



# The Time is fulfilled

**Joshua Ojo**



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## Chapter 1: Heart of the Matter

“Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is”  
Ephesians 5:17

“But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life and that Day come on you unexpectedly”  
The Lord Jesus Christ, in Luke 21:34

### I. Why We Publish Church Arise!

WE GIVE ALL THE GLORY and honour to our King, the Lord Jesus Christ Who not only commissioned us for the task of publishing Church Arise!, 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 fulfillment 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; 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, it is quite pathetic that many 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 is adequately demonstrated in this book, the New Age movement in its myopic and sin-clouded perspective is frantically pursuing an agenda to bring this new world order about. Even then, 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 pages 10 and 199 ) to lull their spirits back to sleep and soothe their nerves. Several 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, this category simply stops "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'. A Bride that has made herself ready. (Rom 11:25, Eph 5:27, Rev. 19:7).

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.

**(Vol 2 No 1, January – February, 1999)**

## **II. Church Arise!**

IS THERE REALLY ANY ONE, Christian or non-Christian, who doubts we are in the end times? Political scientists, sociologists, economists, environmentalists, medical/ health practitioners, physical scientists, religion experts, name it; all talk of the imminence of the shut-down of the present world order. While a tiny fraction works on assiduously to fulfill their own, even no longer hidden, agenda to ensure they remain relevant in the new order to come, the vast majority shrug their shoulders, and go on about daily life, resigned to whatever fate or opportunity brings as this great once-in-all time event rushes in!

How can this be? Isn't it obvious that the New World order will be (like in the computer/technology world) a winner-takes-it-all affair? All personal investments, worth and destiny could change overnight by policies being engineered by somebody somewhere out there. How then can we, as people with stakes in the system, fail to be interested in the coming change in the world order - a change which, even both Christians and Satanists agree is inevitable and even imminent?

The pressure of present day-to-day living (especially as structured by the "ruler of this present age" - the devil) no doubts, is effectively checkmating the undiscerning masses and preventing them from doing what they ought to do in order to be who they ought to be, now that there is still some time. As Satan struggles to devise a new world order to cover up his 6,000 years of messing up this planet and ensure he remains further in control, he needs the co-operation of the people of the world in their

acquiescing to his rulership and not crying out to God for salvation. However, the Scripture cannot be broken. In His own time, and irrespective of whatever Satan devises or does, the Lord Jesus Christ, having fully paid all dues already, will blow the final whistle and the game (and opportunities to serve) will be all over. The new world order that will prevail after the present one is most certainly that that would be established by the Lord Jesus, and all new age advocates had better wise up to this fact.

Our objective in this publication is to awaken the Body of Christ to the reality, challenges and opportunities of this most exciting end-times; and we pray that the zeal of the Holy Spirit will accomplish this to the glory of His name.

In this maiden edition, we present news and commentaries about the Church and Society both in Nigeria and worldwide. The end-time battle is subtle and fought in skirmishes here and there. If God will grant you discernment and you become aware of certain needs as you read this volume, please, keep in mind that **you** can do something about it - if you will so choose. **Rather than complain about evil trends in Society, we should see these as our own challenges - and opportunities to stand up for our Father's kingdom.** It is time Christians started seeing their world from God's perspective. We must stop squandering valuable faith on personal frivolities alone while there still remains kingdoms to be subdued and lions mouths to be stopped (Heb. 11:33-34)

Remember that God's response to the crisis you see around you is **YOU**, the Christian. Choose today to do something about the things around you, and the best place to start, always, is on your knees.

**(Vol 1 No 1, January-February 1998)**

### **III. Twinkling Of An Eye**

IT REALLY DOES seem far-fetched. To think that one day, a large number of people, probably now living, Christians, will all disappear into thin air in what is popularly known as the "rapture". To think that your car, research lab, business, etc will all be left behind completely unceremoniously (if you qualify). Yes, we are familiar with leaving things behind during death; but this idea of sudden mass departure...

Yet, this idea is well established in Scripture. And certainly when it occurs, it wouldn't by any means be a novelty. Bible mentions examples of people who were translated from earth in 'flesh and bones' – Enoch, Elijah and our Lord Jesus Christ. Even after the next in line – the rapture of the Body of Christ – there will still be another one involving the two witnesses as described in Rev. 11:12.

As for the idea of twinkling-of-an-eye changes in fortune, we have scores of examples everyday. Hundreds of thousands of ordinary villagers in Afghanistan were going about their normal lives as billions other people on the globe, up till Feb 4. But then, sudden destruction. Earthquake! Soon everybody lucky enough to be alive was reduced to a common denominator – homeless, property-less and helpless. The final official toll was gruesome – over 5,000 dead, over 28 mountain villages leveled, and other unimaginable figures - all without any warning. Literally, in a twinkle-of-an-eye! Virtually the same story was reported only some days earlier in China. In fact, most people hardly take notice of news about earthquakes again these days. Even as early as 1974, the World Almanac recorded that “there have been more earthquakes in this century than in all recorded history”. Increase occurrence of earthquakes is one of the signs Jesus said would mark the beginning of the end of the present world-order.

Friend, no one will have any excuse for being caught unawares by this ‘Mother of all evacuations’. “You know how to discern the weather...” the Lord pointed out to people who feigned ignorance of end-time events (Mat 16:30). Sudden economic crash in the ‘Asian Tiger’ countries, overnight collapsing of pyramid saving schemes, either in Albania or Oshogbo, increased evidence of serious decay in society as all traditional values and restraints are thrown overboard. These should be sufficient warnings that things are just not going to continue the way they always have been! There is serious manipulations going on every-where (and Nigerians<sup>1</sup> shouldn’t have much difficulty understanding this aspect). Satan is coming up with frantic, brazen lies - why, some new-age advocates will even insist that Elijah was abducted by UFOs!

**So what are we saying? By all means, please enjoy your life (John 10:10). Make long-term plans and investments. But don’t commit your hearts to these.** The best investment anybody can make today is to sign up in partnership with the Holy Spirit in His end-times mission. The urgent business of the hour is for the Church universal, (through individual Christians offering solid service in the local Church and in the workplace); to arise and be prepared to meet Her Groom. We pray this edition of Church Arise! would contribute to bringing this about more fully in your life.

**(Vol 1 No 2 March – April, 1998)**

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<sup>1</sup> under Abacha regime

#### **IV. How close to the end?**

A CHURCH IN OSUN STATE, NIGERIA has for over a year now been shouting itself hoarse on the State TV that Jesus will certainly come in the year 2001 (already here). Predicting the date of the coming of the Lord has always been a popular activity in Christianity, particularly among cults who having nothing to lose, use such attention-grabbing issues to get themselves badly-needed shot into prominence. As the story of the Jehovah Witnesses (who predicted the end of the world for 1914) shows, life is always possible after such datelines. (Not so for the Ugandan Programmer however, see vol 3 No 3).

But it is not only 'cults' who play with possible dates of His return. (Many 'mainlines' prudently keep their reflections to themselves). Why does this activity have all the appeal it has, despite the Lord's having categorically stated that no one except the Father knows the date (obviously kept from the Son as a surprise gift is kept hidden from the would-be recipient)?

We have a simple explanation. **Despite all the deceptions or mistaken convictions about the date of the Lord's coming, He is indeed going to come some day.** This being true, speculations about the possible dates of this most spectacular event cannot but be rife, both among humans and spirit beings. Only the spiritually dead will not think about these things. For instance, who, even with only a rudimentary understanding of Jewish Feasts, will not expect the Rapture to fall on the traditional Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah)? Especially so if you have read the incredible details of how not only ancient events, but even contemporary ones have continuously fallen on the appropriate Feast days in the book by Grant R. Jeffrey: Armageddon - Appointment with Destiny? But then logical speculation has its limit in a situation as unique as this!

At Church Arise!, we obviously believe that the return of the Lord (not necessarily the end of the world) is imminent. But then quite frankly, based on Scriptures alone, while the end might truly be at hand, it might also as well be some 10,000 years away. Our convictions at Church Arise! on the soon-coming of the Lord Jesus are based on 3 separate bodies of reasons which we here examine in this our last publication this passing 6<sup>th</sup> millenium.

**1. From the Scriptures.** From the Genesis account, the earth is now about 6,000 years old. (This young age for the earth is supported by indisputable scientific data based on the decay in the earth magnetic field; C-14 dating, once we remove the well-demonstrated false assumption of constancy in the atmospheric inventory of C-14 over the past 50,000 years or so; gradual disintegration of the comets of the Solar System; calculations based on build-up of salts and trace elements in the oceans; or even

radiometry methods - including their wild and obviously unreasonable assumptions- once we do not limit ourselves only to the favourite billion-year half-life ones, guaranteed to yield ages of millions of years (with error margins of same magnitudes!). etc. Other methods such as intrapolation of current population backwards, are also consistent with the above. Now we think, whenever the 7<sup>th</sup> millenium does eventually clocks (making room for uncertainties in our calendar system) it is not unreasonable to expect something spectacular. Afterall the Lord not only chose the 7<sup>th</sup> day to rest but commanded its continuous observance, together with other groups of sevens,- as a SIGN (Exo. 31:13).

This is further buttressed by the consistent appearance of major events every 2,000 years. e.g Adam – Abraham , Abraham – Jesus, and Jesus – us here at this time, all have intervals of 2,000 years.

Finally from the Scriptures, Nebuchadnezzar's dream in Dan 2: lists the Kingdoms that are to come on earth, before God would establish His eternal Kingdom. (Dan 2:44) It is undisputed history that all these kingdoms have come and gone, except the last one, which is to be related to the penultimate one, the Roman Empire. Now daily news reports tell us clearly that a new –World-wide Kingdom based around the European Union (revived Roman Empire] is in the offing. You can put any date you like but the fulfilment of these plans can be safely measured in years (maybe even months) rather than decades. And certainly not centuries!

**2. From the General News Media and the Scientific Reports.** With the increasing reports of environmental problems (earthquakes, floods, global warming, ozone depletion, etc), combined with world-wide immorality (and associated un-heard of plagues such as AIDS), science and technology getting out of hands (nuclear and associated deployment technology, human cloning, capability to monitor - and possibly control - every human being anywhere on earth etc), it is clear to us that the world is headed for a climax, and things are far from any semblance of steady-state or equilibrium. Things simply cannot go on this way any much longer. By this reasoning, we are already in "injury time".

**3. Well-documented plans of the Enemy:** The World's response to the situation summarized in the last paragraph is the determination to merge global politics, economies and ethics in a one-world government/one world religion. But this is a script directed straight from the pit of hell; and the target is ultimately to not only undermine Christian influence and teachings from Society, but outright wiping away of Christians (see Vol 2:6 or 3:4). By the time-table given by the principal agents of the one world

government/religion, they are desperate to actualize their dreams at their perceived beginning of their Aquarius Age- year 2001 or thereabout. This, of course, is what the New World Order is really all about. This New Order cannot be realized as long as we have dissenters (mainly Christians) in any large number.

The options are that Christians are around and have committed apostasy, joining themselves to these obviously humanistic New World Order, or they are no longer around having been wiped out by agents of the New World Order (e.g. the demon Djwhal Khul vol 2 No 6), or lastly they have been taken away by their Lord in the Rapture (as He promised Jhn 14, 1 Thess.4:17). **At least** one of these has to happen sooner or later. See Rev 17:17, Acts 2:23, 4:28 to understand how God's time-table/agenda and Satan's own will coincide in the last days.

The convergence of all these data gives us the conviction at Church Arise! that the end of all things is in sight. (1 Pet 4:7). Dear friend, how really prepared are you for these things?

**(Vol 3 no 6 November – December 2000)**

## **V. Rapture Watch**

SOME PEOPLE TAKE IT upon themselves to declare that man has been in existence for millions of years – based on the now thoroughly discredited so-called geological Ages in Paleontology, the main pillar for that satanic invention: The Theory of Evolution.

The Bible account makes it clear that mankind came onto the scene only some 6,000 years ago. According to our current calendar, we are some 2 months to the close of the 6,000 years. This age also agrees with the most reliable methods in sciences, such as we mention in the topical issue of this concluding issue of CA! this side of the millenium. (see previous article). Folks, we are in terribly exciting days. What a privilege to be around on earth at this time!

While savouring the joy of service for the Kingdom in this most significant period of earth history however, **it is wisdom for us not to forget that the coming of the Lord for His Church might as well happen in our lifetime. After all, the Bible makes it very clear that the Church Age, which started on Pentecost day, some 1,970 years ago will not last forever.** Indeed according to Rom 11:25, when the last non-Jew person to be saved has given his/her life to Jesus, the Church Age will come to a sharp close, and the Church will be taken out of this world. This sudden selective catching-up of Christian Saints is known as the Rapture.

Now if the Bible has made it very clear that the Church will some day be raptured, and that this will be a sudden, unpredictable event, why does anyone suppose it can't happen in their lifetime, or even today? It is more traditional to harp against 'extremists and alarmists' who see the coming of the Lord Jesus in every event, even claiming to know the exact date and hour when the Lord will eventually come. However, CA! thinks it no less an ill when people suppose they know when He, the Lord, surely CANNOT come. Once again, we ask, do you seriously think the Lord could come today? He might very well do!

**(Vol 3 No 6 November – December, 2000)**

## **VI. A FAITH THAT SHOWS**

Nearly all of us are convinced that the Lord Jesus is coming back again. And we have unassailable Scripture supports for this conviction. Many of us are even convinced that His coming could be in our own very lifetime – and that too only makes sense; after all if He is coming, He will be doing that in some people's life-time. So why not ours? The big question however is what are we doing with such knowledge and convictions? **Is our knowledge of the Truth enough to set us free from the chains of compelled conformity to the World Order? Are we sufficiently sure of this our Lord Jesus Christ as to want to put all our eggs in His basket?** Beloved, if needs be, would you die for your faith? Today?

Helping us put our faith to action is what this newsletter is all about! We believe one way to help us Christians keep the right perspective about day-to-day issues is to periodically remind ourselves of the lessons of History and reflect on the prices people with whom we share the name 'Christian', have had to pay before us. Hence our decision that every 3rd and 6th edition of our newsletter in each year (as the Lord tarries) be presented with a 'history flavour'. We hope our readers will easily be able to understand that every action each of us undertakes (or fails to undertake!) today is capable of becoming or influencing tomorrow's history.

**(See Rev 20:12 for another compelling perspective!).**

**(Vol 1 No 3, May – June 1998)**

## VII. Fooling who?

**DOUBLETHINK:** The art of holding, simultaneously, two contradictory opinions without being bothered one bit. When perfected, one is even not able to recognize it in oneself. This word was the creation of George Orwell. In his famous book titled '1984', Orwell rightly predicted that 'doublethink' will characterize the end of human society. Though 'doublethink' is flourishing in our days, true to its nature, most are finding it convenient to be unaware of it.

Why do we find fine ladies and gentlemen, who hold the life of humans so precious that they would go to any length (via personal professional efforts or through financial contributions) to save, for example, a child with some congenital disease; but at the same time would with a straight face support abortion? (In the USA, it is legal – and it is done – that children who survive late-term abortion process and come out quite intact are used for scientific experiments! Just like rats! – see the book *Judgement in the Gates*). As another example, how can a man believe the Rapture of the Church is imminent and yet go on recklessly amassing wealth in a godless manner (contrast with Acts 4:32). Yet another example of *doublethink*. Many readily agree with the interpretation of the Scriptures in Mat 24:3,34 to the effect that it means that the generation that sees the blossom of the fig tree (Israel) will witness the end of the present world order. At the same time, however, they equally vigorously believe this has nothing to do with either themselves or even their children's children. Meanwhile it is simple history that Israel was re-established in Palestine in 1948, and she occupied Jerusalem in 1967. As one author puts it, **many people think this way: "Bible prophecies were fulfilled in the past, and they will be fulfilled in the future. But not in the present, because I am here". Doublethink! Self-deception!**

Now, Christianity is not keeping our heads in the clouds, and closing our eyes to the realities on ground. On the contrary, it involves as Jacob saw, a Ladder set up on the earth with its top reaching to the heaven – and with a dynamic interaction between both heaven and earth. (Gen 28:12, Jhn 1:51) Christianity is sincerely having a holistic and realistic view of life – instead of playing the ostrich. Taking life in its totality – of forces of darkness, realities of civil life, and the power of God to make a difference. It is not just holding to an outward form of religion, but the embracing of the reality of its power as well.

As mentioned in this edition of Church Arise!, nations around the world are witnessing "worst-in-generations" natural, human and moral

disasters. In fact, the US weather people have declared last month (July) as the hottest month ever – in their records! If not vintage *doublethink*, how else can anyone see all these and still believe things are, and will ever remain the same!

Friends, let's all face the raw truth, attested to both by reason and by Scriptures. Suddenly, some decisions will have to be made; far-reaching policies will be announced and EVERYONE living on earth will be drastically affected. Like those folks caught in the natural disasters mentioned, all will be forced to recognize there are much more issues to life than what we probably are willing to accept! *Doublethink* will be exposed!

Jesus came precisely just to save you all the agonies lying ahead of you. Ahead of everyone. That's why becoming a Christian is never primarily an issue of good works or not. It's first and foremost an issue of **salvation**. There's disaster ahead, and God is offering you an escape route out of it. Grab it first. Issues of good works will be relevant only later! The ultimate earthquake is coming. The ultimate flooding is coming. The ultimate heat wave is coming. The ultimate economic crash is only just ahead! Get out now by clinging hard and fast to Jesus. This is no joke. It happened before in the days of Noah.

**(Vol 1 No 5: September – October 1998)**

### **VIII. The New Definition Of Tolerance**

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.

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 idle words please, the first step towards our arising as the Church is to have a sound assessment of the situation of ground.

**(Vol 3 No 3 May-June 2000)**

### **IX. Love Not The World**

THE MESSAGE OF THE END-TIMES MINISTRY, like several other truths of the Gospel, is often not palatable to the carnal man. Not only unbelievers, but in several instances, many truly born-again children of God feel uncomfortable, whenever the issue of the imminence of the shutdown of the current world order and the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is breached.

This position is very tragic indeed. How sad the Lord must feel, seeing some of His dear children wishing He would delay the unfolding of His majesty and programme for the entire Creation, simply because such children wanted a little more time to "enjoy the fruit of their labours" on earth. How myopic a perspective! **Not even those who have higher motives such as completing some 'great tasks' for the Lord would be justified to wish He would further delay His coming and thus continue to prolong the current groaning of all Creation** (Rom 8:18-22).

We certainly must set goals for ourselves to occupy our time here on earth while expecting the Lord; but certainly our ultimate hope and joy is in His return in glory. The current world is a fallen world and whatever successes we might be recording or be aspiring to, is nothing compared to what awaits us – if we be found faithful to the end. The adverse reaction of many apparently genuine and sincere Christians to the imminence of the coming of the Lord is a clear index of the state of unpreparedness of the Church for this wonderful, glorious event, which generations of saints past wished they could participate in! This apathy/outright hostility towards the coming of the Master, we believe, is only a symptom of the dreaded terminal disease of "falling in love with the World" And this is one of the monsters, we at Church Arise! are called to do battle against, in the Lord's name!

'Love not the world..., if anyone loves the world the love of the Father is NOT in him' warns the Scriptures (1 Jhn 2:15) We believe the antichrist,

when he is manifested, is not going to be a dictator coercing people to do acts of ungodliness. Rather, he will be a loving democrat, playing on the lusts in the heart of everyone who loves the world, and thus gradually expelling from such a heart, any love for the Father. If you find even tinges of sorrow in your heart whenever you contemplate the soon -coming of the Lord, you certainly ought to do some thorough heart-purging. We must all constantly aspire to rid ourselves of the attraction ('lusts') of the world, which is bent on disqualifying us from the genuine glory which is to come. Watchman Nee called this constant cleansing, "spiritual feet washing". Remember, to be spiritually minded is life and peace, but to be carnally minded is death! (Rom 8:6)

There is only ONE way to overcome the world - absolute Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Jhn 5:5). We pray this edition of Church Arise! will further help you gain/maintain this Godly perspective.

**(Vol 2 No 4 July – August 1999)**

## **X. Preparing for the Coming Apostasy**

AS CHRISTIANS living at the close of the age, one fact that should certainly make us sober is the statement in 2 Thess. 2 vs 3:

***"Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed...."***

Thus, the Bible makes clear to us that at the end times, probably one of the very last events that will precede the coming of the Lord, will be the departure from the faith of many who today profess Christianity. This will be closely associated with the revelation/manifestation of the anti-christ. We may thus imagine the scenario: the anti-christ, demonstrating in convincingly awesome terms his technological/psychical capabilities, unfolds his programme and vision for a truly revolutionary **new age** for all mankind (see Vol 2 No 1); and very many Christians get so enraptured by these that they conscript their faith to the dustbin. The great apostasy will involve multitudes of Christians, renouncing the key elements of their faith and thus disqualifying themselves from participating in the Kingdom.

We know the antichrist will be a very religious man. So he will certainly not require that people stop going to church. Only that those who will believe in the literal interpretations of Jesus' words will be made to suffer ridicules. Of course this is not a new strategy at all. Even today, there are already so-called 'great theologians' – supposedly Christians, who give a liberal interpretation of the Scriptures. They reject the miracles of

Jesus, the virgin-birth, His resurrection from the dead, or that He is the only way to the Father - not to bother mentioning His deity. The Lord's warning on those who would be ashamed of **His words** in this world (Mark 8:38) clearly suggests that it may not be particularly fashionable to quote Him in the end times – the word 'fundamentalist' is certainly acquiring more and more sting these days.

**Once the pillars of the Faith have been demolished, it will then be trivial to make satanic ideas and practices including homosexuality, abortion, and various other offshoots of fleshly passion, to be generally acceptable to all. 2 Peter 2:1-3 also puts it as INEVITABLE that false teachers will arise. This, no doubts, will be to soothe the conscience of those who will take this hellward direction, renouncing their Lord and Saviour.**

**At Church Arise! we are burdened to share the seriousness and urgency of this forthcoming event. Imagine it, apparently honest and hard-toiling Christians finally failing to make the Rapture! How can we guard ourselves? We believe that ultimately, everything boils down to how much we really are attached to the world (cf. Jhn 14:30b).**

Will you be sad if the Lord comes now, just when you are about completing your professional training and joining the upper echelons? Honest to yourself, wouldn't you have a pang of regret about missing all the beautiful things current technology is promising or perhaps your friend's new political office, should the trump sound today? Whatever is your own case, if anything (even considerations for 'the ministry') will make you feel sorry if the Lord should come today, you probably have to seriously re-evaluate where your love is currently being lavished

If anyone loves the world the love of the Father is not in him (1 Jhn 2:15). We at Church Arise! believe that love for Christ will be the only factor that will eventually count. It will be the only antidote to the coming (and rapidly unfolding) deception. Satan's main (perhaps only) weapon is deception. The level of the forthcoming deception might then be inconceivable to us, considering the fact that this will be Satan's last opportunity to stop the Church! All the current and forthcoming promises of Satan to turn earth to heaven while violating the righteous principles of Christ as stated in the Bible is mere deception. It can't work! Bah, Humbug!

