Guardian May 11, pg 5)

100 die in Mozambique Train crash (Guardian, May 26, pg 5)

5 die in London Train crash (Guardian May 11, pg 5)

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Here comes the Earth Summit

Preparations are already in feverish pitch towards the coming World Wide Sustainable Development, or the Rio + 10 summit scheduled for Johannesburg, South African August 26 – Sept 4 this year. With over 100 heads of states already committed to attending, the Summit is easily the most important conference organized by the UN ever. It is really more of a follow-up to the Millenium Summit (put together by Mikhail Gorbachev) two Septembers ago, more than a follow-up to the Rio environmental Summit of 1992.

As we have abundantly shown in previous issues (e.g. Vol 5 No 3), this summit, by the admission of the major players themselves, is a major tool to introduce and actualize one world governance concepts. Many of these major players are deeply involved in the occult; and the general paradigm they are trying to enforce upon the world is one that sees the earth as a living being - indeed the goddess Gaia who must have the primacy of position even above humans. According to several documents already perfected, including the Earth Charter and Agenda 21, the goal is to seek how nations of the earth MUST collectively safeguard the earth's environment. The questions are (1) who determines what standards to enforce, especially in the light of the fact that the scientific establishment is not agreed on the major issues, which will affect different nations to different levels; and even much more importantly (2) who enforces those standards?

One of the suggestions proposed is that UN should forcefully remove erring governments (the Taliban, Saddam are mere rehearsals) and Trusteeships be set up (see Vol 3 No 5). We shall devote more space to this very important Summit in our next edition. In the meantime, the quotes below speak for themselves on the real objectives of these Environmentalists, behind all the noble sweet-talks.

“The environment issue was set up as a global issue in need for global action. There were **demands to strengthen international law**, which could make nations tow the line. **NGOs** had been forming global networks and were working on global campaigns. These efforts at the global level directly contributed to building **a sense of global identity, or global citizenship which would be the first step towards global governance**. Such global governance would further distance power from the people while giving unlimited access to governments and multinationals.” (International Institute for Sustainable Development, Youth Source Book on Sustainable Development (Winnipeg, MB: IISD, 1994, p. 63)

“We stand at a **critical moment** in Earth's history...**Fundamental changes** are needed in our values, institutions, and ways of living...Our environmental, economic, political, social, and **spiritual challenges** are interconnected, and together we can forge inclusive solutions”

(From the Preamble of the **Earth Charter**)

Video Review – Harry Potter: Witchcraft Repackaged – Making Evil Look Innocent

Harry Potter: Witchcraft Repackaged – Making Evil Look Innocent" is a fantastic video by Jeremiah Films that proves how Harry Potter publications, [current best-sellers in Europe] are both teaching children the arts of the occult and leading them directly to resources used by actual witches, pagans, and Satanists.

The video asks, “does Witchcraft actually have power? If so, what is its source? Does the Harry Potter series' presentation of Witchcraft make it any more acceptable just because it is packaged as 'children's fantasy literature?'” It presents best-selling authors Robert McGee and Caryl Matrisciana, who answer these questions and draw parallels between Harry Potter and true Witchcraft as practiced today, with actual footage of witches, their rituals, spells, and interviews.

You will discover similarities with Harry Potter and Witchcraft in Mother Goddess, Meditation, Black Magic, Curses and Spells, Divination and Sorcery, Occult symbology, Evolution and Reincarnation, Demon possession, Seasonal/nature celebrations, Communing with the dead and spirit world, “Dark” aspects of Witchcraft, and much more. Clips of the Harry Potter and The Sorcerer's Stone movie, The Craft movie, witch/vampire/occult TV shows, and snapshots of websites are included to provide you with ironclad proof for Caryl and Robert's assertions.

Incredible and under-published facts regarding the marketing of the occult to our children are presented. For example, The Pagan Federation of England states that TV programs such as Buffy the Vampire Slayer have fueled a rapidly growing interest in Witchcraft in children. The Federation states that it deals with thousands of inquiries each time an exciting episode of Buffy the Vampire Slayer airs on TV or an article on Witchcraft appears in a teenage magazine. It regularly receives approximately 100 letters each month from children who want to become witches. Bookseller Amazon.com sells 1,800 book titles on Witchcraft. Thousands of occult websites exist that sell everything from poison rings to spells for doing well on exams, attracting boyfriends and girlfriends, cursing people, and acquiring power and wealth.