The great apostasy will come when Christians, on individual level, but at the same period of time (due to unfolding world-events) will be suddenly compelled to make some clear-cut drastic decision, one way or the other. Then the true intents of every heart, like Demas' will be shown. (1

Jhn 2:19). While living in the world, true Christians will mock its pain and laugh at its pleasure – unmoved by either. We will continue to salt the earth and light it up till it pleases our Master to come take us away. Friend, do you dare treat this issue with levity? You have been warned!  
**(Vol 2 No 2, March-April 1999)**

## **XI. Contrived Versus True Unity**

SATAN IS THE ULTIMATE PERVERT. Unity, the very strength of the Church and the earnest prayer of the Lord for Her, is now being perverted in the name of Interfaithism – the satanic efforts to forge an alliance between Christ and Belial. This no doubt, is the greatest challenge ever for the Church in Her 2000 year existence. **No doubts, Satan has reserved this most lethal of his weapons for the very end times.** With good reasons, the information contained in this edition of CA! should be of serious concern to any Christian. Yet, we have nothing to fear, since our Lord is ever as usual in firm and total control of events. We only need to brace up, broaden our perspectives, and yield ourselves fully to Him.  
**(Vol 2 No 6 November – December 1999)**

## **XII. End-time heart clinic**

DO YOU LOVE GOD or do you merely fear Him? If you had an alternative to God, - perhaps 'discovering' He does not really exist in the traditional Biblical form - would you quickly grab it and with a big sigh of relief go on "to live life to the full"? Adam and Eve (at various degrees of excitement), in blatant disobedience to God, ate the fruit which according to the Devil will transform them into gods and thereby secure for them independence from their Creator. Independence, as they reasoned, from rules, regulations and tyranny! Are you headed in the same direction? Do you secretly cherish such 'independence'? Do you serve God out of love or out of dread?

This is not some idle question please. It is precisely the root cause why several erstwhile professing Christians have gone to embrace such vain philosophies as evolutionary humanism, atheism, communism, etc.(Darwin, Karl Marx etc all at one time professed Christianity.) And it is precisely what will make multitude others to embrace the special pantheism that the False Prophet will bring to the world to support the anti-christ – no doubt in our lifetime.

The identity, structure and form of this one-world religion is no longer a secret. Headed by Pope John Paul II and other influential men as Mikhail Gorbachev and Robert Muller, this effort was publicly displayed first in October 1986 when the Pope gathered men of all religions and spiritual expressions together at Assisi (Italy), to pray together. Today, the United Religions Organization is a living entity gearing to take over the whole system. **The World is by far not ready for a one-world government – especially within the time-frame the executors wish to see it realized. These executors are however banking seriously on United Religions to pave the way. And this is exactly what the Bible says will happen** (see for instance, Rev. 13:14, 12).

Watch out! The coming one world religion will be a 'neat' package indeed. It will be "intellectually satisfying", miracle producing, signs-showing and will promise peace and prosperity for majority of earth's inhabitants (for all who 'co-operate'). When it then boldly declares, as it will soon do in the coming months, that the Christian concept of God is 'restrictive'; and is stifling man's development and his potentials to become gods, how will you respond? Will you jump at the "opportunity" to become 'free' of God? You certainly cannot afford to wait till then before making up your mind! (Please read 2 Cor. 13:5 and 2 Thess. 2:3).

**As you go through this edition of CA!, please keep it in mind that we do not make the news, we only report it. And whether we or anybody else report these events or not, the facts will not go away.** We certainly are no alarmists! Neither are we calling Christians to escapism. Yes, we are to look forward to our mansions in Heaven, but service in the Kingdom of God in this unique end-time is great joy and challenge. It is high privilege indeed (Luke 10:24, Heb 11:40). Christians are not to be in a corner, cowering and waiting for deliverance through the Rapture. We should be up and doing till it pleases the Lord to blow the whistle. Sorry, the trump!

**(Vol 3 No 5 September – October, 2000)**

### **XIII. Violence, Satanism and You**

*IN THE UNITED STATES, a black man tied to a truck and dragged round to death with the body parts being gradually dismembered. Teenager school kids armed with automatic fire-arms turning high schools into deadly war zones – the Nigerian version often involved pick-axes, cudgels and other such instruments of death and happens more in the Universities. There was of course the reported sporadic shooting in a market in Ibadan a few weeks*

*ago.*

At the root of all these violence is cultism, drugs, and other forms of the same phenomenon – satanism. Satan is the fellow who dared to fight against his own maker – he is the epitome of pride, wickedness, and all evil. The Lord Jesus however, demonstrated to all how to use good to overcome evil by offering Himself to be beaten, spat upon, thoroughly humiliated, and finally killed on the cross. His resurrection on the third day marked the final irreversible death blow to Satan on earth. However, prior to the implementation of the eternal judgment on him, Satan is determined, if possible, to take all Creation to hell along with him. Hence a reign of terror, violence, depravity, confusion and deception that he is unleashing everywhere around the globe, especially on the naïve and unwary. The triumph of Jesus over Satan sealed about 2000 years ago is today being visibly demonstrated in the lives of millions of Bible-believing Christians, whose even hair, Satan is unable to touch. Praise the Lord!

**As time runs out on Satan, he now has virtually come out of cover. Subtlety is giving ground to desperation-born brazen harrassment.** Not only school kids, but even Heads of States, top academics, sportsmen, etc are being attracted to the false lures of satanism only to end up being caught in the web of drug addiction, pornography, broken homes, demonic oppression, etc. People who are in this situation desperately need a life-saving introduction to the great Deliverer, Jesus Christ.

Our prayer with this edition of Church Arise! is that YOU may be one such person who will surrender him/herself to the Holy Spirit to be used in this end-time salvaging operation. You can today, by the help of the Holy Spirit, shake yourself free from the spell of distractions and lethargy, Satan is casting on the whole system. You may then be able to reach out and help lift the veil beclouding the vision of many, caught under the various deceptive trappings of Satan. After all, greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.

The only antidote to satanism is your believe in, and cover by Jesus Christ. Nothing else will work, not even religion (1 Jhn 5:5). In a world as this, with the reality of the on-going 'Mother of all Conflicts', the craziest thing anybody can do is fold their hands, and facing some parochial selfish interest, claim neutrality. If you are ready, please check Ephesians 6:10-18 for your battle gear.

**(Vol 1 No 4 July – August 1998)**

#### **XIV. These people aren't joking, and neither should you.**

LAST YEAR, IN OUR ARTICLE on the coming Interfaithism (Vol 2 No 6, 1999) , we mentioned that the signing of the United Religions Initiative (URI) into action will come up on June 26 this year. This will be the major launch of the New Age, which is supposed to be ushered in by January 2001, the beginning of the 7th millenium since God created the earth.

Right on target, between 8.30-10.30 pm (Nigerian time) on June 26, the Global Signing Ceremony of the global charter of the URI was relayed to the world live, via the URI's first webcast from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA. This was part of the Global Summit 2000. Actually, the signing of the URI global charter by several local communities around the world had started in May, and is on-going, even right now..(probably in your own neighbourhood). The signing will continue till 31<sup>st</sup> December, when the United Religions hopes the expected "New Age of Aquarius" will be ushered in. In the months to come, when the impacts of the UR begin to be felt around the world, many will wonder where this Organization has sprung up from, but remember we kept you warned!

And more than ever before, this is the time for every Christian to develop a special interest in the activities of this body officially recognized by the UN. Its advertised next agenda in the new year will be the ratification and implementation of its New World Ethic (already completed – see vol 2 no 6). Once again, we strongly urge you not to think that this is some event far remote to you. It will certainly become one of the most powerful influences affecting your life in the months to come. With people like Pope John Paul II, Mikhail Gorbachev, Ted Turner, Bill Gates, Bill Clinton (and several of his predecessors), etc, including almost everybody in the top echelon of the UN totally united on a common issue, don't you ever think it is all mere child's play! Please do take time to understand the implications of each point we raise in our Topical Issue for this edition.

Indeed all news, local and international, seem to be rallying precisely round this Interfaithism business – if one looks below the surface. Sharia, anti-hatred laws (such as signed recently in the US), political unions (e.g African Union), economic unions (e.g. increasingly hard- pressure tactics to sell **microchip-based** cards) etc all point to the inevitability of the rise of the antichrist and his false prophet.

We will like to emphasize one point here though. **It will be a grave mistake to begin to look at many of the men and women behind all these schemes as devilish people.** As a matter of fact, most (but certainly not all!) are merely doing what is most expedient and most promising to bring the most benefits for mankind, or at worst merely self-

seeking without realizing the full implications of their actions. Like King Darius, it will only be when the Daniels are to be thrown into the lions' den as a result of the decrees that these carnal men have signed, that they will realize that they have been deceived and manipulated all along! Christians, of course, also desire peace and progress for mankind. But we can see through Satan's lies, in the light of the Scriptures. Whatever it costs, we are determined to wait for the salvation of the Lord - the only peace that is genuine, complete and ever-lasting (eg. see Isaiah 11).

Most of us will find the contents of this edition of Church Arise! quite sobering. But then according to the Word of God, when events are such to lead to "men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth," you are to "look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near" (Lk 21:26ff). That is our message in every issue of Church Arise!

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#### **XV. Toying with History?**

"SEE, I HAVE PREPARED MY DINNER; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding"

With these words, our Lord Jesus Christ described the passion of the Father to get his invitees understand that the climax of all things was at hand (Mat 22:4b). The party to which they had been previously invited was finally about to begin. Every preparation has been made. Everything was in order. Nothing remained- only that the invitees arise and begin to pour in.

Yet the response was awful. Instead of the invitees to rejoice and spring forth to participate, according to Jesus, 'they made light of it (the invitation) and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business.'

Today, even at this close of time the story is being repeated. God earnestly urges us Christians (specially chosen by His grace) to look around and see that "the appointed time is fulfilled" (Mark 1:15). And indeed, we all do look around and agree to the imminence of the shutdown of all things. **Strangely however, we feel we can attend to the Lord's call and invitation to forsake all and follow Him (Luke 5:11, Mk 10:29 ) at a later or more convenient time. For now we feel we have our farm and our business to attend to. This is apathy (a.k.a indifference) in action.**

In this another 'history-flavoured' edition of Church Arise! (remember such is every 3<sup>d</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> edition), it is our hope that Christians everywhere will arise to be the mighty army Christ has designed and called us to be in these end times. Whatever else could be as important as heeding the Lord's call and invitation!

Some suggestions to help you break apathy:

- Join a prayer group and take it seriously
- Join an evangelistic group such as the FGBMFI and be active
- Have a regular time of fasting and praying to keep your focus upon Christ Jesus.
- Think about issues affecting God's Kingdom today, and share your thoughts with others. You too can be a William Wilberforce!

**(Vol 1 No 6 November- December 1998)**

#### **XVI. Faith without Action is Dead:**

AS WE DRAW CLOSER to the end of the current world order, Satan is having to rely more and more on his power of delusion and distraction to keep the world apathetic to his doings. It is truly amazing to see otherwise intelligent people investing in activities, or careers or industries that are quite clearly on their way to obsolescence. This is what we mean. For example, in the days before the Printing Press, manuscript writing was considered one of the noblest and lucrative calling ever; as every single copy of every book had to be carefully penned down. Of course, the profession became extinct with the advent of the Press. Today, many, sadly, are still engaged/becoming engaged in activities that are destined to become obsolete in a few years. People are certainly finding it difficult to understand that a New World order (either by Satan or by the Lord Jesus) will be completely NEW indeed!

As a trivial example, how wise will it be, training your kid to be a bank cashier in the future, in the face of the impending cashless society we describe in this issue of Church Arise? Beyond careers however, **how truly tragic it will be for one to squander this unique opportunity of being on earth at these end times just for some perishable, mundane things! Esau (Heb 12:16-17) will rise in judgment against men of this generation who fail to learn to put first things first!**

Our history flavour to this issue (as expected for every 3<sup>d</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> issue, remember) focuses on an issue of immense importance to us in Nigeria. We pray that this issue of Church Arise! will certainly provoke you to good works (ACTION) in Jesus' name.

**(Vol 2 No 3 May – June, 1999)**

## **XVII. Pre-millennial tension**

Some people base their opinion on the imminence of Christ's second coming on the fact that we are approaching a new millenium. We may however do without making the assumptions inherent in this type of reasoning – assumptions that God also counts in decimal and that the reckoning of the length of what constitute a year has remained constant since Adam. The numerous signs of today speak for themselves!

The Light for the Last Days newsletter has a short list of these Biblically significant events all converging about this time). They include:

“The single European currency, the talks on the final status of Jerusalem, the papal plans for a world religious union for the next millenium, the New Age (occultic) belief that the ‘Age of Aquarius’ is about to dawn in the next millenium with a new ‘Messiah’ to usher in a New World order of global peace. In addition to these, a number of articles in the secular press have noted the growth of unusual phenomena now being code-named Pre-Millennial Tension. These include UFO investigations and abductions, New Age lifestyles and interest in the occult and witchcraft, visions of the Virgin Mary, the rise of strange cults outside mainstream religion.... ”

**Church Arise! invites the Reader to judge for him/herself if all these events predicted thousands of years before as marks of the endtimes are really here or not.** Or are we so completely engrossed with the current political/socio-economic situation in the country to be blind to these vital signs as well?

**(Vol 1 No 3 May-June 1998)**

## **XVIII. Date-setting?**

Many people have seen countless ‘end-of-the-world deadlines’ come and go that perhaps wisely, no matter how authentic and irrefutable yet another looming deadline might be, they prepare for life beyond that deadline! Church Arise! has no deadlines to give. In fact we consider such ‘date-setting’ as irrelevant and distractive. **What every reasonable person ought to do is to evaluate critically current world developments and then make plans for the future in the face of these rapidly unfolding events.** It shouldn't take an honest fellow long to realize there is no future here in the coming arrogant man-made world order for a Christian. Our total hope is in Christ Jesus and the Kingdom He promises (Jhn 14:1ff). And this is not a matter of theology but plain reality.

**(Vol 2 No 5 September – October 1999)**

## **XIX. Wearing Out The Saints**

*"And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the Saints of the most High..." Dan 7:25a KJV*

One of the ultimate weapons of Satan, which he is now beginning to brandish menacingly these end times is attrition. This is the process of hyping issues one moment and making them non-issues the next moment; heightening expectations only to keep them drawn out; and eventually plummeting them down to an anti-climax - all for the sole purpose of wearying down the soul and spirit of Christians. With the sensitivity of many deadened via several "false alarms" in this way, Satan hopes that these (like the foolish virgins, see Mat 25:5) will be caught flat footed when the final assault eventually breaks in like a flood. A respected Christian commentator, speaking on the Y2K hype especially in America, recently made this same point in the following way: "It is a certainty that now, after Y2K and the first impact date were total busts -- nobody is going to prepare again for these or any other announced events." This is a real strategy employed by the arch adversary; and its efficacy is alluded to in the Scriptures. "Hope deferred makes the heart sick (Pro. 13:12a).

The issue of the Middle-East peace process is one area we will like to emphasize in this regard. No one should be deluded that this will be an easy feat to accomplish - it is a problem that has been existing for thousands of years. Yet the Bible is emphatic that the antichrist will be able to pull off an accord that will last at least a few years -7 years to be precise - Dan 9:27. [The permanent resolution of the issue of course awaits the true Prince of Peace]. Hence the on-going peace talks in the Middle East and determined moves by many power brokers to realize it by this September, continues to generate keen interests among children of God. But then, we can never afford to be speculative. Some five years ago, it appeared as if the peace agreement would definitely be realized by the year 2000; but the assassination of the then Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin (4/1/96), and the emergence of Bible believing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, have set the time-table back till the coming of the current Prime Minister, Ehud Barak, who is a disciple of Begin. And even now at the time of writing, despite all the efforts of weighty truce-makers (including the incumbent US President and the EEC), it seems the Peace Agreement is about to be stalemated yet again. Our counsel here however, is that no matter what game of attrition Satan plays, children of God cannot afford to lose interest in this event which might actually be one of the determinants of when the Rapture will occur.

Yet another area the devil is out to wear out the interest of Christians is with regards to microchip implantation in humans. A few weeks ago, the devil made a major move when one Bill Cross went on the Internet to announce that the purported \$5 billion business Global Monetary, was a fake set up by himself - just as a joke! He had claimed that the said company would pay \$250 to anybody who will agree to have a microchip implanted in their right hand for the purpose of promoting secure internet commerce. CA! had actually mentioned the story cautiously, with the remark that it must mean that advocates of microchipping must have considered current rapid progress along that line not quite rapid enough (Vol. 2 No 6, 1999).

Obviously, Mr Cross (or whatever his real name is) and the agencies he represents, are only merely trying to wage a war of attrition on those who believe in the imminence of a 'global, mark-of-the-beast' kind of implant (and, on another hand, to judge public preparedness for such a technology – several people applied for the implant). **And for us, this bold attempt to “unprepare” the masses, is only a confirmation that the advocates of Lucifer-rule are bent on introducing just such a system** – which is actually direly needed and technologically feasible right now. For maximum impact, the populace is to be kept unawares/desensitized till all the system is fully and firmly in place. To understand the reality of this “creeping upon people unawares” (Gal. 2:4); consider that most of us have calmly “forgotten” that the bio-chip is now with us, right here in Nigeria, making rounds in top finance houses and fast gaining grounds

When we mentioned it upon its introduction many of us “ah-ed” and sighed... and that was it. Of course, we haven't quite forgotten it, but then it's no longer any news. Meanwhile, there is hardly anything to protest against, or even boycott. And so it will continue until the climax comes! As we have suggested in another Topical Issue (vol 2 No 4), a very likely scenario will be the introduction of compulsory National ID cards in all nations which will soon carry the biochip (as the current ValuCard in Nigeria does).

The final inevitable step will be the replacement of all cards with a single chip, which being so valuable, will have to (more sooner than later) be most securely kept. Your guess is as good as ours what this most tamper-proof method will be – sub-cutaneous implantation in the right hand or forehead of the individual, just as the Bible predicts (Rev. 13:16-17).

**(Vol 3 No 2 March – April, 2000)**

## CHAPTER 2: ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT

“For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows”

**Apostle Paul**, in 1 Tim 6:10

“Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man’s life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth”

**The Lord Jesus Christ**, in Luke 12:15

I sn’t the only hope for the planet that the industrialized civilizations collapse? I sn’t it our responsibility to bring that about?

**Maurice Strong** (President, Earth Council and Executive Coordinator, UN Reforms)

I.

**Churches to be Taxed?** The call for Churches to be specially **registered** and also have their income taxed has been making the rounds for some time now - as usual is the case when the government is testing the grounds. People cite the emphasis of many Churches now place more on financial prosperity than anything else, or outright abuses such as that which led to the infamous Otokoto saga in Owerri to justify this call. Christians who support these kind of calls, perhaps without giving much thoughts to the implications, should take time to reflect on this and similar issues.

Interestingly, this call for taxing (and automatically, registering) of Churches is similar to the practice in Turkey, the country which spearheaded the most recent attempt to Islamize Nigeria through the G13

**(Vol 1 No 1, Jan-Feb 1998)**

## II.

### **The Card is now launched in Nigeria**

In our last edition, we mentioned that a consortium of 26 top Nigerian banks, Smartcard plc, is planning to launch a chip-based card to facilitate electronic commerce here. We also showed that the chip technology could now make the same single card to serve in several other applications requiring fool-proof identification.

Now the card, called ValuCard, has been launched in Nigeria on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June, according to a tiny news report on page 29 of the Guardian newspaper of that day. The Consortium sponsoring ValuCard represents over 80% of banking transaction in the country. Whether we face the fact or not, the journey to the inevitable continues worldwide. And we are part of it.

**(Vol 2 no 4 July - August 1999)**

### **Still on the ValuCard**

After an initial quiet introduction of the ValuCard to Nigeria on 17<sup>th</sup> June, the campaign to promote its use is finally heating up. More of the type of extensive and persuasive write-up on the Card as that in the **Punch of 21<sup>st</sup> June** can be expected with time. Pilots schemes of the use of ValuCard have commenced in 4 areas in Lagos, and it is expected that within a few months, "ValuCards Accepted Here" signs would have littered virtually the whole nation. Remember, the main issue is the bio-chip, which is positioned at the top left corner of the card. It has every reasonable promise of fulfilling the prophecy in Rev 13:16-18.

Church Arise! will however like to clarify that our position on the use of current and unfolding (we should say 'de-classified') technologies has already been stated in our article on the Internet (vol 1 no 4). There we wrote ***"Of course, Christians should feel free to use the Internet (just as we do other products of current technology –tv, cars medicine, etc); but we must do so with discernment"***. We still maintain this position - with the clear understanding, of course, that in the current case, no one should allow the chip to be transferred to his/her body, should developments reach that stage before the coming of the Lord for us. The real issue, as we wrote in our current editorial, is our not yielding our hearts to such products of Soulless Development. Our hope for salvation is a return, via the path of Spiritual Development through Jesus Christ, to the Tree of Life in Eden. Mankind had shunned this Tree in choosing rather to eat of the tree of "knowledge...". **That is why the first step to salvation for anybody, always, is Repentance.**

**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

**Nigeria's Economy bows to the chip:** The cash redundant-rendering card, ValuCard continues to increase in popularity and patronage in the country. The operators hope to have 200,000 carriers of the card, by the end of the year, from the 13,000 who were carrying it by the first half of the year (See Comet Sunday, June 25, page 33 for details). The Valucard is in essence nothing more than the computer microchip embedded  
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**Refuse ValuCard lose USAID patronage:** Yet another significant step was taken in the direction that would eventually ensure all inhabitants of the earth get themselves microchipped in order to participate in the world economy (Rev 13:17). The USAID (Guardian, June 1, page 39); has endorsed the ValuCard as the instrument to be "used for the implementation and disbursement of substantial amount of micro-credit facilities to Non-Governmental and Non-Profit Agencies who are playing a major role in providing essential agricultural and business services to rural communities in Nigeria". "NGO members will be using ValuCard to make purchases on a daily basis instead of cash thereby reducing the risk of attack, fraud and insecurity in the rural areas". Some 25,000 people currently carry the ValuCard introduced into the country last year.

***It goes without saying, that any NGO that would not use the card can not do business with the USAID.*** It doesn't require much imagination to see, in the near future, most of the world's find being managed in this "stay-out lose-out' way. And as we, based on clear statements in the Bible, always say, it's only a matter of time before the chip on the card be transferred directly to human bodies – specifically the forehead and the right hand. (Rev 13:16) This is already happening. (see for example vol 2 no 5).

**(Vol 3 No 4: July – August 2000)**

### **Whither Micro-chipped cards?**

- *No ValuCard No Business with USAID, part 2*

More details have emerged on our previous report concerning the systematic approach to take the micro-chip embedded ValuCard to the grassroot level in Nigeria as soon as possible. (vol 3 no 4). Anyone who would not use the ValuCard then must be ready to lose considerable business from the USAID. According to an official statement, this new attitude is "aimed at effective monitoring of funds disbursed to individual beneficiaries and NGOs."

In case you miss some key words above, Mr Imoloame, Head of Marketing for Smartcard Plc, explains further the meaning of “monitoring”: “The reason is, USAID would want to know who gets the money, where the money is spent and how to recover the money.” And as for the revealing that the programme now includes ‘individual beneficiaries’, apart from NGOs (as we previously reported), Imoloame continues: “The long-term objective is to issue 900,000 cards by Guarantee Trust Bank to beneficiaries of NGOs, market women, traders, electricians, et cetera”. (Guardian July 3, pg 27)

Now, if the card is getting to market women so soon, you better be prepared to be confronted with it more sooner than later!. Residents of Osun state would have observed that the influence of the USAID through various radio, TV and grassroot campaigns is so all pervasive (and are often commendable!) The current situation is that we are now being doubly assured that to benefit from USAID ‘aid’/patronage, carrying the MICROCHIP-fitted Valucard is a must.

- And in case you don’t like the Valucard, another card, sponsored by a 23 Bank Consortium is in town. We have no details whether this one is micro-chip based, but which serious banker will want to bring in archaic technology to challenge his rivals using modern ones? In any case, as we reported last edition, Mondex – the ultimate cards for now, is making its appearance in Nigeria. It is not only micro-chip based, it is truly global and makes use of satellite technology. All existing cardsystems will eventually be collapsed for the Mondex card, we predict.
- Last line: UAC has now announced that the Valucard is the preferred means of payment for its Mr Bigg’s fast foods outlets.

(Guardian July 18, pg 27)

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### III.

**The International Christians Chamber of Commerce** (ICCC), Nigeria, recently held a seminar titled Imminent Global Economic Collapse: Issues and Strategies for survival. The seminar, featuring well-connected and well-informed speakers from the UK and the USA held 8-11 March at Port harcourt, Abuja and Lagos. Apparently, it is not only Church Arise! that is warning on the imminence of the inevitable collapse of the current global economic structure. He who has ear let him hear.

**Meanwhile**, guess who else is talking about possible collapse of the Nigerian economy? It is the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, who is

currently placing large billboards in several Nigerian cities, warning that the Y2K millenium bug crisis could lead to the collapse of the Nigerian economy. Church Arise! is cautious in endorsing such yet unproved allegations though.  
**(Vol 2 No 4 July – August 1999)**

#### IV.

##### **Human-part rituals not abating**

As usual when a new bank note is about being introduced, the news media in Nigeria are virtually clustered with news items concerning the use of human parts in rituals. From stories such as 30 year old Bitmus Gokir gouging the eyes of an 8 year old in Pankshin Plateau state (Punch Sept 12, page 1) to the case of boys being turned into dogs for easy transportation to site of use (see facts and photo in the Yoruba-language newspaper, Alaroye (October 24), the stories are all quite pathetic, to put it mildly. However, probably the most gruesome and sickening was the detailed confession to the rape and murder of Maria Adeniji, casual labourer at construction sites, by 6 trusted men, who took her head to Shaki for money-spinning rituals. You need strong stomach to see the pictures in Sunday Punch of Sept 3.

Apparently this is not just a Nigeria problem alone. Punch of July 11 (page 15) reported the story in Ghana of the string of 25 unsolved murders of women, since last year, in situations similar to the story above.  
**(Vol 3 No 6 November – December, 2000)**

##### **Dead baby beheaded – in hospital**

The human body-parts hunters are still ever in business. Think again, who asked them to procure those parts? And why? At the end of the line, barely out of sight, is Satan, pulling the strings and continuing to lead men to hell. The story below, from Jos, calls for deep reflections:

A baby girl, 9 months old Chibugo Mmeje, was confirmed dead on the evening of June 11. The distraught father however could not settle the bills on that evening as the Hospital accountant was reportedly not around. When the man came to the Hospital mortuary the next morning, however, it was to find the headless body of her deceased baby. The head had been neatly sliced off. Hospital management were reported to have unofficially said that the head might have been chopped off by rats. The Police have been invited into the case (**Guardian** 17/6/99, pg 17).

**(Vol 2 No 4 July – August 1999)**

**Ritualists still at work:**

Do you recall the incident we reported in vol 2 No 4 where a girl's head was supposedly eaten overnight in the mortuary by rats? The following news (Guardian July 8, pg 38) is a sad reminder that this kind of practice still continues, unabatedly, in several hospitals in Nigeria today.

Baby Igbinosa, born 3.45 am on June 3 2000 at St Philomena Catholic Hospital, Benin City was not returned to her mother till 5.00 pm! She was told not to remove the plaster on baby's 2<sup>nd</sup> left toe which supposedly was to protect a minor wound. When the plaster fell off by mistake, some days later however, it revealed that part of the toe had all along been amputated! Hospital confirmed Baby was born OK without any problems on record. Investigation is on-going on this suspected human part ritual use

**(Vol 3 No 5, September – October 2000)**

**Parents Beheaded Son for Cash rituals**

A cash-strapped couple in Lagos, desperate for quick money, has sacrificed their only son by beheading him before a shrine and burying his remains at the site of an uncompleted building in Ikotun, on the outskirts of the city. Homicide detectives of the Idimu police station were alerted of the murder following a tip-off occasioned by an argument between the couple whose relationship went sour 14 days after they killed the boy and the expected money did not follow. (Guardian, Aug 7)

**Vol**

V.

**The Year of Jubilee.** Churches in Europe and the USA are calling for a Year of Jubilee to coincide with the Millenium to free hopelessly indebted countries of their debilitating debt obligations. These often mean that the well being of these countries is seriously jeopardized. For example, Uganda spent \$3 on health care for each of its citizens in 1996 while at the same time paying \$17 per citizen in paying off its national debt.

**(Vol 3 No 1 January – February 2000)**

**Catholic Church to pay African debts owed Italy:** The catholic church in Italy has set up a charitable fund to pay off **10%** of the total debt **owed to Italy** by two of the poorest African countries, Guinea and Zambia. The details and conditions are not known (Vol 3 No 4 July – August 2000)

## VI.

### **Mega-Mergers – The Noose on World Economy Tightens.**

Soon, all buying and selling worldwide will be controlled by a small group of people. It's all exactly as the Bible says it's going to be!

The news are replete, especially in the past several weeks of deals resulting in mergers of unprecedented proportions (let's call them mega-mergers), involving corporations particularly in the high-flight financial markets of Europe and America (see box below).

Mergers involve two (or at times more) businesses coming together to fuse into one. This is apparently to enhance their competitiveness in the market by cutting down on some areas of inefficient utilization of resources, whilst at the same time widening their capital base. According to the direction the world is being compelled to take, with the day, it is becoming increasingly difficult for small or stand-alone businesses to survive. The cost of high-technology required to maintain the competitive edge, is prohibitive; and the outcome is a winner-takes-it all affair. Businesses who refuse to merge and go for a slice of the market by providing highly specialized skill and services will be left out right in the cold! This may be like idle talk to most of us, but those involved know the cost.

One fact no one can lightly ignore though. The Bible predicted about 2,000 years ago that in the end-times, it will be possible for one man to arise and control the whole realm of commerce to the extent that any one who dissents with him will be effectively bared from either buying or selling. Not even by 'trading by barter' (Rev 13:17)

Now, one doesn't have to be an economic guru to see that one clear implication of these mergers is that economy (worldwide) is gradually but increasingly being concentrated in the hands of fewer and fewer people. This is precisely a major goal in that satanic plan called Global 2000 which several servants of God have been warning us about for over 20 years now. This plan seeks to merge and re-merge all businesses until only one organization each will represent each major operations (giving for example, one global airline, a global hotel chain, a global publishing house, etc). The time fixed for this to occur is the year 2000, just over a year away.

We repeat, especially for our readers who might not be yet sure of their salvation, the opening words of our Lord Jesus Christ in His ministry: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel". (Mark 1:15) **(Vol 1 No 5 September – October 1998)**

***Mega-mergers have now become an everyday event. Your guess is as good as ours who will be in control of these final "super-businesses" eventually***

- > Auto-parts maker SPX Corp acquires Industrial Company General Signal Corp for ~ \$2 billion
- > Associates First Capital Corp and Texton's Avco Financial Services Unit merge for \$3.9 billion
- > CalEnergy acquires MidAmerican Energy Holdings Co for \$4 billion (This is the first purchase of a traditional utility by an independent power producer. The new organization is worth \$11.8 billion)
- > AT&T Corp and British Telecom plc plans to create a \$10 billion joint venture to provide international telephone services to businesses. Meanwhile the Brazilian TeleBras (Phone company) is being auctioned to raise some \$14 billion for the Brazilian government. (Privitization of government corporations is the first step to bringing those organizations into world-wide mergers)
- > British Petroleum-Amoco, at \$110 billion becomes the largest ever merger.

### **Slowing Down Mega-Mergers**

In the last edition we mentioned the implications of the mega-mergers of major corporations and businesses as setting the ground for the Anti-Christ. The pace of these mergers are so dizzying that now, even State governments are beginning to frown at them. The US Department of Justice (DOJ) recently filed an antitrust suit against the \$1.1 billion bid of PrimeStar Inc. to buy American Sky Broadcast Co. DOJ alleged that the proposed acquisition would have allowed five of the largest cable company in the US, which control PrimeStar, to protect their monopolies and keep out new competitors. PrimeStar has been forced to abandon the bid. For now. **(Vol 1 No 6, November – December, 1998)**

### **Yet More Mega-Mergers**

If on-going merger talks between Pharmaceutical giants SmithKline Beecham and Glaxo Wellcome come through, then the world will be seeing more, the concentration of enormous controls in the hands of a few groups. The so-called 'merger of equals' would create the world's largest drug maker.

**(Vol 3 No 2 March- April, 2000)**

- **One World Alliance emerges.**

A new conglomerate, the One World Alliance which is a coming together of top 5 airlines announced its emergence in an advert in the Time magazine of 19/4/99. The alliance involves British Airways, American Airlines, Canadian Airlines, Cathay Pacific and Qantas Airlines. Our readers will recall we mentioned that mega mergers that will eventually result in the running of each major business endeavour by a single company is one of the chief aims of the One World Government advocates.

**(Vol. 1 No 5 September – October, 1998)**

VII.

**Learn from History: World's economic doomsday is at hand**

The "cyclic view" of history sees all events as ever recurring, and can be summarized by Solomon's statement: "That which has been is what will be, That which is done is what will be done, And there is nothing new under the sun." Eccl 1:9 However, Christianity has brought to the fore, what is now called the "linear view". This holds that the cyclic nature of events notwithstanding, time is moving towards a divine goal. For example an aircraft may be seen flying round the airport in cycles for a long period of time. However, it is quite clear that the pilot is only waiting for signals from the control tower to land. Landing is the purpose in sight, in this case.

Now we know we are in the end-times period because the happenings all around us fulfil exactly what has been prophesied about the characteristics of the end times. One of the best known prophecy about end times concerns the end of the economic structure as we now know it. There will be a deliberate crash of the monetary system, so that the new one may be brought about. This history edition, we bring vivid accounts of what happens, when we have crash in monetary systems. This the big crash is certainly bound to come and if God allows the Global 2000 groups to have its way, that crash is designed for the year 2000.

Is the impending crash something I can push off my mind for now? First, we quote from Willard Cantelon's The Day the Dollar Dies:

"I'll never forget that June Sunday in Germany in 1948. The Reich Mark had been inflated but was still in circulation and people were struggling to get back into a normal pattern of life. But in Bonn, as they studied the economy and its inflated values, they decided a stroke of the pen and a cancellation of the old system would be the best approach to starting all over again".

There was no warning to the populace in Germany. The newspaper of Sunday morning in June 1948 was the first announcement to the people. "Reich Mark Cancelled". I knew so many friends in Germany, names I could call one after the other, from Berlin to Stuttgart.

What a tragic moment when coming down that Sunday morning to pick up the daily paper, the German voice was heard to cry, "My God in heaven, our money is worthless."

Stars and Stripes, the official organ of the U.S. Army published the statistics; statistics of suicide, showing the Rhine River filled with the bodies of the dead, hair turned white over night, and heartache and sorrow too deep for man to describe. Money, that man lives for, saves, guards, dies, works for, suddenly with a stroke of the pen, it was cancelled"

A similar story repeated itself in the U.S.A. Oct 19-20 1987 in what is known as the Black Monday. We quote from Barry Smith (Final Notice) the impacts:

'Psychologists world-wide had their busiest runs in the history of their professions, as multitudes with dollar signs rapidly fading from bloodshot eyeballs, crashed on to couches, voices trembling with emotions, pleading piteously for help".

As at press time, workers in the Nigerian Central Bank are on industrial action, and everybody is beginning to feel the impact of having money in the bank which is not available for collection. Of course those involved in failed banks have learnt a harsher lesson, and certainly those affected by **the sudden currency change during the Nigerian civil war will understand faster, what we are talking about here.. What we are saying is that of crashes, the big one is certainly coming. And there is no way to save your money or your peace of mind than follow the simple and clear advice of our Lord Jesus Christ:**

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.... for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also". (Mat. 6:19-21)).

We pray somebody will give serious consideration to this. Amen.  
**(Vol 1 No 6 November – December, 1998).**

## **David Wilkerson prophesies downturn in America economy is imminent!**

If you have not heard about the man called Wilkerson, you need a lot of catching up to do about men God has without any questions raised up as His spokesman in this generation. He is the 'skinny preacher' that fished out Nicky Cruz, among others, from the streets of New York; and he continues to be mightily used of God more and more as a prophet.

In the black Monday event we referred to in the previous article (above), Wilkerson was one man God used to forewarn of the event. In fact, God told Dave on Sunday to go down to Wall Street on Monday and WATCH. That was the day the market crashed 500 points.

As we were coming out with this edition of Church Arise!, we received the prophecy that follows, sent from the US by one of our friends. Since it fits in well with our current topics, we decided to create some space and reproduce a portion of it for our readers. Interested readers could contact us, in writing, to obtain the whole document. Please read with discernment and accept if your spirit agrees with it. We quote David Wilkerson, verbatim:

"It is just about to happen very soon; and I am speaking prophetically. If I've ever heard anything from God in my life I heard it! About the nations! Poland, owes \$30 billion international loans to international banks. They owe \$30 billion and they haven't paid the interest in two years! Saudi Arabia is behind on their payments on \$8 billion... the richest country in the world as far as Arab states and it is not paying its bills! Very soon, a European or North African or Eastern nation is going to default on its international loan, and when that happens, within two weeks Mexico is going to default. Mexico owes \$100 billion...80% of it to American Banks...and here is what is going to happen. About two weeks after the first country goes bankrupt we are going to survive that because most of that money is owed to European banks: German, Swiss and French banks. The second country is going to go down, probably Argentina or Brazil, and we will kind of live that out and people will settle down and say, Well, maybe it's not going to hurt.' But two weeks after the first country goes down, Mexico is going to default on \$100 billion. And when the banks open the next day at 9.00 in the morning, \$15 billion an hour is going to be withdrawn from our American banks. They are going to be running our banks, the Arabs and all the Latin American countries. They are going to be running our banks... and before the day is over the United States is going to have to declare a bank holiday. And we are going into six months of the worst hell America has ever seen! There is going to be chaos! Not

even the National Guard is going to be able to quiet it down. We are going to have to call out the whole United States Army."

In the prophecy, Wilkerson further said though order would be restored to the country eventually, there is going to be fear like they've never known it before and things will never be the same again. In fact the US will probably become another Russia, economically.

Bible-believing Americans are taking the message very very seriously. Apart from the purely economic worries, there was also the fear that America's border might have been infiltrated with nuclear bombs and biological warfare materials. Clearly, the end is insight for 'God's Own Country' just as many men of God have prophesied in the past decades.

Obviously, this is not just an "American problem". Several countries will go under and even in the debtor-nations, obviously a new economic order will have to be accepted. As one American Christian commentator puts it: As I was reading this prophecy, I thought ... maybe this is how the European one currency will be developed (with nations going bankrupt).

Church Arise! shares this feeling, especially noting that Satanic forces have on their own chosen the year 2000 to have their Global 2000 plan fostered upon an apathetic world. If God allows this plan to go on (meditate on Rev 17:17, 16:13-14 for more perspective on this), then we are beginning to enter exciting times indeed. Shame on the Christian who sleeps in harvest time (Prov 10:5 )!

**(Vol 1 No 6, November – December, 1998)**

**Postscript:** At CA! we believe the above prophecy has not yet been fulfilled. Even then an important event we did not report was the sudden loss of over \$1 trillion in the Stock market in the USA over a period of 3 weeks (from \$6.71 trillion on March 10 to \$5.61 trillion on April 4, 2000). This could easily have crashed the entire US economy and it sent lots of jitters into the system. (See Time, April 17, 2000). However, we believe it was all mere dress rehearsals for the big one. When the agents of the new world order are ready, they will carry out their plans, surely and suddenly - and things will never be the same again, world wide.

VIII.

### **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.

### **IMF assesses Brazilian Economy**

A mission from the IMF met behind closed doors at the end of January with Brazil's top economic decision-makers to assess the crisis STILL battering the world's eighth-largest economy. Discussions are centering on future economic progress. Recall that according to David Wilkerson's prophetic analysis, (~~before~~ the Brazilian crisis began), one of the major events that will trigger serious economic depression in the United States will be an economic crisis in [either Argentina or] Brazil; after which that country will default on her debt payments (see Vol. 1 No 5).

Meanwhile, the IMF 'bail-out' packages remain under fire from different nations currently tasting the IMF pill.

**(Vol 2 No 2 March – April, 1999)**

### **Nigeria's oil: a blessing or a curse?**

Apart from the perennial issue of rural-urban drift, and the consequent losses of our Agricultural based economy power; as well as the unnecessary intricacies introduced into our socio-political life, the recent fire incident in Jesse, Delta state, leaving over 1000 people dead has prompted again the above question. What has Nigeria really gained from this oil that can be counted as a blessing?

We wonder aloud if all the curses above cannot be traced to the various blood sacrifices the Japanese, among others, were reported to have carried out in appeasing the local demons during the implementation of much of our oil technical projects. (See Japanese Juju – rituals at the refinery, The Preacher, 12/v.15/96)

This is the 40<sup>th</sup> year of Nigeria's lifting oil from her shores, and Christians should arise to declare this our year of release from whatever devilish covenants in Jesus' name! Readers comments specially invited on this issue.

Meanwhile in Jesse, the Catholic Church has donated a sum of N250,000 to help the victims even while Government says 'no compensations' are due anybody.

**(Vol 1 No 6, November – December, 1998)**

#### IX.

#### **WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM HELD IN SWITZERLAND**

Folks, whether you like it or not, whether you care to face this reality or not, your future is being seriously discussed – and you are not welcome at the Party!

According to Agence France Presse (27<sup>th</sup> Jan), the world's political and business elite - 33 heads of government (including Bill Clinton), scores of ministers and more than 1,000 top business chiefs (including the likes of Bill Gates) -gathered in the little Swiss ski resort of Davos for 6 days for "global brainstorming" about the future of the world. It is an annual event, 30 years old, and has been the precursor of several important accords, such as in the Middle East and in South Africa. The Managing Director of World Economic Forum, Claude Smadja explained the focus for this year's meeting. "New realities are radically changing almost every domain of human activity...The compounding forces of globalization, the technology and biology revolutions, and the emergence of the eeconomy confront us with a challenge of unprecedented magnitude in modern history..."

The meeting was held amid "unprecedented security" to forestall disruptions by anti-globalization protests like those which ruined a similar meeting (of the World Trade Organization) in Seattle late last year.

**(Vol 3 No 2 March – April, 2000)**

#### X.

#### **MOON TURNS RED :**

On the eve of Passover, Erev Pesach, 1996, there was a total eclipse of the moon. The moon became as red as blood. This occurred a second time on the eve of Succoth, the Feast of Tabernacles. The last time that such a double event occurred was in the year that Herod the Great died. (from Herald of the last days, official magazine of Intercessors for Nigeria, No 42, January 1997, page 3).

**(Vol 1 No 1, January – February, 1998)**

January 21, 2000, The BBC reported : "Skywatchers got a stunning view of a total lunar eclipse on Friday. The Moon went a deep shade of red as it turned out of the light of the Sun and into the Earth's shadow. It all began at 0301 GMT, with totality reached a little over an hour later. Reports from around the globe - the eclipse was visible from the Americas, Africa and Europe - suggest the event lived up to expectations. The exact colour the Moon turns during a lunar eclipse is not easily predicted and depends on the amount of dust in the Earth's upper atmosphere. Duke Johnson, planetarium director at SciWorks science museum in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, U.S., said it was the most impressive lunar eclipse he had seen for 15 years. 'It's a much brighter eclipse than we've had in recent years. It's a nice red color,' he said..". Don't be carried away by the smooth scientific language. Compare with Scriptures -Joel 2:31, Lk 21:25.

**(Vol 3 No 2 March – April, 2000)**

## **XI.**

### **A Time of global distraught**

It is indeed a 'time of sorrows' all over the globe as not only do the frequency and distribution of various disasters increase, but their intensities reach unprecedented levels. Take a look at the toll within the last 2 months alone. First the so-called natural disasters:

**Turkey:** A 6.2 magnitude quake left about 130 dead on June 29

**USA:** Unusually harsh weather and other phenomena wrought disasters nationwide. This included damaging winds and heavy rains in the Midwest and East (leaving scores dead and injured); wildfires burning down about 200,000 acres in Florida; Heat wave leaving dozens dead (forcing government to release \$100 million as emergency funds in 11 states for air-conditioners and electricity); etc. As we went to press, the behemoth hurricane Bonnie was gradually coming into the news leading to an evacuation order being served on 200,000. In Del Rio, SW Texas, scores have died due to floods, etc, etc.

**North Korea:** Famine –stricken also due to bad weather. The early planting season was marked by drought, while tidal waves and a cold spell damaged crops along the eastern coast and the interior. Caritas reported (July 9) that lack of food ***has forced many North Koreans to scrounge for anything to eat, including grass, bark and roots.*** A similar drought is reported in **Cuba.**

**Papua New Guinea:** In the North West region, over 3000 were swept to death by tidal waves. Reports say precise death toll may never be known in the unprecedented disaster. The Tsunami sent a wall of water 23 feet high over an area of about 10,000 people without warning.

**China:** Flooding from the Yangtze river is causing chaos nationwide. More than 3000 have been killed and over 17 million homes destroyed. The last reports indicated that as the Yangtze surged toward key industrial centres and rich farmland, about 178,000 soldiers and police have been placed on guard with a "do-or-die" order. Also being affected are some neighbouring countries, including Tibet (where ~80,000 are affected with 53 killed already). It is incredible that in the midst of all this disaster, some fellow human beings can still be so materially-minded as to be on looting rampages!

Several countries that have been spared natural disasters are creating equally grave disasters for themselves. Think about the wars in Congo, (Equatorial Guinea), Rwanda, etc. Nigeria is only beginning to take a breather from her own unique human disaster.

Yet another type of disaster simultaneously afflicting the world at record high levels is the economic crash. Russia has been struggling with her economy for months; and is threatening to weigh down Europe and other countries. Mexico is once again in the news for financial troubles. CNN news 28/8/98: "Asian markets crumpled on Friday as investors raced for the exits after Wall Street's overnight slump....Japanese shares ended at a 12-year low....No end in sight to the carnage." A day later, the reports are: "The bloodletting continued on Wall Street Friday, wrapping up the stock market's **worst week in history** as investors extended their painful exodus amidst **growing fears** that stormy days lie ahead for the **global economy**". Not unexpectedly many are turning to the occult (star-gazing) as a report in the same newscast shows.

Finally, there is the moral disasters. See the article "US admits moral decay in Society under the family column of this edition of Church Arise! for just an example using the USA. The same can be said for most other countries in the world!

**(Vol 1 No 5 September – October, 1998)**

### **Earthquakes in Diverse Places**

Deadly earthquakes continue to intensify in number and intensity in diverse places. In Turkey over 40,000 human beings were estimated to have died in the 7.4 magnitude earthquake of Aug 17. Days later other massive quakes rocked Costa Rica (Aug 20) and Greece. In Taiwan the Sept 21 earthquake centred around Nantou resulted in 2,000 dead and 8,000 injured.