About three quarters of the video specifically covers the Harry Potter publications. For example, the Potter books have broken all records for sales among children fantasy literature. Over 100 million books have been sold in 200 countries and have been translated into over 40 languages. A massive marketing campaign, partnered by Warner Brothers, Mattel, and Coca-Cola, guarantees that the Harry Potter image will be kept in front of audiences for many years. According to a U.S. consumer research survey, over half of all children between the ages of 6 and 17 have read at least one Potter book, which range from 309 to 734 pages, with thousands of children reporting multiple readings.

As an expert on world religions, noted cult and occult researcher Caryl Matrisciana, who wrote the best-selling books *The Evolution Conspiracy* and *Gods of the New Age*, and who has written and produced

numerous videos for Jeremiah Films, proves beyond a shadow of a doubt how children are actually being taught the rituals and detailed philosophies of Wicca, paganism, Satanism, and other occult and cult religions and practices through the Harry Potter publications.

Robert McGee's commentaries create a perfect bridge; they apply Caryl's expert knowledge and research to present-day scenarios using true stories. He begins the video with a fantastic point. He says, "There are those who defend the Harry Potter books by saying they're just fantasy. So when people object to these books, they're made to look like fools because people say, 'how can you object to these books – they're just fantasy!' But that line of reasoning would tell you that you could include in fantasy any violence, pornography, whatever you wanted, and still defend those books by that very same statement."

I was shocked to learn this next point disclosed in the video. Scholastic Inc., the largest publisher of children's books in the world, bought the publishing rights to the Potter series. It supplies nearly every public school in the U.S.A. with its products, reaching more than 32 million children each year. It used its unrivaled position in the education system to flood classrooms and libraries with the Potter books, as well as working the Potter books into teacher curriculums, student magazines, etc. The Potter books are read aloud to children in our public schools right now!

Do you have a child, grandchild, or friend exposed to these books and media? I implore you to buy this video. We are held accountable for God's precious children; by our action and lack thereof. "And whoever shall cause one of [these] little ones that believe in Me, to fall into sin, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea."

Culled from an article by Juanito777 (9th April, 2002) at the website <http://www.OnlineArchive.Org>

Remember that with globalization, no country could claim immunity from any idea or practice originating from somewhere else. Rev Daniel Olukoya in his ministration at the OAU Ile-Ife on 15th February, speaking of witchcraft as Public Enemy No 1, had referred to Harry Potter's influence in fueling the problem worldwide.

LETTERS

Greetings to you in the Lord's name. I would be happy to receive your literature through the address below... Thank you and God bless.

Adeyemi Oladapo Bida, Niger State

I read a copy of Church Arise! and found it so interesting. Hence I wish to be an on-line subscriber. Remain blessed.

Chukwunonso Obi

It gives me the greatest pleasure in writing this letter...[Church Arise!] was brought to my room by one of my friends, and when I read it, I was very happy. It also drew my life nearer to God. This is why I am using the opportunity to plead to you if you can send some of these magazines to me.....I have just submitted my life to God. I pray that may Almighty God continue to uphold you and your ministries.

Samuel Oladosu, Ile-Ife

PICTURE OF UTS

Evang. Oluborode, Rev. Adegunwa and Pastor Orioke at the Understanding The Times Seminar, June 22

CHURCH ARISE! NEWS

Re: Middle East Crises.

There have been lively feedbacks on our article on the Middle East Crisis published in the last edition. The issue was further expounded upon during our Understanding the Times Seminar (UTS) by Evangelist Tosho Oluborode of the United Nations Regional Centre for Aerospace Studies (who had to replace our beloved Dr Tale Omole of the International Relations Department of the OAU, Ile-Ife who was indisposed to attend, contrary to our previous announcements).

What is our interest in the Middle East? It is certainly not to take sides with either the Palestinian or the Israelis. Nor is it even to proffer a way out of the crisis! Rather, first, it is to make our readers aware of the real facts, devoid of the massive propaganda being sold by the media houses. And our clear conclusion on that note is that Yasser Arafat is nothing more than a helpless figurehead in this issue (confirmed when 2 cabinet members he dismissed refused to leave office!). But more importantly, our goal is to point out that the continuous escalation of the Middle East crisis is only building up to a climax. It is only a matter of a short while before it becomes inevitable that both parties (and perhaps the entire world) MUST find a peaceful solution or face the real possibility of annihilation – the Middle East is a nuclear zone!. And so our conclusion on this note is that Peace is imminent in the region, and because of the stakes, he who brings in the peace will no doubt gain much stature for his efforts. The Bible says this man will be the anti-Christ, for the only hope for true peace in the Middle East and in the entire world is nothing but the LORD JESUS CHRIST. The current Middle East crisis is then a clear indication that the times long prophesied in the Holy Scriptures are at hand. According to **Evangelist Oluborode**, "The Middle East Crisis is God's calendar /table-table of the end times."