**(Vol 2 No 6 November – December, 1999)**

**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'

**Tremor in Central Mexico**

Over 200 people were injured in an earth tremor that occurred in Central Mexico at 20:41 GMT on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June. In Puebla, the most affected state, about 20 people were reported to have died. We commiserate with those affected in this earthquake, both Christians and non-Christians. We however will like to seize the opportunity to point out that the coming of the Lord is indeed going to be just as sudden and unexpected. The current rumblings should be loud enough for he who has ears to hear.

**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).

**(Vol 3 No 3 May – June, 2000)**

**Earthquake in Indonesia's Sumatra Island** Indonesia was in the news, June 4 concerning a devastating earthquake that left about 100 dead. Predominantly Moslem Indonesia is more usually in the news for vicious religious persecution and genocide directed against Christians, especially in a place like Ambon. (Please see some details in Guardian June 8. 2000 or our news item 2 years ago (vol 2 No 2).

Meanwhile, scientists say Nigeria is now prone to earthquakes (Guardian, May 2, pg 6).

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

**Global Climate Report bleak for Developing Nations.**

The Red Cross has warned (Guardian, July 1) that according to current trends, over half of all people living in developing countries will be highly vulnerable to floods and storms by the year 2025. Today, 96% of all deaths from natural disasters occur in developing countries. Floods in Mozambique, Bangladesh, India, Venezuela, according to the report, were the latest examples of climate-induced disasters.

**(Vol 3 No 5 September – October, 2000)**

**Environmental Hazards are not relenting, worldwide. The following all suffered the same horrible fate – they were Buried Alive!**

- 57 slum dwellers in Bombay [India] in a landslide following torrential rain (Comet July 14, page 10).
- 17 people in Amakor, Nanka in Orumba, [Nigeria] following a similar landslide incident (Punch Sept 28, front page).
- 50 human beings among thousands of others who make their living scavenging from piles of refuse in the outskirts of Manila, [Phillipines]. They were buried in a rubbish avalanche.

**(Vol 3 No 6 November – December, 2000)**

**“Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse sinners than all other men who dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.”**  
**Luke 13:4-5**

## CHAPTER 3: POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

"The issues are not about *if* a global politics is necessary. The question is *how* do we achieve binding agreements in law...Perhaps we will find that there is no other alternative to a system of rigid controls that some would equate to a police state.... Enforcement agencies would need the power to act without being invited by the offending nation. If sanctions do not work, then physical occupation and the installation of a world trusteeship would be imposed upon the offending nations."

*A report entitled Sustainable Development For A New World Agenda, produced at the World Environment Energy and Economic Conference, October 17-20, 1990 at Winnipeg, Manitoba. Preface written by **Colin N. Powers**, UNESCO's Assistant Director-General.*

Like a master chess player, God can use even the enemy's strategies to further His own purposes.

**Andrew P. Nunn.** Grace and Truth Magazine. Vol 65 no 9. Pg 6.

**"In Nigeria, people shout** and make populist noises about dominance of one section of the country by another section, but, what about the dominance of satan in the lives of many?

For us, the issue of geo-political dominance is secondary, if not irrelevant because the larger issue of getting rid of satanic forces from the control of governments will settle all other issues of justice, peace and access by all citizens to their just entitlements"

**Dr Tunji Braithwaite** (Frontline politician)

Speech made in 1992 at the Praying and Fasting meeting organized by Christian Foundations (CHRISFO) to mark Oct 1, at the presbyterian Church, Yaba. Source: Charisma Vol. 1 No 2.

# Nigeria

I.

## **Ilorin: Administrator Assaults Bishop**

Front-page news was made for several independent newspapers when the military administrator of Kwara State, wrestled the microphone from a Bishop at a state function in Ilorin and gave him a serious tongue-lashing in the full glare of cameras and the public. The administrator complained about the Church delving into issues that does not concern it: politics and welfare of the people.

**(Vol 1 No 1, January 1998)**

## **Akure: Another demands advance-copy of sermon**

Obviously in order to prevent a possible re-enactment of the Ilorin saga, the administrator in Ondo state resorted to a test of wills, as using thinly-veiled threats, he demanded an advance copy of the sermon to be presented at the burial of an elder statesman in the state, and at which government participation was unavoidable. The Clergy responded that they neither prepare their messages in advance nor draw inspiration from the desire of military rulers.

**(Vol 1 No 1, January 1998)**

**Government Discriminates against Christianity.** Ogun State Government has prohibited the sale of land located along the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway to "religious organisations". According to a report in the Punch (19/2/98, page 4), the State Administrator giving the directives to this effect noted that religious organisations have dominated the road and **felt** that it was not right to have **Churches** all over the place at the expense of "other laudable projects".

Sure the Administrator must be allowed to do his job. However a few questions should be addressed: Is this the way decisions are made and announced? Have inputs been received from town planners and other relevant agencies? Are other organizations and "laudable projects" being stopped by the Churches from developing this expanse of land or do they simply prefer other locations (such as industrial zones?) And more importantly, where will all this end? Can't somebody in government also feel tomorrow that there are too many Christians around and decide to do something about it?

**(Vol 1 No 2, March –April, 1998)**

### **Police RRS team storms Church – in search of OPC members**

Sunday July 16, during the worship service, about 20 gun totting men of the Rapid Response Squad of the Nigerian Police burst into the St Peter's Anglican Church, Ikotun, Lagos. Mission: to apprehend OPC members reportedly hibernating in the Church. According to the Punch account of the incident, "Worshippers had to scamper for safety in the way they thought fit, some lying under the pews and chairs while some had to scale the fence". Not only was tear gas freely used, "a lady in jeans and T shirt was reportedly shot at the door post of the Church while several worshippers were injured" The Lagos West Diocese has protested what it terms

"desecration" of the Church and asked for public apology from the police.

**Meanwhile**, the Lagos State government is set to seal off churches over what it calls "noise pollution " See Guardian, July 27, pg 7 for details.

**(Vol 3 No 5, September – October, 2000)**

### **Quit Notices to Churches in Parts of Kano**

Since May 25 this year, the Kano State Environmental Protection and Planning Agency (KASSEPPA) has been giving quit notices to some Churches in Kano (The News 9/8/99). KASSEPPA will give three-day ultimatum to the Churches to relocate or face demolition. The allegations in most cases is that the Churches are illegally occupying the buildings. Many Christians see this action of government as a subtle official persecution of Christianity in the state. The chairman of Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) in the state, Dr G.A. Ojo has appealed to the state governor to intervene, pointing out the problem of "extreme difficulty or near impossibility" of obtaining land and approval of building project by Christian bodies in the state. **(Vol 2 No 5, September 1999)**

II.

### **Inter-Clan Clashes put Christianity to the test**

A vivid illustration of the Word of the Lord in Mathew 7:24-27 comparing how two houses, one founded on sand and the other founded upon the rocks, fared in a tempest is being played-out in several communities in Nigeria as various trying social climates test what stuff many local churches are made of. Serious fratricidal wars have been going on intermittently among the Chamba and the Kuteb of Takum, Taraba state; the Izons (Ijaws) and the Itsekiris in Delta state, and the Ifes and the Modakekes in Osun state.

While there are extremely disheartening reports such as Christians betraying fellow Church members who come from the opposing tribe, there

are however reports of vibrant Christianity and increased witnessing in some areas even in the midst of these disasters. This is the time when Churches that have invested in preaching the solid Word of God, and established a firm foundation of prayer and concept of House Fellowship/small group meetings are reaping the benefits. Particularly commendable is the statement credited to Pastor Ayo Oritsajefor of Warri, who at a time when some other pastors in these war-torn communities were suggesting that "some things are beyond Christianity" had boldly declared, "I am not called to pastor a particular community only".

Sad as these wars are, the Church at large has a lot to learn from them! The Church has passed through much tougher times in her history; and even today in many parts of the world as with the Karen and Karenni of Burma or increasingly in recent times, China, the Church still remains largely underground. If Christianity is to be anything at all, it must be everything.

**(Vol 1 No 1, January – February, 1998)**

**Being Salt and Light in Society:** *The Guardian* of Friday 13/2/98 shows a picture (from AFP) of the Church in Nairobi, Kenya on a peaceful demonstration to protest ethnic violence. Late last year, the official organ for Ministers in Ile-Ife lamented the deathly silence of the Church in the region on the crisis between the Modakeke and Ife peoples.

Who knows what will happen if individual Christians in such war zones begin to speak for restraint, forgiveness... Of Christ Jesus as relevant to the issue presently at hand? Who knows what will happen if the Body of Christ across the region will begin to make positive statements, to be backed up by actions as the Lord will enable? Who knows?

**(Vol 1 No 2, March- April, 1998)**

**Prayer Works!** Just as we have always maintained on the pages of this Newsletter as a sure possibility, praying Christians have finally made the difference in the 9month long Ife-Modakeke fratricidal war. PTL! The Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) in conjunction with the Osun State government called for a 7-day fast at which grand finale, special

prayers were said for the crisis. By the end of that day, there were spontaneous rejoicing all over the ancient city and people from the two communities flocked to hitherto forbidden regions in celebration. However, Christians still need to sustain the peace with prayer, as well as organize inter-community Christian activities to help consolidate the peace. The moves of those who profit and delight in war must be firmly countered and resisted. **(Vol 1 No 3, May – June 1998)**

### III.

#### **Christian Leaders Unanimous on Abacha's Presidential Ambition.**

There is no ambiguity whatsoever from Christian leaders in their call to the Nigerian Head of State, NOT to be a participant in the Transition Programme he is currently mid-wifing. For example, the usually moderate Foursquare Church in Nigeria in a communique issued at the end of their 1998 International Ministers' and Leaders' Conference (Feb 16-22), among other national issues addressed, advised the Head of State to "resist all temptations to remain in office beyond Sept 30, 1998". Some Catholic clerics have also recently taken a similar action. Gen. Abacha had earlier on urged Nigerians to pray for him in order for him to be able to decide whether or not to succeed himself.

### IV.

#### **Some Lessons from General Abacha's death**

**Now, no Christian resident in Nigeria** could claim "pressure-induced myopia" if they fail to keep Heaven in perspective even as they wade on bravely through their daily chores. The completely unexpected death of Nigeria's ex-strongman (alleged by Tell magazine as keeping 1,000 sorcerers, 5,000 bodyguards and 10,000 spies) is an event that will witness against anyone who would think of hiding under the cloak of "ignorance". The departed multi-billionaire army general kept his vision on the year 2010 and how to get there, but apparently thought the preparation for **eternity** could wait till 'the present situation' is sorted out.

This issue concerns everyone of us. **Nothing** is more important at any given instant, than our being at peace with our Maker and Sustainer. It is sheer folly to becloud our vision of eternity with today's ephemeral gains – no matter how important they may seem. If the Lord Jesus Christ should come **today**, will you be ready for Him? And, in response to that question, dare any of us ever say again – "let's face reality, it can't be **today**"? Any who could say that should try to carefully go back to the beginning of this article again to try to get the lesson we are trying to pass across!

**General Abacha was only just another naïf** (even if not innocent) pawn in the power game in Nigeria - much like the several unfortunate folks that were brutalized and killed during his reign. A reading behind the lines of several media reports (even when hostile) still make it clear that the army general was much like a caged animal – buffeted both by an internal terminal disease and an external horde of barely-masked self-seeking opportunists. Perhaps this is point is best appreciated by ex-head of state, General Olusegun Obasanjo (who got born-again while in prison) who was

reported to have broken down in tears on hearing the death of General Abacha, the man who incarcerated and sought to eliminate him!

The master puppeteer who has been scheming, nodding and grinning all along is Satan. It is he who must quit the arena after 6,000 years of utter misrule and wickedness. It is he who is responsible for the tears, and pains of this present world. It is he, who is now trying to sell his dubious "transition programme" offering peace and fulfillment in his so-called "new World Order". Satan's destiny, however, is sure and irrevocable – eternity in the lake of Fire and brimstone (Confirm this in Rev 20:10). The task today is to show him the reality of his end by ejecting him and his ideas from our Society. And to execute this, according to Scriptures, is the Church (Ps 149:9). **(Vol 1 No 4 July – August, 1998)**

V.

#### **CAN asks Government to comment on OIC, D-8**

The Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) has asked the new Nigerian Head of State, General Abubakar to make a categorical statement on Nigeria's membership of the O-I-C, and the D8 group, both of which were purely sectional religious entities. In the communique issued at the end of the executive committee meeting in Port Harcourt (1/7/98), the CAN also commented on various national issues and urged Gen. Abubakar to hand over power on Oct 1, 1998 to a duly elected civilian democratic government.

**(Vol 1 No 4 July – August, 1998)**

#### **OIC: Abubakar yet to reply CAN?**

We have no indications that the Nigerian Head of State, Gen. Abubakar has yet replied to the demand by CAN that he clarifies Nigeria's position in the OIC and D-8 as published in our last edition. Efforts by Church Arise! to get authoritative response from CAN did not go through till press time. Meanwhile, former Presidential aspirant, a moslem, Mr M.D. Yusuf has described the alleged admittance of Nigeria into the OIC as a great fraud. Said Alhaji Yusuf, "I think the OIC membership is the biggest 419 arrangement that you can think of"

**(Vol 1 No 5, September – October, 1998)**

#### **Political Transition in Nigeria: Christian give full support**

While Abacha literally begged for the prayer of Christians, (and was he rebuffed!), Christians across denominational lines have been lifting up General Abubakar up in prayers, and garnering support for his transition to civil rule programme. **(Vol 1 No 5 September – October, 1998)**

## **VI.**

**Nigeria Prays** – The General Yakubu Gowon-led Prayer Squad (co-ordinated by Rev Moses Aransiola) is going round state capitals on a serious prayer campaign. The meeting in Oshogbo, Oshun State, was broadcast live on the State Radio Station. With a former Head of State leading public prayers, who says God is finished with Nigeria? Why not link up with Him in prayer to find out more about His agenda for the country; and how you can fit in?(Vol 1 No 3, May – June 1998)

### **Another Ex-Head of States turns Evangelist**

Last edition, we were excited to report that General Yakubu Gowon, Nigerian Head of State for 9 years, now heads a movement of repentance and prayer on behalf of the Country. It is now common knowledge that another ex-H.O.S. General Olusegun Obasanjo has also joined the fold of 'ignited Christians'. At prison, the born-again Obasanjo became a leader of Bible Study classes; and Solid Rock Newspaper reported that one of the inmates broke down in uncontrollable tears on learning of the release of his Bible teacher from prison.

Said Obasanjo "God made the prison next to heaven because He used the hardship, deprivation and the tribulation to draw me closer to Him in faith, obedience, worship, prayers, fasting, study of the Word of God and in praises and thanksgiving...I went, I experienced and through Jesus Christ, I became an overcomer.."

With situations like this now becoming common-place, are we being too naïve in saying God is not yet finished with Nigeria? Let's support the situation and these 'fire-branded' fellows with our prayers, please.

**(Vol 1 No 4, July – August 1998)**

### **Obasanjo, President-elect writes book on Prayer**

In a previous edition (vol 1 no 4), we were excited to report that ex-Head of State, General Obasanjo had become born-again while in prison. The reality of his Christian experience was confirmed not only by his Christian disciples made in prison, but also the hundreds of his employees at Otta who readily testified that they now have a new boss. Now this man is resolutely marching towards his destiny not only as he becomes the President-elect for Nigeria, but he has also just published a book on strategy of effective prayers. What a relief to have a President who kneels before the LORD each day!

Meanwhile, frantic efforts at privatizing key sectors of the Nigerian economy by the out-going military regime are on-going. Is this a race against the hand-over date of May 29? **(Vol 1 No 5, Sept – Oct, 1998)**

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- **Obasanjo: Bumpy road towards May 29**

The journey towards swearing-in date, May 29 has not been so easy for President-elect, Olusegun Obasanjo. Taken to court for his documented membership of the Reformed Ogboni Fraternity (in 1993, before he became born-again), he was also recently implicated in the claims of an Islamic marabout that he was hired to make sacrifices (involving 76 cows!) to ensure Obasanjo's becoming the President. The credibility of the story is however seriously eroded when the said marabout admitted he was not paid, but rather that he sponsored the sacrifices costing over a million naira himself by taking loans from a bank! Most alarming however, are prophecies credited to some Christian leaders, a few of whom might be difficult to ignore. Thank God that in those cases, the personalities involved are also organizing serious public prayers to neutralize their scary prophecies. There are countless other stories, purely manufactured by some groups just to keep the terrain bumpy.

One thing that is quite clear in all these, is that there are serious spiritual battles on-going, the result of which we believe might eventually hinge largely on Chief Obasanjo himself - on his ability to maintain the pure Christian testimony he announced upon his release from jail. In this regard, the man seriously needs the prayers of all saints. (see also history article in section VII of this chapter).

In the meantime, the Punch (13/3/99) reported that Chief Obasanjo has arranged with three unnamed frontline Pentecostal ministers to carry out a spiritual cleansing of Aso Rock Villa immediately he is sworn in on May 29.

**(Vol 2 No 3, May – June 1999)**

**Political Detainees released, but....**

Nigerians heaved a deep sigh of relief, as General Abubakar began the release of some high profile political prisoners. This has been commended both at home and abroad. However, we are bothered at the continued incarceration of some other classes of political detainees; especially some Nigerian youths characterized by their outstanding Christian witness such as Turner Ogboru and Moshood Fayemiwo. Christians must not seek yet any repose till the Iron Gate yields for this class of politically-active but innocent children of God. **(Vol 1 No 5, September – October, 1998)**

**News Update: The Iron Gate Yields – Fayemiwo, Turner out of the Gulag.**

This is one truly cheerful news for every child of God, particularly in Nigeria. In our last edition we mentioned our concern at the continued incarceration in particular of two Nigerian youth cream, who are characterized by their outstanding Christian Witness – Moshood Fayemiwo and Turner Ogboru.

Even while we were writing that piece, God was already breaking the chains, and Moshood was released Wed Sept 2. He had spent a total of 18 months chained to an iron bar in solitary underground cell (see the Guardian, Sept 12). The joy became complete just as we began preparing for the current edition with the release of Turner on Monday Oct 19. That was 8 years and 3 months exactly since he was first arrested, and five years after he was granted a valid amnesty by the Federal government – but Gen. Abacha's chief spiritual/security adviser, Mr Gwarzo had insisted Turner remained a security risk. Not even a re-validation of this amnesty by the Courts could make Gwarzo change his mind.

True to type, both of these children of God insisted they have no grudges or hatred for anybody, not even their former captors. In detention, many who came in contact with these two-some were vividly touched about the reality of God, and came out born-again. See Section VIII for some quotes from these children of God. What a challenge to every Christian in this age! Praise the Lord.

**(Vol 1 No 6, November – December, 1998)**

• **Coup Convicts Pardon: Glorifying God in high places**

Most secular newspapers and magazines were filled with testimonies of the power and sovereignty of the Lord Jesus as several coup convicts recently released, give all the glory to God for saving them from the jaws of certain death. Most became born-again in prison while waiting for the firing squad. Also pardoned are those in self-exile, including Great Ogboru, sponsor of the 1990 coup against Ibrahim Babangida.

**(Vol 2 No 3 May – June 1999)**

VII.

**HISTORICAL FILE: MAY 29 IN HISTORY**

Many a discerning Christian have wondered how the date May 29 was arrived at, as the date the 'militants' will hand over power to a civil regime. In fact, then Presidential aspirant, Chief Olu Falae in trying to persuade the government to agree to postponing the Presidential election of Feb 27, openly commented that the gap between Feb 27 and May 29 is too long and serves no visible purpose. If the elections were not to be postponed, why wait till May 29 to swear in the new governments?

What no one can doubt however is that those in authority, heavily influenced by Islamic spirits, do not trivialize such weighty issues as the date power will be relinquished! The date would have been most carefully chosen - to serve as much of their own interests as possible. To sensitize the Church of Christ to the need to be on high prayer alert in this one month leading to the

promised transition, and in keeping the flavour of history on this edition as expected, we present the following accounts of some significant events in history that occurred on some May 29s in the past.

### **In the larger Christian World.**

May 29 is no doubt a date the spirit of Islam will hail as their BIGGEST day of victory ever in history. For on that day in the year 1453, Islam secured her most significant victory over her 'arch-rival', Christendom, as it were, when the seemingly impregnable Christian city of Constantinople fell to the forces of Mehmed II, Sultan of the Ottoman Turks. With the collapse of Rome about a thousand years earlier, Constantinople had become the only remaining bastion of Christianity. The manner of the fall of the city is very pathetic and should be instructive to Christians in these end time conflicts. Following is an excerpt from Christian History Institute's account of the event:

"Around 1.30 a.m. on this date, May 29, [Mehmed II] ordered the assault. The Christians fought with furious determination... The Turks were repulsed. But a gate left open allowed a few to break through. They were killed but left flags on the city wall. The outermost defenders, looking back, saw the Muslim flags and thought the city had been taken. They wavered.... The Sultan noticed it.. As dawn broke, the Christian line collapsed.... The land where Paul and Barnabas preached salvation through Christ's death and resurrection now belonged entirely to Islam".

### **In Nigeria**

May 29 1966 was the date the foundation of the present structure for Nigeria was laid! It was on that day, that the Islamic North, up to that point seeking to secede ('Araba') from an oppressive Federal Nigeria, swung the scale, and reverse the tides, taking over the reins of power in Nigeria.

The "Araba" riots which took off on schedule that day, was a carefully planned, pre-determined, systematic decimation of Southern Nigerians/Christians by certain elements (there were a number of sympathetic Northerners!) in several cities in the North. According to Colonel Shuwa, one of the sympathetic Northerners, he was restrained and commanded by "higher authorities" to withdraw his troops which he had used to prevent the rioters in Kano city. He subsequently "saw private homes, churches, shops, schools, and market stalls belonging to southern Nigerians in flames" for days. Another account from Sokoto is even more gripping: "while other towns rioted, the Southerners went into their Church to pray to their God for the return of peace. While they all gathered there and prayed, the Church was cordoned off. Having poured petrol over the Church building, it was set ablaze, and the multitude died while praying for peace". Details of the gory event that claimed

over 3000 lives can be found in the book by Alexander Madiebo (The Nigerian Revolution and the Biafran War pg 35-42). According to Obasanjo's My Command (pg 10-11), on account of that event, the Biafran leader was quoted as saying "we are finished with the Federation ... it is all a question of time". The resulting declaration of Biafran independence a year later on May 30, 1967 led to the very bloody 30-month civil war in Nigeria, yielding the present structure of Nigeria and the Nigerian armed forces.

If the same spiritual forces that carefully chose May 29 for the genocide against Christians in 1453, and in 1966 have again chosen the same May 29 as the day they will disengage from rulership in Nigeria, Church Arise! believes the Church cannot afford to be casual towards the date. There are Biblical precedents for us to expect God to work out great victory for us and frustrate whatever hidden agenda the enemy might be nursing toward that day:

"On the day that the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, the opposite occurred, in that the Jews themselves overpowered those who hated them" (Esther 9:1).

As will happen at the battle of Armageddon, the forces of the anti-christ will choose the date and location of the final battle. Only they wouldn't know they are merely fulfilling what God had already appointed (Rev 17:17a, Acts 4:28). They will suddenly find the battle turned against them!

### **Call To Prayer**

We call on every Christian to spend at least 15 minutes each day in the month of May to pray towards May 29 1999. Christians who fold their hands and look forward to an automatic smooth handing over of power on May 29 are like the son described in Proverbs 10:5. It is our responsibility to execute the written judgements (Ps 149:9). And this time around, we shall not leave any gate opened by mistake. Neither shall we overlook any enemy flag left flying on our City wall. Victory is imminent. It is sure. Church Arise!

**PS:** Churches and other Christian groups may wish to organize prayer chains for the week leading to May 29.

**(Vol 2 No 3, May – June 1999)**

### **VIII.**

### ***Nigeria Officially Dedicated to the LORD***

For the first time in the history of independent Nigeria, a national thanksgiving and dedication service has been held. A day after being sworn in, the very first official outing of President Olusegun Obasanjo was at the special service held at the International Conference Centre, Abuja. Nigeria thus becomes one of the few countries in the world officially dedicated to the LORD.

Officiating were about 60 seasoned Ministers of the Living God, drawn from various denominations. The list included Dr Sunday Mbang, Methodist Prelate and President of CAN; Pastor William Kumuyi, Bishop Mike Okonkwo, Bishop David Oyedepo, and a host of others. Representatives of the Pope and the Queen of England were also part of the ceremony.

At LEKKI '98, God visited Nigeria (see Vol 2 no 1). Now, for the first time, God has been invited to take over the land and dwell with us. Now the Kingdom of our God and of His Christ has come – no wonder the downtrodden masses all across the country are beginning to smile already.

#### **When God Opens a Door....**

It was particularly exciting having the fire-brand German evangelist, Reinhard Bonnke as one of the ministers at the National Thanksgiving and Dedication service. The last time he came to minister in Nigeria, the Islamic authorities in some Northern states grew so apprehensive of the incontrovertible miracles God was performing, wholesale, through his hands that they engineered a serious riot. This, unfortunately, led to the tragic loss of many lives and the Evangelist had to be virtually hustled out of the country. Ever since, he was never granted visa to enter Nigeria again. And now, to the glory of God, there he was, 30<sup>th</sup> May, featuring on the opening news item on NTA Network News!

**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

#### **Nigeria impacts Sub-region**

Already the impact of the positive development in Nigeria is already being felt in the entire West African subregion. Recently Charles Taylor, the Liberian President, was in Abuja to discuss with President Obasanjo, thereby signifying for the first time, a clear decision on his part to accord Nigeria true respect. Back at home, Charles Taylor had acknowledged that God is responsible for the survival of Liberia. Sharing such acknowledgement, he even insisted, would be a fundamental requirement of anyone expecting a Cabinet post. "Anyone who does not love God cannot serve in my Cabinet" he reportedly declared. Similar to the 3 day fasting and praying declared by Obasanjo to usher in May 29, Taylor also called a 3 days fasting and prayer among his countrymen.

**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

#### **Nigeria and Missions**

Where do we go from here, Nigeria? For several years, we have been inundated with prophecies that Nigeria occupies a central place in God's plan; and even that She is designed by God to spearhead the global end-time revival. (e.g. vol. 1 no 2) At the climax of Nigeria's period of darkness, the prophecy had attracted considerable attention to itself. On the one hand, some saw the nation's ugly predicaments as fierce attacks by Satan to hinder

Nigeria from fulfilling her sure destiny as the prophecy indicated; while at the other end, others saw the prophecy as merely some will-of-the-wisp, to comfort ourselves in our self-inflicted predicaments. One thing no one could deny however - in spite (or rather, as a result) of the terrible political and socio-economic situations, Nigerians kept flocking into various countries, many of them as 'laymen' missionaries.

Church Arise! belongs to the first group who believes God has a definite programme for Nigeria in this end time. And that informed our particular interest in current developments in one of the frontline Church denominations in Nigeria today, the Redeemed Christian Church of God.

According to the General Overseer of the RCCG, Pastor Enoch Adeboye, the Church is spearheading what he calls 'the Last Revival' on earth. Someone may want to challenge his words, but certainly none could detract from the results the Church has to present. Already the RCCG has become the first and only pentecostal denomination to be registered in Israel, home of Judaism and Orthodoxy; as well as in Northern Ireland, a Catholic domain which in times past prided itself in its self-proclaimed 100% religious homogeneity. Apart from these and several other praiseworthy results, the RCCG is reportedly planning a 'Multi-media ministries' involving the setting-up of 'Virtual Parishes' and On-line Bible Study Group on the Internet.

Other Christian denominations and groups, indeed individuals, must pick up the challenge of the times and help Nigeria fulfil her destiny.

**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

#### **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!

**World Government fights to take over Nigeria** Agencies of the One World Government are desperately moving to take over the reins of Nigeria. As usual, they clandestinely suggest policies which will profoundly affect the socio-economic environment. It is a mark of the pressure on the President, Olusegun Obasanjo that he has agreed in principle to increase the pump price of petrol (some reports say) to N25 per litre. We alknow the multiplier effects this could have on the socio

-economic climate. In the meantime, the Nigerian Labour Congress plans to produce a "counter-pressure" in the form of a strike to commence Jan 1 2000. Are we calling for a massive counter-pressure against the influence of Globalists on Obasanjo in form of strikes, etc? Hardly. Rather, our strong advice is that we put pressure directly on the IMF and other imperialist agencies by sincere and sustained prayers. Remember it has pleased God to reveal His awesome power through what He does for and in Nigeria.

**(Vol 3 No 1 January – February, 2000)**

### **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) **(Vol 3 No 3, May – June 2000)**

### **TRANSITION TO DEMOCRACY IN NIGERIA**

**The transition programme is not going to end in crisis. We may not get what we want, but this present transition will be a stop-gap between the ugly past of the military and the beautiful future we are going into.**

**Rev. (Dr.) Francis Wale Oke** Quoted by The News, 1-3-99 (A very bold statement at that time!) **(Vol 2 No 2, March-April, 1999)**

**".....As for me, God's will has been done"**

**Chief Bola Ige** on his failure to secure his party's presidential ticket as widely expected. **(Vol 2 No 2, March-April, 1999)**

**"The Church had prayed that the best candidate should win and for the Church, whosoever has won, is the best candidate"**

**Dr Sunday Mbang**, President Christian Association of Nigeria and Methodist prelate. *Commenting on the results of the Nigerian Presidential Election held on Feb 27.* **(Vol 2 No 2, March-April, 1999)**

**For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning**

**2 Peter 2:20**

### **Coup Palaver**

"Sir, I don't know if I can be granted opportunity to read the Bible because when friends forsake you; I know Christ will be with you. So, I need the Bible if you just grant it, I will be (most) grateful"

**Major O.O. Fadipe.** Chief Security Officer to General Diya. *He was reported to have made this request, looking calm, at the Treason Trials currently on-going in Jos, Nigeria.* Punch, Thursday 19/2/98. **(Vol 1 No 2)**

"Yes, there is a gentleman. I have never seen a man of such courage and faith. For about 15 months now, his voice is the first you will hear in the morning and the last in the night, praising God all the time. (I later learnt that his name is Moshood Fayemiwo)"

**Otunba Durojaiye** in an interview with **Tell** on his experience in prison. **(Vol 1 No 4)**

"I thank God because he took me to that place (military detention) to use me. While I was there, the kingdom of darkness was not only shaken, but it was also rooted out. People were sending prayer requests and they were accordingly granted by God. Many, even soldiers, gave their lives to Jesus"

**Moshood Fayemiwo**, speaking on his 18 months incarceration in an underground cell. **(Vol 1 No 6)**

"...Put my life together, go out on the assignment God has given me – to go into all the world to preach His word"

**Turner Ogboru** (responding to the question of what he intends to do following his release after 8 years in detention – Tell, Nov 2, 1998).

**(Vol 1 No 6)**

**Food for Thought:** *If you were in the place of these two gentlemen in the gulag, what d'you think your response would have been? Ok, save your imagination. In your current situation, aren't you still waiting for 'more opportuned circumstances' to throw yourself with utter abandonment into the Lord's service? What exactly are you doing for Jesus, today?*

"God is great! God just brought the incident of these past few days to show Nigerians that nobody can play God... I'm now a changed man"

**Frank Ovie-Kokori** (A leader of NUPENG, speaks on his 4-year detention by Nigerian military authorities and the demise of his erstwhile chief jailer)

**(Vol 1 No 4, July – August, 1998)**

**Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord will have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you: 2 Thess. 3:1**

# The Middle East

## IX.

### Modern Israel clocks 50

On Tuesday May 12, it will be fifty years since the modern Israeli nation was born and established in Palestine. For almost 2,000 years, the Jews had been scattered worldwide and faced tremendous difficulties and, many times, outright persecution largely due to their insistence on maintaining their unique identity as the people of God. Afterall, they would claim, the Messiah is supposed to come and rescue the Jewish people and sitting upon the throne of David, reigns forever and ever. No known race exists that succeeded in maintaining their identity for more than 500 years after dispersion. However despite the fact that the Jews were violently scattered and subjected to hardship unprecedented, they firmly refused to be assimilated by the cultures (worldwide) where they were scattered since 70 AD when Titus sacked Jerusalem. If this assimilation had occurred, it would then be a trivial task for Bible critics to discredit Biblical prophecy which unequivocally pronounce that Israel will be re-gathered to Palestine prior to the end of all things.

Such was the apparent hopelessness of the enterprise of having a re-born Jewish nation that the highly regarded Encyclopaedia Britannica, in a 1905 entry wrote:

*"The dream of some Zionists for the restoration of Hebrew as a living language has as little chance of success as the dream of the restoration of a Jewish state in Palestine"*

Today, the Biblical fact that the 'folly of God' is wiser than the wisdom of man is borne out by the existence of the nation of Israel with Hebrew, the language of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, as their official language.

Biblical scholars have always linked the re-emergence of Israel with the end times. A common interpretation of Matt 24:32-34 is that the generation that sees the re-birth of Israel (the fig tree putting forth its leaves) will not pass away till all end time prophecies be fulfilled. Should this be correct, then the reader is left to make his own deductions!

How long is a 'generation'- Seventy years? Fifty years? Or Forty years? No one can speak with absolute certainty. A clue to the imminence of things however, is the talk that Israel is hoping to rebuild Solomon's temple on its original site (presently occupied by a Mosque). Some think the counting of the years due a generation should commence from the year that Israel took total control of Jerusalem (June 1967, during the 6-day war).

Whoever is right, one thing remains clear: as Israel marks her fiftieth birthday this May, a clear sign is being presented to all whose sense

of discernment has not been completely overwhelmed by the current World Order that the end of all things is at hand. The opening words of our Lord Jesus Christ in His ministry (Mark 1:15) is more than ever, urgent today:

***"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."***

**(Vol 1 No 3 May – June, 1998)**

**Our Error:** Israel's national day is May 14, not May 12 as we indicated in the last edition. David Ben Gurion declared Israel as a sovereign State on Friday May 14 1948. Fifty years later the Arab threat to drive Israel to the sea is yet to materialize! **(Vol 1 No 4, July – August, 1998)**

### **The Die is Cast**

"I was not afraid to make war with the Arabs. I will not be afraid to make peace with them". With these words, Israel's new Prime Minister Ehud Barak confirmed our prediction that his impressive war credentials will be appealed to, in making painful and difficult concessions, in the on-going search for peace with the Arabs. The rate at which the peace talks is going on is dazzling, with Ehud (meaning 'lightning') consulting with the Arabs a day after his official swearing in. He has now committed himself to seeking a comprehensive peace covenant, including so-called 'final-status' agreements, with the PLO within the next 15 months – or even less. Though no-doubts formidable difficulties still lie ahead (it is not without any good cause that many believe it is impossible to have peace in the region), all indications is that the peace agreement will eventually be signed, on time. With strong commitment and support coming from the US president, due to vacate office January 2001, and no doubts anxious to share in the credit of a Middle East Peace accord; an anxious Arab community who has seen 'peace' coming within reach and yet remaining elusive for years; and a tired and divided Jewish nation, the signing of a treaty by the end of next year is as good as a foregone conclusion. The whole world is waiting expectantly and eager to participate.

Why is the Middle Bible prophecy come true, in the same proportion as Israel's return to Palestine in 1948 after a 2,000 years absence. Secondly, according to the Bible, the man who will broker the peace treaty will be the ANTI-CHRIST (Dan 9:27)

**(Vol 2 No 5, September – October, 1999)**

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**Correction:** In our last edition, referring to Israel's Prime Minister and alluding to the speed at which Middle East Peace is being pursued, we stated that *Ehud* means 'lightning'. We were wrong. Actually it is *Barak* that means 'lightning'. Ehud by the way means 'union'

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Meanwhile, efforts are in top gear for the preparations to build the 3<sup>d</sup> Temple. This is another 'mission impossible' prophecy indicated in the Bible. Orthodox Jews believe that the Temple has to be re-built in preparation for the Messiah, whose coming seems imminent to them (through signs and visions purportedly seen). The problem is that the very site the Temple is expected to be built on is currently occupied by a Mosque – the 2<sup>nd</sup> holiest place in Islam, ranking next only to Mecca itself! Groups assiduously working towards the 3<sup>d</sup> Temple include Chair Vekaiyam (led by Yehuda Etzion) and the Temple Mount Faithful Organization. On July 20, Israelwire reported that the activists had had their first joint meeting in Jerusalem, few weeks previously, to co-ordinate the launching of the Temple Treasury Project to raise funds for the building of the 3<sup>d</sup> Temple. Bible prophecy students generally hold it that the building of the 3<sup>d</sup> Temple will be facilitated by the antichrist, and that the gesture will contribute to the realization of the tricky Middle East Peace 'Final Status' treaty.

**(Vol 2 No 5, September – October, 1999)**

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X.

### **Hussein Departure, end of an era in the Middle East**

The end of an era came Feb 7 with the death of Jordanian King Hussein. He had ruled his nation for 46 years and has become one of the most stabilizing influences in the Middle East. Jordan, under him, is the only Arab nation at peace with Israel. His son, Abdallah now reigns in his place. **(Vol 2 No 2 March -April, 1999)**

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### **• Jordan-Israel Relationship cooling off?**

Jordanian new king, Abdallah returned from a state visit to Syria with the remark that the two countries now see eye-to-eye on all issues, including the Middle East Peace process. CNN (23/04/99) interpreted this as a veiled criticism of Israel.

**(Vol 2 No 3, May –June, 1999)**

### **PLO may stay action on declaration of statehood**

Efforts are on-going by the USA, backed by the EU, to persuade the PLO to refrain from declaring Statehood on May 4 as it has vowed to do. Terms of the 5-point proposal include that the Western world would declare more clearly their support for Palestinian self-determination, and Israel's full implementation of the Wye River Interim peace agreement now suspended by Netanyahu. If the PLO declares independence, tension will escalate and the hands of hardliners will be strengthened in Israel 's national elections billed for May 17. **(Vol 2 No 2, March – April, 1999)**

XI.

- **Middle East Peace Treaty May be Signed Next Year**

President Clinton of the United States has expressed a strong commitment to the achieving of peace in the Middle East between Israel and the PLO... latest by next year. Apparently trying to dissuade the PLO from declaring statehood on May 4 as they have threatened to, (see vol. 2 no 2), the American president gave a clear support for the existence of a Palestinian state in the Middle East, but urged the PLO to seek statehood in the context of a peace accord with Israel. With the United States making such heavy commitments, it is not surprising that Arafat has embraced the idea, describing it as reasonable.

Once again we emphasize that the Bible predicts that the anti-christ will broker a 7 year peace agreement between Israel and her neighbours in the Middle East. According to the Bible, by the time this happens, the end of the current world order is to arrive only in matter of days. (Daniel 12:6-13).

**(Vol 2 No 3 May – June, 1999)**

Enters Ehud Barak: Middle East Treaty yet closer

The prospect of realizing a Middle East Treaty by next year is getting even brighter with the election of Ehud Barak as the new Israeli Prime Minister last May. The Arabs, and the other nations (particularly the United States which has committed itself to seeking a Treaty by next year (see Vol 2 No 3)), certainly expects Barak to show what Egypt called 'statesmanship' in overcoming all the internal problems that have since been preventing the actualization of previous peace plans in the Middle East. Apart from promises made during his five months campaign, Ehud Barak as the most decorated (military) man in Israel, is expected to be able to retain public respect even if he has to make concessions other people with less military honours might find difficult to make. The Middle East Peace Treaty, predicted thousands of years ago in the Holy Bible and scorned as unachievable until recent times is inevitably going to happen soon. The wise will learn a lesson from the "fig tree"!(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)

**MIDDLE EAST: Final Status Talks on Course** - Ehud Barak continues to seek a comprehensive Middle East treaty at lightning speed when he embarked on a secret night meeting with Yasser Arafat on Sept 13. The so-called Final Status talks were launched at the Erez crossing point, on the border with the Palestinian-ruled Gaza Strip, by the Israeli foreign minister, David Levy, and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's deputy, Abu Mazen. Barak wants the treaty to be ready in less than 12 months.

**(Vol 2 No 6, November – December, 1999)**

**Preparing for Service in the Third Temple:** Israeli radio Arutz 7 reported Sept 27 that a census of all Kohanim (Priests) and Levi'im (Levites) – the first of its kind in 2,000 years was initiated on that day in Jerusalem, in the context of the annual gathering of supporters of the building of the Third Temple. With the census, organizers are attempting to recreate the schedule of priestly and Levitical duties that existed during Temple time – in preparation for the Messiah. **The Aug 12 Solar Eclipse in the Middle East** was another event generally believed to be a sign of the times we are in **(Vol 2 No 6, November – December, 1999)**

**Middle-East Peace Process: Jerusalem Now on Negotiation Table:** This was inconceivable a few years ago. September 13 is the deadline for a framework agreement on the final status on Jerusalem. Despite remaining obvious 'apparently unsurmountable' hurdles, Bill Clinton, fielding questions during his visit to Nigeria, expressed optimism that the doors are not yet closed on the process. President Mubarak of Egypt is expected to have a significant role to play. Many Bible scholars still hold that the eventual signing of the peace treaty will be for a 7 year period AND that the signing will mark the beginning of the 7 year tribulation period mentioned several times in the Bible. Further, it is widely believed that the Rapture of Christians will precede this event!

**Middle East Treaty: Hope alive.** Despite current escalation in the military conflict in the Middle East, hope is still being kept alive for example, by events such as the emergency summit at Sharm el-sheikh. When it eventually comes, the Middle East Treaty will come very suddenly.

**(Vol 3 No 6, November – December, 2000)**

## **Global**

### **XII.**

<p><b>"For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled"</b></p> <p>Rev 17:17</p>
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### **Celebrating the new Millenium**

China will not be celebrating the end of the millenium come Dec 31 this year. The Chinese government is sticking to the technically-correct point that the 21<sup>st</sup> millenium does not start till Jan 1 2001. Western critics insinuate the Chinese decision to treat the year 2000 as a non-event is to save the Chinese government the embarrassment of admitting their failure to provide the services it has promised to provide to the citizenry "before the next millenium". **(Vol 2 No 2, March – April, 1999)**

### XIII.

#### **Heat Wave in the US: State Governor calls for prayer**

As the deadly heat waves continues in the southern states of the United States, (over 93 deaths reported in Texas alone) Gov Frank Keating of Oklahoma, has suggested that everyone in his state resort to prayer for rain. Several Churches changed their schedules to incorporate this prayer to God as all the power of technology was rendered futile and pitiable.

**(Vol 1 No 5, September – October, 1998)**

#### **Politicians and the occult**

The dependence on occultic powers by people in government is not restricted to Nigeria alone. The consultations by Nancy Reagan of an Astrologer was a particularly publicized case some years ago. VOA reports (19/12/97) also mentioned that in India, politicians even went as far as delaying their swearing-in ceremonies on the advice of their astrologers. It is our Christian **duty** (1 Tim 2:1-2) to always remember the people in government in our prayers. As is also true for other segments of society, most people in government turn to these dark forces, mainly out of fear, or under direct spiritual attacks which become potent only because Christians fail to exert their own spiritual influence. The consequent destruction is not only to the rulers' personal souls but often to the collective national psyche as well.

**(Vol 1 No 1 January – February, 1998)**

#### **Sri Lankans seek divine intervention – the wrong way**

Businessmen are being asked to finance a temple to restore peace after decades of civil war in Sri Lanka. Government officials say the temple is needed to "neutralise malign forces" flowing to the Island from a similar Hindu temple in the Indian mainland. The campaign was led by junior defence minister, Anuruddha Ratwatte who is asking for \$1.4million to complete the temple which has gulped over \$7 million already. Sri Lankan press said Ratwatte had made it clear the battle against Tamil rebels could not be won unless the temple was completed. Once built, it would deflect the effects of the Indian statutes he posited. (Guardian, June 1 1997. Pg 14)

**(Vol 2 No 4 – July – August, 1999)**

### XIV.

#### **Obasanjo between a Rock and a Hard Place!**

Indications of the massive pressure upon Nigeria by globalist forces became manifested June 7 when President Obasanjo caved in to one of the IMF conditions - the hiking of fuel price. Apparently dragging his feet on the matter which has been pending since last year (see vol 3 no 1),

Nigeria's debt forgiveness expectation and the yet-to-be-actualised loot recovery efforts would be one of the factors that could have eventually compelled the President to take the unpopular decision (for which he later apologized). However as we also reported would happen, the Labour forces in Nigeria rose to mount a counter pressure that eventually has put petrol pump price at N22 per litre. In all, it was a big relief seeing such a momentous issue resolved without the traditional bloodshed and violence, both parties peacefully articulating their positions. That is why we are a bit bothered by the following news item (knowing that the IMF and the EU are in the same globalist camp).....

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

**European Union signs Political lobbying deal with Nigerian Labour Congress** (Tribune 29<sup>th</sup> May.. pg 32/33)

NLC's Adam Oshiomhole has said that the EU is financing a two-year project worth N100 million with the NLC. The project has seven areas of intervention - Strategic planning and agenda setting, Establishment of a pro-democracy network, Establishment of a political lobbying capacity, Establishment of research analysis and information capabilities, Trade Union Education, Internal Trade Union Democracy and Trade Union Management

It is difficult to believe that the incredible deal described here will not affect the operations of the NLC to some extent. Afterall there will be conditionalities on where and where not to shop etc, which will inevitably affect all the operations described. He who pays the piper will surely have a say in the tune.

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

XV

**The Charter of the African Union** , prelude to the economical and political integration of Africa much like the European Union has been adopted by the Foreign ministers of African nations (June 5, Guardian) over the weekend June 2-4 at Tripoli Libya.

World government plans for forming a one world global government involves first a "regionization" of the world –into ten regions (e.g. see How Democracy will elect the antichrist). Most Bible students will have no problem relating this development to Daniel 2.

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

### **African Union bickering highlights issues in world government**

With Libyan leader and convener of the African Union already carrying himself as the President of the Continent, splits are becoming noticeable in the African Union enterprise. Ghaddafi asked that big posters of himself be displayed all around the venue of the Lome ratification of the AU charter, is insisting that Arabic be the official language, and of course, that the headquarter of the AU be sited in Libya. Nigeria and South Africa obviously don't find it much funny. They have abstained from signing the Charter presumably until Ghadaffi becomes more serious.

**(Vol 3 No 5, September – October, 2000)**

XVI.

### **National Identity Cards and new world order**

It was announced recently that the Nigerian National ID project, after several millions of naira, and several years of hiccups, ups and downs, may now finally have been completed. Though the details are still not clear, recent reports from South Africa are indicating clearly, roles national ID cards may soon be playing in the currently unfolding New World order. The news is that possession of the national IDC was determined compulsory for any one who would take part in the recently concluded South African election. According to **Africa Today** (April 1999), the efforts of one of the political parties to challenge this "No ID card, No Voters Card" policy at the Cape High Court was unsuccessful.