The New Age spirit can be identified in two easy ways: (1) Taking an all inclusive attitude, that suggests that "all roads lead to Heaven, and we are all worshipping the same God"; and (2) Placing all the efforts to get to heaven (or rather bring heaven to earth) squarely and totally upon Man.

Speaking on these issues at the UTS, **Rev Ade Adegunwa**, Chaplain of the All Souls Chapel, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife cited copiously from his wealth of experience various local expressions of the New Age Spirit in South West Nigeria. He affirmed that spiritual deception does not respect even highly literate environments. Citing many instances where people who should know better were mesmerized by handkerchiefs and ‘falling down’ phenomenon. Also confirming the depths of prevalent occultism in the ivory tower, the Chaplain recalled an occasion he and co-workers were preparing a Retreat Ground on one of the mountains on the OAU Campus. Several fetish objects including padlocks, local combs, and names of identifiable members (married couples) of the community were found under a particular tree!

Church Arise! is one of the Signs of the Times!

That was the declaration of the man of God, **Pastor (Dr) Odun Orioke**, the General Overseer of the Christway Church International who was one of the speakers at our last Understanding the Times Seminar. The Apostle of ‘Abundant Life’ as he is generally known, affirmed that for God to stir up young professionals with a vision for a ministry like ours, and for the ministry to be bearing its fruit in its season as is the case, is a clear sign that God is at work. Hence the need to take our message very seriously. The emergence of Church Arise! at these times is a clear sign that the coming of the Lord is indeed at hand, said the soft-spoken Pastor.

To make it to Heaven despite the perils of the times, the G.O. counseled the audience (1) to be EXPECTANTLY WAITING for the Lord’s coming (2) to pummel the body and be diligent with our faith, work and service (3) Maintain SPIRITUAL HYGIENE at all times, not allowing our conscience to condemn us (4) be blameless, pure and Holy – not excusing sin (5) To grow in grace (in faith love, discipline, commitment, self-denial – all round!) (6) To continually live as pilgrims/strangers in the world (7) to do the work of the Priesthood, representing God to people and vice versa (8) to be slaves/servants to Jesus (9) to be soldiers, always ready to defend the faith and (10) to be sensible runners, obeying the rules.

The meeting excellently anchored by Laja Osoniyi was rounded off by prayers said by Mrs Kehinde of the Love Fellowship.

THY PEOPLE SHALL BE WILLING IN THE DAY OF THY POWER, ... – Psalm 110:3.

Having exhausted all possible explanations, our technical crew have to conclude that they have been subject to an unprecedented spiritual attack as the devil desperately gave them some good run for their faith during the UTS. Very strangely, only one message, the first one, recorded on the tape. The other messages by Rev Adegunwa (on Spiritual Deception) and Pastor

Orioke (What manner of men ought ye to be) failed to leave any impression of the tapes. This was discovered only at the end of the day. Unfortunately the commercial video camera crew we invited also failed to turn up for the event, meaning those highly inspired and powerful messages can only be re-played in the hearts of the few people in attendance. Why is the devil so much against these messages getting out? Find out by participating in our next Understanding The Times meetings scheduled as below:

- Wed August 14: Video Show**
(Countdown to Eternity)
- Wed September 11: Lecture**
(The New World Order)
- Wed October 9: Seminar**
(Titles to be announced)
- Wed. November 13: Video Show**
(One World Religion)
- Wed. December 11: Lecture (Evolution or Creation, How did we get here?)**

That is every 2nd Wednesday of the month. Venue is the Conference Centre Library. Time is 5.00 – 7.00 pm. Please pray for these meetings and inform somebody about them. Thank you!

Topical Issue continued

(The Pope’s pet programme of Interfaithism already makes no distinction between the Christian gospel and the philosophies of other religions). The priest making this request, Don Silvion Mantelli of Turin in Italy, reportedly attracts huge crowds to his Church where he routinely presents the “magician mass”. An eye-witness describes this mass: “It’s the first time during catholic liturgy I’ve seen a succession of entertainers, including a ventriloquist preacher, a trick cyclist, a juggler and a fire eater, performing in front of the altar”. The description continues: “Don Silvion wore ordinary priestly vestments. Later in a nearby field, under a circus big top he had rented for the day, the priest was dressed in a black T-shirt and a conjurer’s hat. On stage he did conjuring tricks for 15 minutes. Then his other guests took their turn. One was Gaetane Bloom who does magic shows at the Crazy Horse nightclub in Paris....” (Guardian, June 3, page 110)