Of interest to us, is this bare-faced coercion of the citizenry to take the ID card. A detailed write-up by **Privacy International** (in 1996) affirmed that , "around a hundred countries have official **compulsory** national IDs that are used for a variety of purposes". These, however, are under-developed countries or mainly those under some kind of totalitarian governments. In several of the developed countries, attempts to introduce some sorts of national ID card schemes have been the cause of long bitter battles with governments. Well known for instance, are the situations in France (1979), Australia (1986) and New Zealand (1991). In Australia, the proposal for the Australia card led to tens of thousands of people taking to the streets till the card was abandoned a year later. The Kiwi Card of New Zealand was to link major Government departments and **was to have the capacity to track all financial dealings and even geographical movements**. Resistance by privacy-minded (mainly secular) organizations finally led to the abandonment of the card.

However, in all these developed countries where the idea of a national ID card remains unsavoury, there is nevertheless, generally one kind of identification number or the other for sectoral use. Varying from

country to country it could be the Social Security Number, Medicare Number, etc. In Sweden, there is actually a universal number for each citizen. In essence therefore, what was being resisted in these countries is the linking up of various databases involving the individual.

Now with the advent of Chip Technology, it has become possible to achieve this database link-up in a less obtrusive manner. With two cards, one focussing on financial details and geographical movements of the card-carrier; and the other bearing personal details – e.g. family records, blood groups, possession of facial marks or not (a la Nigeria's National Driver's License) etc. In short, what people would not tolerate on the National ID card will be accepted on the e-commerce card and vice-versa.

It is then becoming clear that the two Cards, one for national identification and the other for electronic commerce are merely two sides of the same single coin, and eventually will be merged. The chip technology has guaranteed the sufficiency of not just a single card, but a single chip to carry all information on an individual. Why carry multiple cards, when only one is sufficient? It is in the light of the above that the on-going coercion of the citizenry to take the South African Card (though for now, not chip-based) is informative. It would appear that citizens all over the world are to be coerced (using either carrots or/and sticks) into taking either of the two cards –using techniques to be dictated by local factors. In South Africa with its apartheid background, voting in an election could be a particularly emotional issue indeed. In any country, the manner of promoting the national ID card and the e-commerce card will be different. But at the end of the day, hardly will anyone be able to resist taking at least one of the cards. And the goals of the One World Government advocates would still remain on course!

As we have said before, after the card “has gained acceptance” to use the words of MONDEX (refer to Vol 2 No 3), it is inevitable that the chip, already human implantable, will be implanted directly on human beings. We mentioned before the case of INFOPET which is leading the way in inserting bio-chips into pets for identification and tracking. Another situation fast unfolding is the implantation of chips for the identification of ‘thoroughbreds’ – racing horses, worth millions. It is a question of time before this trend is applied to human beings, and only a little time further when all technology and procedures will be designed only for people with skin-implanted chips. The current world order has only one direction.

**CLOSING THOT: *Have you ever wondered what will happen to a hard-minded man who would insist on storing all his data on 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> computer diskettes?* (Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

## **NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD COMING.**

The Nigerian National Identity Card is now out. According to the Internal Affairs Minister, Chief Sunday Afolabi, issuance of the Card, which is already going on smoothly at the Abuja Centre would soon take off at the eight zonal offices of the Directorate for National Civic Registration. On NTA News (16<sup>th</sup> February), the Minister spoke glowingly about the computerized card which he said will not only serve as Voters Card (refer to our article in Vol 2 No 4, July-August, 1999), but will also help to stem the “problems” of “illegal immigrants”. The Ministry further hoped that Banks and financial institutions will demand the card for services!

In the United States, reports indicate that current alterations being included in the Drivers’ Licence is virtually turning it into a National ID Card. Opposition to this policy is intense. The Licence is *de facto* a must for every adult residing in the United States.

**(Vol 3 No 5, September – October, 2000)**

**National ID cards to be used for next year Polls.** Vice President Atiku Abubakar joined his voice to those announcing this serious phase in Nigeria national life, at the launching of the Internal Affairs Ministry’s news bulletin in Abuja. He also confirmed that this will happen as early as next year. There is serious political implications for this move as seen from the open antagonism for the project from a section of the country, and an equally ardent clamouring for it by another section. Nevertheless, the socio-spiritual implication cannot be missed: ‘Big Brother’ is at the corner!

## **Nigerian National ID Card is MONDEX card**

In Vol 2 No 3, we dealt extensively on the Mondex Smart card. It is based on a chip that is bio-implantable (i.e. could be ‘safely’ implanted under the skin of humans); and which can allow several applications, from Identification to electronic money and much more on the single chip. We had mentioned then that by a November 1996 agreement, the company GEMPLUS will be supplying the smart cards for the global implementation of MONDEX. Now thanks to the current Senate hearing on the national ID card project, Chams, local partners of SAGEM S.A. of France is giving some details on the technical specifications of the card. It has now been authoritatively revealed that the cards recommended for the National ID card are GEMPLUS cards. (Comet pg 23, Nov 29). We have always speculated that all the current smartcards in Nigeria are merely preparing the way for MONDEX cards for which they will soon be collapsed. (See Vol 3 No 4 Hello Nigeria, Here comes Mondex Smartcards).

**Meanwhile, efforts to dominate the Nigerian economy with smart cards** and e-commerce continue unabatedly. Comet Nov 29 (pg 19) reported among other developments, the new partnership of 30 firms for e-business in the country. Perhaps, the novelty is the partnership being foisted between Xerox, FSB and UPS under which Xerox will now sell its product in the country via the Internet. Payment to Xerox will be facilitated by Smartcard in conjunction with FSB (prospective buyers will provide their smart card numbers), while UPS will deliver the product. (Comet Nov 15, page 20). For a good review of current developments in this area, see the article Plastic Money is it (Tell, Dec 11, 2000, page 52-53). With stiff 'competition' between Smartcard and Gemcard, other features are quickly being added to the embedded silicon chip the cards carry. For instance access control function is being added to the Valucard, and the article reported that "at the World Bank, Lagos office, a valucard is used to open some doors".

**(The last two articles were published in Vol 4 No 1 January- February, 2001)**

XVII.

### **Kingdom of Europe Emerges:**

With the taking off of the European currency, the Euro at the beginning of this year, the journey to reviving the ancient Roman empire as predicted in the Bible took a major leap. Add to this the 'surprising' declaration by Britain and France that a common European Armed Force will be developed, and you must be an incredible believer in Humanism to continue to doubt that the end of all things is at hand – just as the Bible says.

**(Vol 2 No 1, January – February, 1999)**

### **EU moves toward closer integration**

The London Telegraph (27/9/99) reported: The European Union is about to embark upon its most ambitious programme of integration since monetary union with moves towards common procedures in immigration, asylum and judicial policy. More recently, the structure for a standing army for EU has been agreed to. Romano Prodi, current EU President has warned foot-dragging Britain that it may lose out as a power broker. This is similar to the threats being issued by the proposed United Religions, UR, that those religious organizations who hesitate to join them (when launched this June) will lose out! {An identical threat hangs over the United States in her reluctance to sign the treaty setting up a Global Criminal Court whose authority subjugates those of the individual nations – whether they sign the treaty or not!}**(Vol 3 No 1, January – February 2000)**

### **European Kingdom waxes stronger.**

The re-born Kingdom of Europe continues to establish and assert itself. Even as the EU marches on stoically with the setting up of its own military force, it is now being explained that business tax harmonization within the EU is a must for the single currency to be a success. These are yet again, significant steps to the re-creation of a one **Roman Empire**. The veto power of feet-dragging nations such as Britain, the last line of defence against unwelcome EU initiatives is also being abolished on this taxation issue (Telegraph 27<sup>th</sup> Jan). Now as at Press time, a formal European Constitution is being discussed. Bible is emphatic that the eternal Kingdom of God will be ushered in at a time when a global government, built around the ancient Roman Kingdom is in power (Dan 2:44)

**(Vol 3 No 2, March – April, 2000)**

### **U.N. Calls for World Government Meeting this September.**

As we hinted in our last edition, the UN is planning a Millenium Assembly for this September. It is to be a global government conference designed to examine "the future of the world, and to create an organizational structure whereby the peoples of the world can participate effectively in global decision-making, in the context of the United Nations system". In preparation for this unprecedented conference, a consortium of influential non-governmental organizations (NGOs) - including the Commission for Global Governance, the World Federalist Association, the One World Trust, etc – has sponsored a Charter, Charter 99, inviting "all the governments and peoples of the world they represent" to the UN conference.

Meanwhile the influence of the UN continues to reach unprecedented levels. The current ganging-up of an increasingly repressive Russia and Communist China against the US is also obviously directed at weakening the US influence in the UN and coming up with a stronger UN having such wide control over every individual in the world along lines predicted by Scriptures. **(Vol 3 No 2, March – April, 2000)**

### **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.' The President of Earth Council is the very influential Maurice Strong, who is also heading the UN committee on reforms. We might as well take what Earth Council says as the unofficial UN position.

**(Vol 3 No 3, May – June, 2000)**

### **On-going Transformations at the UN**

The founding of the United Nations was spearheaded by the US based Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), a group founded by people bent on establishing a One World Government, such as David Rockefeller. Indeed the land on which the UN stands in Manhattan, New York was a gift by the Rockefeller family. There are very compelling evidences that the UN is now set to accomplish what it was undoubtedly set up for in the first instance – usher in a One World Government. Including Culture and Religion. Today, the UN is gathering unprecedented, previously unimaginable powers for itself! Let the reader read with discernment the following information provided in brief here.

- The 5 permanent members of the UN Security Council have issued a statement that "national borders and sovereignty arguments will no longer be valid deterrents" for the UN to intervene in the affairs of sovereign nations (CNN 24/09/99).
- Russia and China are making much fuss to show that the UN does not mean the United States. Powers are to be invested directly into a new, empowered UN. US roles must be weakened (Dec 12).
- The Vatican has thrown its full weight into the matter of subordinating national sovereignties to the UN (Associated Press, Dec 14).
- The UN plans to launch the Millennium People's Assembly this year (2000) to concentrate these new powers into the hands of selected people, supposedly representing everyone of us. See <http://acgc.org/upa/upa.html> on the Internet for details of this plan. {Check our Library for supporters of this initiative in Nigeria. Names include very highly placed officials in the Presidency which cannot be listed here for security reasons}

**(Vol 3 No 1, January – February 2000)**

**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.

**(Vol 3 No 3, May – June, 2000)**

"Willing or not, ready or not, we are all involved in an all-out, no-holds-barred, three-way global competition. Most of us are not competitors, however. We are the stakes. For the competition is about who will establish the first one world system of government that has ever existed in the Society of nations.... There is NO way it can be reversed or called off".

Malachi Martin, (**Jesuit and Vatican insider in his book Keys of This Blood, pg 15.**)

#### XVIII.

**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!

**(Vol 3 No 3, May – June, 2000)**

XIX.

### **ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT [IN 2001]: MISSION IMPOSSIBLE?**

By the time many of our readers will be reading this edition of CA!, the much awaited World Millennium Summit to be organized by the United Nations, would have become history. According to the UN website on the Summit, it probably will be "the largest single gathering of Heads of States/and or Governments ever held in the world". The mission is to get a new look/role for the UN for the challenges of the incoming new millenium. As we have been reporting for a while now, this very important and unprecedented meeting is scheduled for September 6-8 in New York.

Several NGOs of course have been having meetings espousing the need for One World Government in the past. In Vol 3 No 3 in particular, we mentioned the release of the One-World Government blueprint called the "Earth's Charter" by the very influential NGO, Earth Council, at the UNESCO Headquarters on March 14.. This so-called NGO is virtually the unofficial mouthpiece of the UN on environmental and similar concerns. Maurice Strong, Earth Council's leader is UNEP's first Executive Director (1972-76) and currently is in charge of many vital committees of the UN. The big joke is the Earth Council's pushing the UN's position back to the UN apparently on behalf of "we people of the world". Clever, hun?

We also of course have the World Council and Parliament Association which has been meeting since 1982 comprising of many eminent citizens of several nations (including notable Nigerians). There is also the very influential Davos meeting, where several eminent presidents of nations, top business and professional men etc meet to discuss the future of the world and One World Government in particular (see vol..3 No 2). However, the novelty in the Millenial Summit is that this time around, it is the UN itself, not some NGO or private group, that is officially convening a One-World Government meeting. It is unprecedented. And it only means the influences-behind-the scene believe the time for the realization of this their pet project is at hand. Kofi Annan first made his call for the creation of a "Millennium People's Assembly" within the UN .in July 1997. His proposed date for take-off is the year 2000.

Although there are *apparently* many compelling reasons why nations of the world should come together to form a One World Government, there is really none that is good enough. For one thing, there is no reason to expect a One World Government to solve any problem which cannot now be solved within the context of current union of interdependent sovereign nations. See quote (Chapter 6) by first UNESCO director, Julian Huxley, to the effect that the real reason for seeking one world government is the occultic expectation that it would help mankind quickly attain the so-called 'critical mass' that would facilitate the evolution of mankind into new species –gods. We do not have the space here to begin to highlight the problems that a One World Government will bring along with it. (see Rev 13!) But it is instructive to see the current rumblings within the still on the drawing board, African Union. Whether civilized or uncouth, the way Muammar Ghaddaffi is pursuing his ambition to dominate all Africa and install himself as president of Africa is instructive. And that is the eventual bottom-line – Domination is the name of the game. The report of the World Environment Energy and Economic Conference, October 17-20, 1990 at Winnipeg, Manitoba (with Preface written by UNESCO's Assistant Director-General. (see opening Quotes for this Chapter)) is especially shocking:. It talks of forced take-over of uncooperative "offending" countries!

Looking at current world trends, most people can clearly see the handwriting of an inevitable World Government coming upon all nations of the earth. But World Government by year 2001? Most 'reasonable' analysts will declare without second thoughts: Mission Impossible. There is little doubt that the world is not yet ready for a one –world government. However advocates of this concept have their hopes and assurances (not to talk of what they are capable of engineering!). With nothing less than a religious zeal, these people expect that the impact of the coming One-World religion will rapidly change the climate and force many to warmly embrace the concept of a One-world government literally overnight. And indeed within the New Age circle, there are tons of prophecies assuring them a global catastrophe is bound to happen even before the end of this year; and that this will make the need for a one World Government inevitable. We cite a respected catholic source:

"Therefore the status of the world must change to make it become ready for these events The last day of 2000 is the end of the 20th Century" "Many other reliable prophets including Mother Shipton, St.Columbkil, Our Lady of Fatima and others have all indicated the events including the meteor/comet impact would take place before the century has ended". "We know from Nostradamus that the meteor will impact the water in the Atlantic off the northern west coast of Africa".

As Bible-believing Christians, though we do not countenance any of those sources listed above, we nevertheless cannot afford to forget that the Day of the Lord will come indeed like a thief in the night.

Indeed, emerging signs are that the coming of the Lord is at hand. What this calls for is our ensuring that we do have **extra oil** with us for our lamps, and at the same time be prepared for a "long wait". Finally, we must settle it in our hearts that the only One-world government that can solve the world's myriad problems will be that to be ushered in by the Lord Jesus. That would be after He has allowed the current humanistic fellows to first make a thorough fool of themselves. In any case, we don't have much longer to wait before the speculations are separated from the facts.

**"The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, .....Psalm 2:2**

**G-8 agrees on New World Order:** Industrialised nations at the G-8 annual summit in Nago, Okinawa (Japan) have adopted a joint communique calling for "the building of a new world partnership which will allow all people to benefit from globalisation".

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**XX.**

**World Passport now in circulation:**

The World Service Authority (WSA) now issues the World Passport, which document is increasingly being honored by many countries. Church Arise! actually overheard some local businessmen discussing the World Passport at Osogbo earlier in the year, so the bait certainly is already in Nigeria.. However, to qualify to receive the passport, one must agree to a number of principles concerning World Govern-ment including making the following affirmation: **"As a World Citizen, I affirm my planetary civic commitment to WORLD GOVERNMENT, founded on three universal principles of One Absolute Value, One World, and One Humanity which constitutes the basis of World Law. As a world Citizen I acknowledge the WORLD GOVERNMENT as having the right and duty to represent me in all that concerns the General Good of humankind and the Good of All"** (all capitals in original)

For the avoidance of doubts, the Passport is obtainable from Gary Davis, World Service Authority, 1012-14<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 1106, Washington, DC 20005. We hope however that none of our readers will think of applying for one! The One Absolute Value referred to in the required affirmation is definitely NOT the one espoused in the Bible. In fact, it is the exact opposite Signing the affirmation is as good as selling your soul to the devil!

**(Vol 3 No 5 September – October, 2000)**

### ***EN ROUTE TO GLOBALIZATION***

Swissair announced in the Sept issue of its in-flight magazine, Gazelle (pg 78) a chip-based card, the Fast Track Card which will ensure automatic identification of passengers and would in future make **it unnecessary for them to carry passports or national ID cards**. In the meantime, confirming the decisions of world leaders at the UN General Assembly on Sept 20, UN Secretary General Kofi Anan has declared that **traditional considerations of national sovereignty will no longer be taken into account, to derail legitimate intervention by the UN** in places such as Rwanda and Kosovo. Who can argue against such a proposition? In a related issue, Religion News Today (Sept 29) reported that the world's foremost secular humanists are now openly calling for a world government. Signed by more than 100 academics and intellectuals including **9 nobel laureates, the International Academy of Humanism's Humanist Manifesto 2000 calls for the formation of a World Parliament with more power than the United Nations**. to oversee and regulate worldwide environmental conditions, transnational taxation to distribute more money to poorer nations, and population control. In Africa, leaders meeting in Libya announced on 9/9/99 a reportedly unanimous decision to set up an African Union, with a parliament by 2000. **(Vol 2 No 6, November –December, 1999)**

## Chapter 4: Church and Religion

"I was praying in a Church with 99 other believers. The Islamic government soldiers (GOS) came and bolted the doors of our Church shut. They then began to burn the Church down. We could not escape. I was the only one who survived"

**Bro. Andre**, a Christian in Turalei, Bangladesh in Voice of the Martyrs Jan 99.

"In all this, I viewed Christians as a threat to the spiritual-political revolution that was coming to the planet"

----- **Paul McGuire**, Hollywood producer (when he was still in the New Age movement – a form of satanism. Now he is a Christian, and he gives his testimony in the FGBMFI Voice, Vol 36, No 3, March 1998).

"God gives light to all in a way which is accommodated to their spiritual and material situation, granting them salvific grace in ways known to himself"

**Pope John Paul II**, (claiming that all religions lead to the same God. Nigerian Catholic Independent Newspaper, 26 November, 2000 pg 7)

" I will build My Church and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it"

**The Lord Jesus Christ** in Mathew 16:18b

### I. Cults

#### **Mormon Church plans massive Expansion in Nigeria**

The Church of the Latter Day Saints (LDS) or the Mormon Church was founded on the basic belief that all other Christian Creeds are an abomination in God's sight. Now, this Church has reported in a phone-in radio program on OGBC, that it is planning to widen the scope of her operations in Nigeria. Already in Ile-Ife, the Organization is putting finishing touches to a gigantic multi-million naira edifice, being put up in lieu of their current rented accommodation. We may therefore expect this group

to embark on their characteristic “blitzkrieg” proselytization drive very soon – notoriously among mainline Christians.

When the LDS “missionaries” come calling upon you, if you decide to entertain them at all, be sure to ask about their fundamental doctrines such as the law of eternal progression, which teaches that God was once a man, and that men too can progress to be like God (part of the requirement to attaining godhood used to include polygamy). You may also darify from them that the Jesus they are talking about is the one that was brother to Lucifer, a polygamist himself, a son of one god of many gods; and whose death on Calvary could not atone for certain sins, for which the blood of the sinner himself must be shed for atonement. Finally be fore-warned that the Bible is not the final authority with Mormons. *For more information on the LDS Church, contact Ed Decker, Saints Alive, c/o Harvest House Publishers, 1075 Arrowsmith, Eugene, Or 97402, USA, or find a copy of the book God Makers or other resources available at most Challenge Bookshops.*

**(Vol 1 No 2, March – April, 1998)**

#### **Sexual abuse at Hare Krishna School in US.**

Former students of the Hare Krishna religious movement have filed a \$400 million claim against the organization for alleged sexual and emotional abuse – including rape, physical torture and emotional terror. Several parents wanted to get their wards out of the School but to no avail. Former student, Greg Luczyk, 30, said his mother had tried to remove him from the school and sent him plane tickets to come home. But teachers tore them up at school assemblies. (Guardian July 1)

Meanwhile, the Ibadan-based self proclaimed Guru has been acquitted of murder charge against him, apparently on mere technical arguments. Relatives of the murdered Ghanaian victim expressed deep grief at what they saw as gross injustice at the Courts

**(Vol 3 No 5, September – October, 2000)**

**Guru Maharaji not yet off the hook:** The case of the murder of Ghanaian citizen Nobert Afesi will not be dismissed so easily afterall. The self-proclaimed God on earth, Guru Maharaji of Ibadan, and some of his men had earlier been acquitted of the murder charges against them, mainly due to shoddy handling of the case by the prosecution (see Vol 3 No 5). Now, following official protests from Ghana, the Presidency has ordered the transfer of the case file to Abuja, summoning the Investigating Police Officer as well (Punch, Sept 10).

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### **Cults Resist Anti-Secret Society bill.**

In spite of the on-going debate in the National Assembly on a bill which seeks to ban secret societies and its members from holding public office (Cult and Secret Society prohibition Bill 1999), membership of such societies has continued to soar, even among the clergy according to a report by Dickson Adeyanju - Guardian June 4, pg 4. The presidential report on cult activities in educational institution had listed over 56 cults in operation - even in secondary schools, and a Task Force on cults in schools is underway.

Meanwhile cultists unleash Mayhem on Benin residents (Tribune, May 5 pg 3). while the Vice Chancellor of the Uniben was fortunate to escape an assassination attempt related to cult activities (NTA 14/6/00). A similar story on University of Calabar was circulating at press time. One of the groups openly opposing the anti-secret society/cults bill is the Rosicrucian Amorc (Guardian May 12). **(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

### **Were 31 people sacrificed to gods in Delta?**

Quoting names and other facts, The Nigerian Tribune (19/3/98) reported that 31 people were "allegedly way-laid and rounded up by 'pirates' from (a named village) who took the victims to a shrine within the village where they were sacrificed to their gods". Government however vigorously denied this report about a week later (Guardian, 25/3/98). **The question is what really happened!** Reports from other sources confirm that the so-called gods, apparently desperate and up to something (no-good!) are making demands of human blood in recent times. In most cases, these demands are met by precipitating some senseless wars and carnage among the people. Thank God, the name of the Lord Jesus remains a strong tower for the Christian. **(Vol 1 No 3 May – June, 1998)**

### **Juju Priest turns to Jesus...burns down shrine.**

A popular juju priest at Ekrota, a village about 20 km East of Warri has given his life and his family to Jesus. To confirm this, the former juju priest burnt down his shrine and other paraphernalia of his devilish trade. The Mission Group of the International School of Ministry, A Bible School based in Warri supervised the event, and our man in Delta state was an eye-witness. Yet the call from Warri is that Christians all over should join in the spiritual warfare that is still raging.

**(Vol 1 No 6, November – December, 1998)**

### **Ketu-Epe: Christian Corpers on Mission**

Members of the Nigerian Christian Corpers Fellowship, Lagos State Chapter stormed the village of Ketu-Epe for a three-day outreach programme, Friday May 7 to Sunday May 9. At the end of the programme, several lives, including that of the traditional ruler and at least, three of his chiefs, were

turned over to the Lord Jesus Christ. As a climax to a victory march round the village, a shrine was destroyed. (Redemption Light June 1999, pg 21)  
**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999 )**

#### **Rosicrucian versus ECWA**

**“This Eternal God is the only God of all humanity comprising Rosicrucians, Moslems, Christians, Buddhists, etc. (He) cannot be appropriated by any person, group, sect or religion....The time has now arrived for all human beings throughout the face of the Earth to close ranks”**

Rosicrucian Amorc *in a Press Statement/recruitment drive (Punch Sept 4, pg 21), claiming they are not Satanic or Secret Society and supporting this with the June 2, 2000 Supreme Court Ruling.*

**“The issue of whether Amorc is a Secret Society was not the bone of contention in the application brought by EPL [Ecwa Publishing Limited] before the Supreme Court in December 1999 [June 2, 2000 ruling]. That issue had already been decided by the Supreme Court on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July, 1994, when it upheld the majority decision of the Court of Appeal that Amorc is a secret society.....Be that as it may, it is evident that Amorc is frantically battling to have a place of recognition within the society as a good and appropriate organization. The members of the public and all God fearing persons should not be misled by all the publications and campaigns being made by Amorc. [All] should support the proposed bill to be sponsored at the National Assembly to proscribe all secret societies in the country, including Amorc, pursuant to the Section, 38 of the Constitution.**

Signed Statement by ECWA General Secretary, Rev Dr. Musa Asake, *replying to Amorc's newspaper publications. Punch, Oct 18, 2000 pg 10..*

**CALM Comment:** But why does Amorc deny Satan publicly while choosing to revere him in its meetings? Anyway their denying being satanic indicates they know of the existence of satanic groups. Are we then to agree we are serving the same “God of all humanity” with these self-proclaimed satanists? [By the way, Jehovah Witnesses and the Church of Latter Days Saints (Mormons) also both believe that Jesus and Satan were brothers, and equal. Ask them the next time they visit you!]. New Age groups like Rosicrucians, claiming that all religions are the same, and therefore asserting that there is nothing called Deception, represent the Ultimate Deception! **(Vol 3 No 6, November – December, 2000)**

**REVIEW:** A book to beware of: **God Chasers** by Tommy Tenney

It is not our usual practice to comment on books we have not ourselves read. But in this case, the issue involved is urgent as it is important. And in any case, we have the witnesses of two trusted servants of God, Dr **Joseph Chambers** and **Bill Randles**, making direct quotes from the book that is already on the top ten best-selling book list in the USA (see full articles at [www.pawcreek.org](http://www.pawcreek.org)).

The Book's thrust is that there is a difference between God's Truth and God's revelation; and that God's revelation is superior. According to **Tommy Tenney**: "The difference between the truth of God and revelation is very simple. Truth is where God's been. Revelation is where God is". A major application of this teaching by the author then follows: "Unfortunately, the Church today spends countless hours and much energy debating where God has been, how heavy He was when He was there, and even His gender. To true God chasers, all these things are immaterial". This is pure New Age doctrine! Finally hitting the point, Tenney concluded in his introduction, "A true God chaser is not happy with just past truth; he must have present truth. God chasers don't want to just study from **the moldy pages of what God has done**; they're anxious to see what God is doing."

It is thus clear what this teaching actually seeks to achieve: the destruction of the Scriptures as the final, unchanging and complete Revelation of God to man. As long as the Bible (blasphemously referred to as 'moldy pages') remains the standard among the people of God, there is no way all these efforts to forge a one-world religion that would include genuine Christians will ever meet with any success. Books such as Tenney's clearly show that the departure of Christianity (both of Christians and the primacy of Scriptures) is imminent. We predict this book (and its teaching) is about to flood Nigeria soon. Are you ready for the Rapture?

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

Note: This book has since arrived in Nigeria. We praise God it is nowhere being a best-seller here.

#### **Rick Joyner receives catholic knighthood**

We find it very strange to learn that Pentecostal 'New Wave' leader and author of the best-seller "Final Quest", Rick Joyner, has taken a knighthood from an ancient Catholic Order, known as the Knights of Malta.

Especially bizarre are the circumstances surrounding the knighthood of Joyner and his colleagues, including Mahesh Chavada, Ricky Shaggs, etc. According to Joyner, 'I wasn't even going to do it. I thought it was a great honour and all. But, I just don't join things like that... Anyway, Paul Cain called me from Austria. And said, you know, "Just tuned in on it,"..."you're really supposed to do this thing". So I did and later some of the other guys...'. 'They went on, made me a knight commander which gave me authority to knight others and then they made me something else, where I have authority over all the knights supposedly in the US'.

The 'New Wave' charismatic movement led by Joyner plans to form a 'Joel Army' which will dominate the world in the coming millenium. It treats with abject contempt any hope of the rapture or the existence of the antichrist as shwon in the quote below taken from a publication of the New Wave movement, titled 'Prepare for War'

"The FAMC Apostolic team dispelled false theories about the anti-Christ boogie man and his Babylonian girlfriend. The FAMC team reminded New York believers that all our enemies are under Christ's feet. Declaring there will be no escape theology for the Church, the true Church has no desire to fly away" (Dec 5 1998, FAMC Direction in Age of Confusion, New York).

Sadly, these pronouncements are all too-consistent with the plans of the One-World Government/One World religion advocates. (See video clip of gathering of all religious leaders to promote the One World religion idea in the video Countdown to Eternity, available at our Library). The end-time battle is certainly growing in intensity. [Details on this article can be obtained from Pawcreek Ministries website [www.pawcreek.org](http://www.pawcreek.org), from where it was sourced].

**(Vol 2 No 5, September – October, 1999.)**

### **Capping the Egyptian Pyramid**

At the stroke of midnight on December 31, 1999, the missing peak of the Great Pyramid of Cheops in Egypt is to be capped by a (9m high) golden pyramid (BBC 1/10/99). This event is significant as it confirms New Agers expectation of the fulfillment of their time. All pyramids currently depicted in New Age literature (e.g. the Illuminati seal on the US Dollar note) are uncapped, signifying that the New Age was yet under construction. With this new development, brethren should brace up for the inevitable full-scale offensive by satanists, already well-positioned, beginning this year. This is no time to toy with your faith. You have been warned!

**(Vol 3 No 1, January – February 2000)**

## **II. Catholicism**

**2 Million-Man March in March:** The hope to have a gathering of 2 million men at Abuja in the month of March was met and surpassed – but in an unexpected way! While the political conveners, according to news reports, could only manage to draw a crowd of a few hundred thousands at an enormous cost to the nation, the visit of Pope John Paul II, the Catholic pontiff easily met the mark. In Oba, Anambra state, a crowd estimated at over 3 million met the Pope who visited Nigeria for a state/religious visit. During this his second visit to Nigeria the Pope met with a cross-section of Moslem leaders and appealed for “cooperation and tolerance”.

**(Vol 1 No 3, May – June, 1998)**

### **Catholic Bishops plan Jubilee year in Nigeria**

Issues relating to the unity, security, welfare of the citizen and ecumenism formed the kernel of the second plenary meeting of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Nigeria (CBCN), which opened on 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. The meeting was also expected to have discussed the report of the commission of CBCN on the celebration of the great jubilee year, under most Rev. Anthony Obinna, the Archbishop of Owerri province of the church. (We reported in Vol 1 No 5 that at last year's Conference in Ibadan, Islamic leaders were invited to the plenary session). Our caution then on Interfaithism is even more urgent today.

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### **Globalizing Roman Catholicism**

The Pope will begin broadcasting live audio and video of some of his religious services across the Internet. The Vatican announced that Catholics around the world would soon (by Aug 15) be able to watch Pope John Paul II recite his Angelus prayers on Sundays. Meanwhile in Nigeria, Catholics are inviting the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs to the plenary session of the Catholic Bishops Conference scheduled for early September in Ibadan. We think this calls for deep reflection: is this still ecumenism or the beginning of the one world religion the Global 2000 plan seeks to bring about?(Vol 1 No 5 September – October, 1998)

**French Catholic clerics Ask Forgiveness for Church's sins in Holocaust Era:** In a statement published in Paris on Sept 29 1997 (prior to a similar one recently published by the Vatican) a group of prominent Catholic Bishops asked for “forgiveness from God and humankind” for the sins committed by the sons and daughters of the Church during the period leading up to the Nazi Holocaust. While they noted that a number of courageous bishops and other Christians did raise their voices in strong

protest at various times, the statement agreed to the Church's overall culpability in the following words:

***"Our Church leaders failed to recognize the fact that at that time the Church was called upon to fill a void and to play a role in a crumbling society. They failed to understand that they wielded tremendous power and influence, and that, in the face of the silence of other official bodies, the words of the Church could have aroused reverberations and might have stemmed the tidal wave of irretrievable events..."***

Church Arise! hopes the leaders of the Church today are listening and they will not allow 'history to repeat itself'

**(Vol 1 No 3 May – June, 1998)**

### **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!  
**(Vol 3 No 3, May – June 2000)**

#### **Catholics and Anglicans Meet in Canada on Unification**

A very high-level meeting seeking to unify Roman Catholics and Anglicans into one denomination was held in May (Guardian June 4, page 23), in Toronto, Canada. The meeting jointly presided over by the leader of the Anglican Church worldwide, Rev George Carey, and Cardinal Edward Idris Cassidy, President of Vatican Pontifical Council for promoting Christian Unity, was attended by Catholic and Anglican Bishops from 13 regions of the world. The two remaining supposedly knotty issues were reported to be the role of the Pope (i.e. a mere titular or executive head?) and the ordination of women into priesthood. It doesn't require much discernment to see that the issue is already a *fait accompli*!  
**(Vol 3 No 4 , July – August, 2000)**

#### **Nun jumps to death from Monastery Window**

A 65 year old nun committed suicide by throwing herself out of a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor window of a monastery in Rome on July 9. In a suicide note left in her bedroom, she claimed she killed herself because her Mother Superior had refused to let her leave the building. We can only imagine the level of frustration that would lead one who has been trained to see suicide as a mortal sin to commit such a deed. And the real sad news is the innumerable other people still in such a state even today. (Guardian July 10, pg 13)

**(Vol 3 No 5, September - October, 2000 )**

#### **Vatican reveals Fatima Secret**

The much speculated-about 3<sup>rd</sup> Fatima Secret has now been revealed by the Pope. In 1917, in the Portuguese town of Fatima, three young girls claimed to have been visited by a figure termed "Our Lady", supposedly the virgin Mary of the Bible. (Most Christians don't believe this, but the Pope certainly does!) A series of messages and instructions, mainly pertaining to the end of the world then followed. Of the messages, there were three in particular that were kept secret because they were believed to be related to on-going socio-political events. The secrets were allegedly passed down from one Pope to another, and nobody else knows them. With time the first two secrets were revealed, but the so-called 3<sup>rd</sup> Fatima Secret remained locked

up in the chest of Pope John Paul II. This has led to all sorts of speculations. One usually well-informed Catholic source mentioned to us that the Pope had actually confirmed some of these speculations. Such as “millions will die from hour to hour and that a large part of the world will be inundated by water”. The Pope was further reported to have said, “if you know that much you have no need of knowing the rest which remains undisclosed.”

Well, with the authoritative release of this “prophecy” now, business has shifted from speculations to interpretations! However Vatican spokesman, Cardinal Ratzinger, gave the official interpretation of the message “no great mystery is revealed, nor is the future unveiled.” And again, “A careful reading of the text will probably prove disappointing or surprising after all the speculation it has stirred”.

What do we say at Church Arise!? Whether the “prophecy” is from God or not, and whether the interpretations are correct or not, the entire event clearly shows that Pope John Paul II, the undisputed human head of the One World Government/One World Religion movement, believes the end is so much at sight that he could release this secret hitherto kept for several decades. That is a significant sign of the times.

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**Yet Another Marian Apparition:**

Every true child of God loves the Biblical Mary, mother of our Lord Jesus. However Marian apparitions are something else. Sites of these apparitions, where people claim to see (and sometimes interact) with “Mary the mother of Jesus”, are the most popular religious sites on earth. There are 937 Marian shrines in France alone, with just one of them (Lourdes) drawing about 5.5 million pilgrims, every year. The shrine of our Lady of Guadalupe near Mexico city, attracts some 20 million visitors each year! In Nigeria, the various ‘Oke Marias’ have remained consistent crowd-pullers. Many of these apparitions are *apparently* harmless while others are obviously not so harmless - like Credonia Mwerinde’s visions that led to the largest mass murder on record in Uganda in April (See Vol 3 No 3).

The town of Assiut, in Southern Egypt is the site of the latest reported apparition of Mary (Comet, Sept 10, pg 5). According to the Secretary of the Council of Churches in Assiut, “People had been sleeping in the streets around the Church of St Mark, where the apparition happens, and standing on rooftops to catch a glimpse.” .

We find it very interesting to note the comment from Comet reporter that “Assiut has been best known until now as a stronghold of Islamic militancy during the 1990s” ..Roy Livesey had predicted in his 1989 book,

Understanding the New World Order (page 220), that Marian apparitions will be a major factor that will bring in fundamental Islam into the One-World religion movement. Mary is perhaps the most beloved figure in Catholicism while Fatima (Mohammed's favourite daughter whom he lost) is about the most beloved figure in Islam. One of the major apparitions of Mary occurred at the Portuguese town of Fatima in 1917 (see Vol 3 No 5) thus giving rise to the apparition known as Our Lady of Fatima, tickling at the same time, both Catholic and Islamic sentimentalities.

According to Dave Hunt's book based on Rev 17 (A Woman Rides the Beast), a feminine figure will be the chief deity in the days of the antichrist (the beast of Rev 13). This is similar to the situation in the first Babylon where Semiramis was the chief deity. **(See box for some official catholic beliefs on 'Mary') (Vol 3 No 6 November – December, 2000)**

**We present in abridge form, some dogmas of the Catholic Church concerning Mary. We thank God there are still several Bible-believing catholics who don't buy these scripturally indefensible statements:**

- **Born without sin like Jesus and Adam: "In the first instant of her conception, [Mary was] preserved free from all stain of original sin" – Pope Pius IX, 1854. ( cf Rom 3:23, 5:12-18)**
- **Ever a virgin, Assumed into heaven, like Jesus: "the immaculate Mother of God and ever Virgin Mary was at the end of her life assumed into heaven body and soul" – Pope Pius XII 1950 (cf. Mat 1:25, 12:46)**
- **Omnipotent, Omniscient, and Omnipresent: "Mary is so perfectly united with the Holy Spirit that He acts only through [her] His spouse... all our life, every thought, word, and deed is in Her hands...at every moment, She Herself must instruct, guide, and transform each one of us into Herself, so that not we but She lives in us..." *Soul Magazine, official publication of the Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima in the US and Canada church. (1984)* (cf Jhn 2:5)**
- **She is the "Mother of the Church, Queen of the Apostles [and ] dwelling place of the Trinity" Pope John Paul II, 1993 (cf Mat 12:50)**

#### **Update on One-World Government/Religion Moves**

The whole world watched **the Millenial Summit** organized by the UN come and go – apparently not more than the usual "jaw-jaw". However, what most did not know was that **a parallel religious version** was also

going on at the same time in the same New York City. The little publicity that eventually filtered out for this meeting arose due to the insistence of China that the Dalai Lama, scheduled to give the keynote address, should not be allowed into the UN building

. **In a similar event**, the 15<sup>th</sup> World Youth Day (WYD) organized by Pope John Paul II has come and gone. It featured youths from all nations in the world. Listing the achievement of the event, Chairman of the Pontifical Council for Inter Religious Dialogue, Nigeria's Cardinal Francis Arinze said the WYD reinforces the youths' "consciousness and conviction of belonging to a Church which is worldwide, not a village club, (but) the biggest religious family that ever-existed since the world began". He went on to add that "because of the faith the youths have in the Pope, after the WYD rally, we have a higher number of young people wanting to become priests, religious brothers and sisters,..."

One news that is not usually given much publicity is that the very same beloved Pope John Paul II has in his statement issued to the Pontifical Academy of Sciences on October 22 1996, asked that his flock accepts that Man originated through that lie from the pit of hell, the Theory of Evolution. More recently (Aug 1999), he has declared that hell does not really exist as a place but merely a concept in the mind of (simplistic?) people. Of course he needs to do all these to gain, as he seeks, the support of every manner of religion and spiritual expression on earth today into the One-World Religion programme which he publicly launched in October 1986 at Assisi, Italy. Having (in real terms) thus decreed an omnipotent and all-wise Creator-God out of existence, the only real authority left in the emerging pantheistic one world religion being sponsored by the Pope is the Pope himself. As much as we admire the private person of Pope John Paul II, when it comes to choosing between his teachings and those of the Bible, we cannot but stand up for the Truth

**(Vol 3 No 6 November – December, 2000)**

### **III. Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN)**

**CAN Embarrassed by Unbiblical Acts.** A report in the Guardian on Sunday newspaper, 19/10/97, quotes the President of the Christian Association of Nigeria, His Eminence, Sunday Mbang, as saying that the Association is embarrassed by several unBiblical acts that are increasingly being manifested in various churches in the country. The list included lavishness, acquisition of private jets and expensive automobiles, raising of tithes to as much as 50% of salaries of members rather than 10% (and

compulsorily too) and refusal of certain denominations of currency as offerings.

Presumably, the CAN President must have his facts before making such serious allegations. The Tribune on the 29/1/98 for instance carried the screaming headline: Pastor rapes girl, 13. Sad as these reports could be for the Christian, nevertheless we all have to face the reality of their existence, seeking God's face and seeking direction for ourselves in the murky waters of "compromised Christendom".

**(Vol 1 No 2 March – April, 1998)**

### **CAN goes tough against abuse of public office**

Christians in Nigeria will no longer brook abuse of public office by anyone from their fold who serves in government. According to the president of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), Dr Sunday Mbang at a Press Conference (1/9/98), such a so-called Christian "shall be ex-communicated from our fold". In its commentary, the Guardian newspaper described this as "a rare initiative that takes the crusade for official probity out of the political sphere"

**(Vol 1 No 5 September – October, 1998)**

### **Nigerian Church goes spiritual**

The Church in Nigeria, faced with unprecedented socio-political turmoil seems to at last be finding her spiritual focus. When the ex-Nigerian Head of State, General Abacha, moved a step forward in his political calculations by offering the nation (as a sort of appeasement?) to the forces of OIC et al, the Church rose as a force in open confrontation. In several denominations, too numerous to mention, children of God moved past the usual past-time of issuing communiques and openly declared fasting and prayer, requesting for divine intervention. Many of such declarations were made on the pages of newspapers and over the electronic media – and were openly confrontational!

Hopefully, the Church will not abandon this warfare mid-stream mistaking current happenings in the nation as the ultimate triumph. The battle to ensure that Nigeria fulfils her destiny in the comity of nations, especially as a missionary-sending nation representing the black race at this end time is still furiously raging on.

**(Vol 1 No 4, July – August, 1998)**

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#### **IV. Pentecost/Pentecostals**

##### **Calabar 2000**

The city of Calabar, noted as a major seat of occultic powers received a powerful and refreshing blast from the Holy Ghost as Rev Reinhard Bonnke stormed the city January 24-31. All the reports were glorious and heart-warming. However, Rev. Aniefiok Akpabio, Chairman of the Central Planning Committee of the Crusade jointly organized by CAN/PFN has warned of fake evangelists going round with claims to effect healings through Bonnke's portraits! (Vanguard Feb 8). Success surely has its own problems.

**(Vol 3 No 2 March – April, 2000)**

- **Good Report!**

The Church of God in Nigeria continues to march forward with signs and wonders being generously granted by the Lord. Saturday 6th March, at the Redemption Camp, at least 11 lame people walked away from their crutches and wheel chairs to the glory of God. Similarly at the Kwara State Stadium at a meeting organized by the World Evangelism Bible Church, with an estimated half a million people in attendance, several deaf, mute and blind people were completely healed. One of the blind healed was an elder brother to a former governor of the state and this led to even the Emir acknowledging the power in the name of Jesus. (Livingwitness, edition 3). This is just a portion of what the Lord is doing in His Church in Nigeria, these end-times. PTL!

**(Vol 2 No 3, May – June, 1999)**

**Miracle Galore at RCCG Convention:** The name of the Lord Jesus was mightily glorified at the recently concluded 48<sup>th</sup> National convention of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (Aug. 7-13). Apart from the unquantifiable spiritual edification, physical miracles publicly recorded at the Friday Holy Ghost service included well over a dozen lame walking back to their seats and at least two blind (one of them captured on camera in the process!) regaining their sights.PTL!

**(Vol 3 No 5, September – October, 2000)**

##### **RCCG Plans biggest assembly in human history**

History will be made on December 18 this year, when the Redeemed Christian Church of God plans to hold a meeting with an expected minimum attendance of 4 million. We have previously reported (vol 1 no 3) on the special Holy Ghost services of the RCCG with mammoth attendances in cities, both in Nigeria and the UK. Now, the Church is shifting this special Holy Ghost service to the Lekki Beach, in Lagos. Reminds one of Moses and the Israelites at the Red Sea. This largest gathering of human beings ever is

expected to be covered live by media houses such as the CNN and the BBC world service. We should not only pray for the success of this unique meeting, but plan to be part of it.

**(Vol 1 No 5, September – October, 1998)**

### **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. 19:23 and pronouncing it as being fulfilled in that meeting (on the night when bombs began to fall on Iraq), Pastor Tom Hess 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. Adeboye 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 vigilance and fervent prayers.

> At Lekki '98, a lorry was needed to carry the decision slips filled by those who gave their lives to Jesus Christ at the meeting.

**(Vol 2 No 1, January – February 1999)**

### **Victory At Last for Nigeria**

The 'Big Brother of Lekki '98', Holy Ghost Festival '99, lived up to its bill of bringing three days of Heaven to earth. Everything about the meeting declared the presence of God – from the physical such as the 1.5 km by 0.6 km Arena prepared for the event at short notice, to the spiritual atmosphere. Among the visible miracles recorded were the dozens of paralytics who walked away, including from wheelchairs, at the meeting – many of them far away from the eyes of the cameras and without anyone praying for them. (The cameras did pick one young lad carried to the meeting, walking away with an incredulous look – and a big smile – on his face as the worship intensified during the Anointing Service on Saturday). President Olusegun Obasanjo was represented at the meeting by the Aso Rock Pastor, Prof Obaje, and he sent a 7-item prayer request. Several ministers of God from Nigeria and abroad also participated actively.

It should be clear to discerning readers why Nigeria can not be in the good books of people seeking to usher in a global religion. The new

age 100<sup>th</sup> monkey hope (see books in our Library) seeks to prepare the “collective consciousness of humanity” for “the coming One” (the antiChrist). The gathering of millions on a single location, praising the true God can in no way help this satanic hope. Pastor Adeboye, host Pastor of Festival '99 believes the meeting will “seal the destinies” of both individuals and nations. Could he be saying that as at the end of the year 1999, the postures assumed by national governments around the world towards God (and automatically towards the antichrist and his planned world government) will be irreversible and of eternal consequences?

**Meanwhile the Campus Holy Ghost services** organized by the RCCG will continue at the University of Ibadan on 14<sup>th</sup> January and at the University of Lagos on 11<sup>th</sup> February. The November 19 meeting at the OAU Ile-Ife, witnessed a mammoth crowd estimated at 60,000 with thousands of students giving their lives to Jesus and several hundreds seeking to break satanic and cultic covenants they were involved with.