What does all this indicate? It shows that the devil is desperate in his efforts to neutralize the Church. Having found it an impossible task to prevail against the Church and have it crushed outright, the devil is trying the other option – befriending and neutralizing Her. In this way the devil wants to make the Salt of the Earth, totally irrelevant and good for nothing but the dunghill. But the good news is that this is only another wil-o-the-wisp of the devil, a dream that can never materialize. Despite the appearance of things in the world, including the sponsorship and promotion of purely satanic churches to cause confusions, the one true Body of Christ, with membership drawn across several denominations, continue to match strong and remains unassailable. The light shines in the dark, and the dark comprehends it not! Do you belong?

EXHORTATION: To be Filled with Christ is to be Filled with Obedience

Since the Lord (Jesus) has initiated obedience, the Father has become the Head of Christ. Now because both authority and obedience have been instituted by God, it is natural for those who know God and Christ to obey. But those who know not God and Christ know neither authority nor obedience. Christ is the principle of obedience. He who accepts Christ accepts the principle of obedience. Hence a person who is filled with Christ must be one who is also filled with obedience.

Nowadays people often ask, “Why should I obey? Since both you and I are brothers, why must I obey you?” But men are not qualified to ask in this manner. The Lord alone is qualified; yet He has never said such words nor has such a thought ever entered His mind. Christ represents obedience, which is as perfect as the authority of God is perfect. May God be merciful to those who claim they know authority when obedience is yet missing in their lives.

Watchman Nee From his book, *Spiritual Authority*.

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Questions, comments and substantiated information of relevance to this newsletter are most welcome. Past volumes of this newsletter (Vol 1 - 3) have been compiled as the book **The Time is Fulfilled**; and is available at bookstores or directly from us (N250). You may alternatively download all the previous and current volume of the newsletter, or the book, free of charge from our website. We thank you for your continued interests and supports.

TOPICAL ISSUE: MAGIC IN CHURCH

At the Public Seminar organized by Church Arise! on Saturday 23rd June, Rev Ade Adegunwa, the Chaplain of the All Souls Chapel of the Obafemi Awolowo University, spoke with much passion and concern on the prevalent and unfortunate incidences of pure magic going on in several Pentecostal Churches in Nigeria under the guise of “Signs and Wonders”. The review article on page 5 of the current edition of Church Arise! shows how much Satanism has quietly but effectively permeated the entire spectrum of society; and witchcraft has now gone from the secretive craft of dirty old women on broomsticks to ideas freely taught in the public square to children all over the world through books, cartoons, TV, etc.

The documentary film by Pawcreek titled False Anointing – where will it end (available at our Library) is an excellent review of this general sad trend in Christian churches. In the film, hard documentations are provided to show the rotten decays in the Church: showmanship, strip-tease artistes, snake charming, and unbelievably, simulation of sex and orgasm (with demons?) right on the altar, etc If not for those hooked on self-deceit how could anyone ever mistake these satanic manifestations for acts of the Holy Spirit?

That these strange-sounding ideas are indeed already seeping into the Church in Nigeria was confirmed recently by highly respected Pastor E.A. Adeboye of the Redeemed Christian Church of God. At the annual ministers conference of the Church (which attendance was open for all, this year), he expressed shock that one of the parishes of the Church (and there are now some thousands of them) was contemplating holding what is labeled a “Crazy Night”! Warning that he would not hesitate to close down any Parish that dares put such an idea to practice, he affirmed that only “demons attend Crazy Nights”. We congratulate the man of God for such vigilance and prompt pronouncements. Several of the Churches generally labeled today as demagogues were actually once very respectable widely growing organizations that gradually allowed the lure of having supernatural experiences at any cost to introduce satanic concepts into their ranks. As Rev.2:20 shows, this is by no means a new phenomenon either.

The end of the matter will probably come when satanic ideas and magic cease to be mere aberrations in the Church, but accepted and officially integrated norms in Church life. And we don’t have to wait much longer for this to happen. According to a recent report in the Guardian newspaper, the Catholic Church – one Church that is apparently not in any hurry to be removed away from the earth to heaven - is already on this path. Pope John Paul II was recently presented a **magic wand** by a Salesian Priest of the Church who requested him “to name a patron saint of conjurers, magicians and wizards”. The request was not some sort of joke. It was made by a very influential priest and there was no doubting that it was warmly received → contd on pg 7.