**(Vol 3 No 1, January – February 2000)**

#### **AOG dedicates National Worship Centre:**

The National Worship Centre of the Assemblies of God at Abuja, was launched to the glory of God on Sept 30. Chief Host was Rev. Dr. Charles O. Osueke, the General Superintendent of AOG Nigeria.

**(Vol 3 No 6, November – December, 2000)**

#### **Winners' Arrive Canan**

The Canan land project of the Living Faith Church (Winners' Chapel), reported to be the largest real estate project ever attempted by a Nigerian Church (The News 2/8/99) is scheduled for consecration this month (September 1999). The project is located on the outskirts of Sango-Otta in Ogun State. The main auditorium is expected to be the largest Church auditorium in the world.

**(Vol 2 No 5, September - October 1999).**

**Jesus Film is now ready in Kanuri**, the language of some 4.5 million people living in North East Nigeria. The Great Commission Movement will be sending 20 teams in different locations around and beyond Maiduguri area who will present the film for 30 consecutive days from Apr 15-May 14. An estimated ½ million Kanuris are expected to be exposed to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by the conclusion of the project. Please pray for an unqualified success for this Project. The Jesus Film is a feature-length motion picture about the life of Jesus based on the gospel of Luke. It is now available in over 20 Nigerian languages.

**(Vol 3 No 3, May - June 2000)**

### **A Macedonian Cry from Warri**

Many of us would have read about the renewed wave of inter-tribal violence in the riverine areas of Delta and Edo states. But only those who are on location could really imagine the magnitude of this disaster. A Christian brother wrote from Warri that the violence “has been so terrible that life is taken and destroyed easily like that of a goat” he concluded that serious spiritual warfare which local Christians alone could not maintain, is urgently required. His appeal: **“We want to use this medium (Church Arise!) to invite [Christians everywhere] to come to our aid. There are evil forces fighting against the move of Christians”.**

Church Arise! joins in this appeal and urges every reader to please spend at least 5 minutes each day for one week in praying for the peace of Warri and its environ; and that the Lord strengthens His Church in that region

**(Vol 1 No 6 November – December, 1998)**

### **Church Initiates Peace moves in Warri**

The three warring ethnic groups in Warri, Delta State, the Ijaws, Itsekiris and the urhobos, initiated another peace move to reconcile their differences and bring about lasting peace in the strife-ridden oil city. At a special session of the peace meeting held at the World of Life Bible Church (WLBC) Warri under the Chairmanship of the Pastor of the Church, Rev. Ayo Oritsejafor, the representatives of the communities unanimously declared and decreed for peace in Warri and asked God to forgive their past mistakes and to rule their lives so that they can co-exist in the area with love as they had done in the past. The Church later donated relief materials to the victims of the communal clash.

We thank God for this move and hope and pray that the example of WLBC will be re-enacted in the cases of Sagamu/Kano, Aguleri/Umuleri and other hot spots of communal crisis in the country.

**(Vol 2 No 5, September – October, 1999)**

### **V.**

**Ife-Modakeke Crisis finally over:** To the glory of God, the demonically-inspired fratricidal war between the Ifes and Modakekes in Osun state is over. On Saturday Jan 2, both the Ooni of Ife and the Ogunsua of Modakeke jointly attended Church service after which visits were exchanged. The ma God used to broker this peace, the State's military administrator, Col. Theophilus Bamgboye ascribed the success to God. His lieutenants **are**

quick to point out that the administrator had resorted to fasting and praying to get the issue resolved.

(Vol 2 No 1, January – February, 1999)

#### **OAU organized re-dedication service**

The Christian community at the Obafemi Awolowo University displayed an unprecedented sense of unity and purpose on Saturday Feb 6 when they called a Solemn Assembly (attended by the Vice-Chancellor) to re-dedicate their campus to Jesus. In 1981, a similar meeting had been organized by the forces of darkness when the Orisha Festival held on the campus, organized by a hard-core spiritualist who later became the University's Vice chancellor a year later. Since then, hardly a year has passed without some serious crisis on the campus. Thank God for a new beginning at the OAU.

(Vol 2 No 2, March – April 1999)

#### **Thanksgiving Service marks end of Ife-Modakeke fratricidal war**

The Christian Community at the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife is organizing a special Thanksgiving service, on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August, to thank God for the end of a nearly 6-month bloody war in the city. During the period, the University served as a 'City of Refuge' for members of the two warring communities. Glory be to God in the Highest.

(Vol 3 No 5, September – October, 2000)

**100 Years of Christianity in Ile-Ife:** A 3 day Crusade was recently organized by the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) on 21/6/99-23/6/99 to mark the century celebration of the advent of Christianity in Ile-Ife, the cradle of the Yoruba nation, and idols.

(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)

**PFN holds Biennial Conference:** The 5<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria which held on the grounds of TREM, Lagos in February was a huge success indeed. With a theme of **End-Time Revival**, and parading several spiritual heavyweights including Bishop Mike Okonkwo, Pastor E.A. Adeboye, Rev G.O. Faronbi, Bishop Margaret Idahosa, Dr Iloh, Pastor (Mrs) Iloputaife, Bishop David Oyedepo, and a host of others, the conference can truly be described as explosive and impacting. Politician Bola Ige who attended the meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> day wrote a refreshing account in his column in the Tribune on Sunday (14/02)

(Vol 2 No 2 March – April, 1999)

**Archbishop Idahosa goes home.** The President of the Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria and Archbishop of the Church of God Missions International Inc. went to be with his Master on Thursday 12th March. His was the classical story of rags to glory and he grew to be recognized as the minister no one can ignore, leaving solid indelible marks upon Church and Society in Nigeria. His life story is published in his biography by Ruthanne Garlock.

**(Vol 1 No 3 May – June, 1998)**

#### **What is Brother Andrew doing?**

Many who have read ***God's Smuggler***, the incredible account of the famous Dutch evangelist, brother Andrew, who God used to hasten the fall of the Communist movement in several former 'Iron Curtain' territory will be interested in knowing what next this man of God is involved with. According to a 1995 report in *the Church Around the World*, Brother Andrew is now being used in confronting militant Islamism and is actually presenting the gospel to Middle East terrorists. According to the report, for the past several years, Brother Andrew has traveled throughout Muslim countries, forming relationships and witnessing. He often preaches and distributes Bibles to members of the militant group Hezbollah in southern Lebanon and has also witnessed to hundreds members of Hamas, a key terrorist group in the on-going Middle East peace talks. The evangelist said terrorists are desperate, neglected, displaced refugees, with no hope and sorely in need of Christ.

**(Vol 1 No 4 June – July, 1998)**

### **VI. Islam and Sharia**

**OIC again?** The Sultan of Sokoto and spiritual head of moslems in Nigeria reported on Radio Nigeria Network news (on 21/4/98) that the Organization of Islamic Countries (OIC) has "accepted" Nigeria into its fold in their last meeting in Iran. This confirms earlier reports (Guardian 24/3/98) that the Sultan had earlier broken this news to the Pope in his recent visit here.

All these show that the forces bent on changing the religious status of Nigeria and 'Islamizing' it are not relenting in their futile dreams, despite repeated failure on their part to achieve this. This is the time for all Christians to support our leaders with prayer, (for wisdom and boldness) while at the same time be prepared to demonstrate our obedience to God through them in contending for the Faith and the future of Nigeria.

**(Vol 1 No 3, May – June, 1998)**

**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.

**(Vol 2 No 1, January –February, 2000)**

**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".

**(Vol 2 No 1, January – February, 2000)**

- **Osama Bin Ladin operates in Nigeria**

Osama bin Ladin, the Afghanistan-based Islamic fundamentalist, famous for bankrolling terror around the world is reportedly funding ARMED muslim groups in five third-world countries including Nigeria. This is as part of an international army -Muhammad's army - to be spearheaded by British and American muslims, to combat what he calls 'occupying governments'. Bin Ladin is one terrorist both the United States and Russia have learnt (from bitter experience) to take very seriously indeed.(Source: Readers' Digest, August, 1998).

**(Vol 2 No 3 May – June, 1999)**

**Osama bin Ladin**, the man reportedly planning armed moslem groups for Nigeria (vol 2 no 3) is now feared to be planning another series of terrorism against United States of America, after the ones he recently concluded against some embassies of the US in East Africa. US security are reported to be

frustrated at the fact that though they know the attacks are imminent, they have no idea where the strike may be.

**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

### **Sharia Laws launched in some Nigerian States!**

Not minding the clear designation of Nigeria as a secular state by the Constitution (Section 10), Sokoto and Zamfara states have decided on the introduction of Sharia laws into their books. There are two aspects to Sharia law: the Islamic Law of Personal status and the Islamic Criminal Law. In Nigeria, the former, which governs marriages, succession, commerce, etc came with the advent of Islam and is otherwise known as Islamic Customary law. It is binding only on people who are moslems or who voluntarily agree to be bound by it. However, what the two states (and others are threatening to follow suit) have introduced is the Islamic Criminal Law, thus automatically turning their states to Islamic states. Even the so-called Northern Elders Forum, with ex-President Shehu Shagari as spokesman, has condemned the clearly unconstitutional move, which the Christian Association of Nigeria has alleged is being masterminded by people seeking to throw Nigeria into chaos.

This allegation has proved not to be unfounded. Even before the official take-off date of Oct 27 in Zamfara state, five churches have been destroyed since the Sharia declaration. A man has also died from complications resulting from his hands being amputated. Little wonder Christians are reportedly already leaving the state in drove! (Tribune, 14<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Oct) Bauchi State Deputy Speaker, Hon. Mohammed Kundak gave an insight as to why the states are taking such blatantly illegal steps. Giving indication that he would soon move a motion for the adoption of Sharia Criminal Laws in Bauchi state despite the counsel from the Islamic "Northern Elders", he said **"I have an obligation to Allah, and nobody can stop me from moving the motion... It is a religious obligation that I have vowed to fulfil in my lifetime"** (Punch 23/10/99, pg 35).

**(Vol 2 No 6, November – December 1999)**

### **Sharia at a standstill**

The current campaign to destabilize Nigeria by fomenting a religious crisis through the introduction of the Sharia has crashed, of all places, in Kano state. Serious pressure has been mounted on all the so-called Northern States to adopt Sharia criminal law, with all the initial pockets of resistance coming from the Middle-Belt states. However, it was the legislature at Kano State that first threw out the Sharia bill sponsored by the state's Islamic clerics having been frustrated by the clerics unwillingness to

entertain any modification whatsoever, even for clearly unreasonable clauses, in the bill as presented.

We hope Christians who either are indifferent or even offering tacit support of Sharia will note this development. We emphasise that there is no way a criminal law (stipulating amputation and stoning to death) can be made applicable only to those who will choose it (who then will!). Another eye-opener: In Pakistan, an Islamic cleric, Maulana Ajmal Qadri has called for the **killing of legislators** who oppose establishing Islamic law in the country. Opposition politicians and Christians worry that some Qadri followers may take his call seriously (USA Today, 18/09/99)

**(Vol 3 No 1 January – February, 2000)**

### **A Bin Laden Factor?**

Careful readers of Church Arise! will note that the current efforts to use Islam to destabilise the Nation follows close to our news item in Vol 2 No3 (based on a Readers' Digest report) that Nigeria is one of the countries where the notorious Saudi Islamic fundamentalist, Osama bin Laden, has decided to effect a forceful change of government. Recent newspaper reports have indicated that Moslem militants are being recruited from the Niger republic. Noting bin Laden recent donation of \$30 million to finance an Islamic insurgency in Southern Russia (The South China Morning Post 23/09/99), it is not so difficult to wonder how he possibly might be carrying out his threat in Nigeria. {Is somebody thinking Sharia?}. However, the Bible is clear that our God is a specialist in catching the crafty in their own craftiness (1 Cor. 3:19).

In the meantime, the strategic 'Christian-Moslem' gateway state of Kwara continues to witness intense aggression against Christians by Moslems (see Vol 2 No 1, exactly a year ago). At the last count mid-December, fourteen Churches have been destroyed by Islamic fundamentalists (some 2000 shouting 'Alahu Akbar') without the least provocation. See details in e.g. Tribune 20/12/99)

**(Vol 3 No 1 January – February, 2000)**

### **Sharia Bomb Explodes**

With banks -including the Central Bank- expected to stop charging interest on loans or else close shop, (many are choosing the latter), or soldiers forbidden to consume alcohol in their barracks (they call it a joke); and even the risk of forfeiture of VAT allocations, it seemed inevitable, as President Olusegun Obasanjo predicted, that Sharia will die a natural death in the states currently clamouring for it. Even in traditionally Islamic

hotbeds such as Iran, Sharia is fighting for its very life. Turkey with a vast Islamic majority would not touch Sharia with a long pole! However such an expectation and analysis is underrating the influence of the troublemakers, whose main interest, quite obviously, is the destabilization of Nigeria using Sharia merely as a handy tool.

They got dangerously close to their expectation on Monday 21/2/2000 when militant Moslem youths (many allegedly imported from other states and neighbouring countries) attacked Christian demonstrators and other targets in Kaduna State. At the end of the 72-hour mayhem, several hundreds of people have been killed – mostly in cold blood, and properties valued in excess of a billion naira destroyed. A 24-hour curfew was imposed. The President described the carnage as unprecedented in Nigeria since the Civil War.

Most Nigerians are convinced that Sharia, already the main basis for the Penal Code used in the North, is now being pushed to levels that would tantamount to declaring the states involved as Islamic States, only under the sponsorship of foreign countries. Reliable but unconfirmed sources told us that Governor Sanni Ahmed of Zamfara state actually owned up that he and several other elected politicians in the state received supports from countries such as Sudan and Niger during the election. His declaration of readiness to sponsor Sharia in the southern states also suggests a man with unlimited financial resources – which could only have come from external sources, considering the economy of Zamfara state. Sudan is the major front country for notorious Islamic terror sponsor, Osama bin Laden; and according to a report in The Sydney Morning Herald, (EVIDENCE AGAINST GLOBAL TERROR NETWORK REVEALED", Jan 24) Bin Laden has access to blank passports of Sudan for his network of terror. Today, many of the '*Khadhis*' (Judges) overseeing Sharia in Zamfara state carry Sudanese passports.

In the meantime, following the advice of the National Council of State, the FG has ordered the suspension of Sharia implementation in all states of the Country. Of the two states that have adopted Sharia, Niger has agreed to suspend further implementation while Zamfara is indicating it will not comply.

**In related developments**, a front-page report of the Post Express (March 2) has alleged that about 300 Christians of Kabe ethnic group were abducted and forced to "renounce their faith". Those who refused were reportedly slaughtered. Also, the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) has gone to court challenging the constitutionality of the adoption of Sharia by some states (Punch 28/2/2000).

**(Vol 3 No 2, March – April, 2000)**

### **CANA 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.

**(Vol 3 No 3, May – June, 2000)**

**Sharia Update:** The Sharia issue is still much in the news. Indications are that all the 19 Northern states are under strong pressure to implement the criminal aspect of Sharia. Despite undertakings to maintain the status quo in all states, the issue for most of the so-called Northern states has become whether or not to include Christian areas under Sharia. The latest of them, Kano, has decided no area will be spared Sharia! The Tribune of June 27 gave an indication of the kind of pressure that is turning even otherwise reasonable people into something else. It was stated that an Arab nation is giving 80 billion naira for the states (every state?) that would adopt Sharia, and a million naira to every organization that undertakes to pressurise States to adopt Sharia. Hmm., Little wonder!

Obviously Southern states are not left behind, and Oyo's Alhaji Lamidi Adesina has in recent times been shouting he would not consider the introduction of Sharia for his state "no matter the amount of pressure" mounted on him.

Meanwhile in Zamfara, even though seven women, are already on the death row for prostitution. (their men patrons - who make the 'profession' lucrative for ladies- are apparently not breaking any law); prostitution together with its associates ('Cashi' gambling, wild partying etc have resurfaced once again, (Guardian, June 20)). However, this time around, these activities have shifted to affluent areas such as the GRA, Railway Quarters etc. where "government officials harbour women of easy virtue". Similarly, *Gov Sani Ahmed has been accused by other politicians of hiding inflated contracts under the garb of Sharia*. Indeed, legislators resorted to free-fighting recently following allegations of *forgery* in their rank. Will some limbs be severed off these legislators? As a matter of fact, one of *these highly religious men* who conscripted their state to Sharia is on the death row, having been found guilty of homosexual acts! **(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

## SHARIA FALLOUTS

- As Kaduna State governor , Ahmed Makarfi, changed the state's motto from "Liberal State" to "Centre of Learning", the people of Southern Council area are interpreting this as some 'Shariac' moves; and are warning they will secede and form their own administrative unit if such Sharia drums continue to sound .. Kaduna Deputy Speaker and others have affirmed this threat first issued by the Spokesman of Kaura Council, Chairman Solomon Barde, while respected elder statesman, Anthony Enahoro and Middle Belt leaders are actively supporting the campaign for a New Kaduna State (Guardian July 4, 6 and 10).
- **The Zar Coalition (ZACO)**, an umbrella body of Zar in Tafawa Balewa and Bogort councils in Bauchi State are protesting the proposed adoption of Sharia in the state and threatening to launch canon law in their areas and sever links with the Islamic state of Bauchi.  
CAN, Bauchi State branch has rejected the report of the State's Sharia Implementation Committee. CAN declared that the decisions and resolutions of the committee is not binding on any Christian in the State, noting that the Nation's constitution is superior. CAN further wondered why Sharia is such a serious problem now, when it wasn't so all the years several Muslims have been ruling the country.
- The President of Niger Republic (with a moslem majority) is worried over calls for Sharia. He says the situation in his country could go out of control should Sharia come into force! (Guardian, July 1)

**(Vol 3 No 5 September – October, 2000)**

**Meanwhile the call of various groups**(Ohanaeze Ndigbo, Patriots, PFN) that their indigenes/members not participate in the NYSC scheme in Sharia States, has been doused, according to one spokesman, because of the State visit of President Bill Clinton to Nigeria (Aug 26-28). According to Edo State's governor, Igbiniedion, they don't want to send wrong signals to the myriad of potential investors that would be on the train of President Clinton. Our leaders need every prayer support for the wisdom of God in the issues they are daily confronted with. **(Vol 3 No 5, September – October, 2000)**

### **POSER: Will Sharia affect Christians and Christianity or not?**

By the APOSTASY CLAUSE in Sharia, if a Moslem converts on his own free will to Christianity in any Sharialand, he has committed Apostasy and should be stoned to death in a public place.

**Question** . If and When this happens, who is being stoned to death -a Christian or a Moslem?

**(Vol 3 No 5 September –October,2000)**

**When one member of the Body suffers....(1 Cor 12:26)**

The Macedonian Initiative, highlighting the plights of Indigenous Christians from the Northern Nigeria has been launched (28-29 July). It incorporates the Tarayyar Masihiyawan Nijeriya aka TAMANI (The Hausa, Fulani and Kanuri Christians Association of Nigeria). Please pray for and support these efforts. Secretariat: 1, Apostolic Faith Campground road, Anthony Village, Lagos.e-mail: macedonianinitiative@usa.net

**(Vol 3 No 5 September –October,2000)**

**SHARIA UPDATE**

The Nigeria Inter-Religious Council (NIREC) has cautioned that the implementation of Sharia in any part of Nigeria must not violate the freedom and legitimate interests of non-muslims as guaranteed by the Constitution. According to a communiqué signed by the coordinator of NIREC, (and Chaplain to Aso Rock Chapel), Prof. Yusuf Obaje, "NIREC appreciates the fears expressed by non-muslims on the application of Sharia, especially in the areas of apostasy, capital punishment, and other areas of discrimination (Punch, 29/09/00, pg 6).

Meanwhile the Kaduna State Governor, Ahmed Makarfi has said that the State will NOT implement supreme (i.e. all-encompassing) Sharia, but would create Sharia courts for Muslims. He said, "Government is interested in moving forward and not in anything which would draw it and development backward" (Punch, 15/9/00, front page).

**(Vol 3 No 6, November – December, 2000)**

**And now, hear this!**

Three **Islamic scholars** visiting Zamfara from Katsina State received 80 strokes of the cane each for consuming alcohol contrary to section 149 of the State's Sharia Penal Code. The three Imams were on an **evangelizing mission** to Zamfara "to propagate the benefits derivable from the adoption of the Sharia legal code by the government of Zamfara" (Punch 3/9/00, front page). . It will take more than some legislation to set man free of his many inherited wrong desires and lusts. Jesus is the real thing!

**(Vol 3 No 6, November – December, 2000)**

If Sharia is a way of life in Islam, evangelism to all nooks and corners in Nigeria and beyond is our essence of life. No amount of state religion can shift this resolve, for we abide by it till Jesus comes

*Part of paid Advert by Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria. Signed by **Bishop Mike Okonkwo** Guardian 7<sup>th</sup> July, pg 44.*

"The material losses are nothing because we know we have Jesus"  
**Revd Joe Olaiya**, Living Faith Foundation, Kaduna. Speaking at the Redemption Camp on the Sharia Riots at Kaduna. 4<sup>th</sup> March.  
(Vol 3 No 3, April – May 2000)

## VII

### Neutralization via Infiltration and Contamination?

FROM the days of the early Church, infiltration has been one of the devil's main way of attacking the Church. Among many examples are those cited in Gal 2:4 and Jude 4. However, the devil seems now to be refining further this his dreaded weapon of confusion in these last days. While in those days the heretical group, often, soon revealed itself by trying to maintain a distinct identity, these days the reverse is the case as infiltrators now try to homogenize themselves with the rest of the Church - unfortunately while still loaded with their great vermin of heresy and evil intention. A clear example is presented by the Church of Latter Day Saints (the Mormon Church) whose clarion call at foundation used to be "come ye out of them", urging separation of her members from the mainstream Christianity. Now the same organization is all-out to present a facade that no real differences exist between her and the true Body of Christ. Yet her main target audience for proselytization remains this same mainstream Christianity.

Even now, a further refining of this deadly technique by the enemy seems on-going. In the more alarming cases, even genuine Christians, when unsuspecting or undiscerning are being used to achieve the devil's end. Let the reader consider the following sample reports worldwide:

EUROPE: In what discerning Christians see as a token of persecution of believers which the EU will enforce across Europe, preachers and even by-standing Christians who tried to intervene, were arrested in Yorkshire, Britain, apparently for street-preaching. In Belgium, the government has begun to compile names of serious cults; and the list already contains names of some mainstream evangelical groups. According to the *Light for the Last Days Newsletter*, it is being expected that the EU will sooner or later set up some kind of body to monitor religious groups with a registration procedure similar to the one which existed in the Soviet Union. This will effectively pave the way for the World Church (at least in Europe) ready to do the bidding of the anti-Christ when he is manifested.

A report in *Moriel Prayer and Newsletter* confirms that the excuse for the disturbing event at Yorkshire may have been provided by hyper charismatic Christian extremists who "do not preach to people, but preach (even yell) at them".

UNITED STATES: An organization known as the 'Army of God' has claimed responsibility for two explosions and declared 'total war on the so-called federal government and death to the New World Order'. It has also threatened to mount attacks on 'facilities that murder children' and 'sodomites'. The 'Army of God' has been linked with Timothy Mc Veigh, the man who was found guilty of planting the Oklahoma city bomb - one of the most despised actions in American history.

ISRAEL: The Knesset (Israeli Parliament) with backing from both secular and religious political parties has had the first reading of a new law outlawing messianic literature seeking to evangelize Jews as criminal, and carrying stiff legal penalties. Israeli police have already raided a baptism class for newly saved Israeli Jewish believers in Kiryat Gat, and discrimination is taking place against Jewish believers in the army, including being excluded from service in elite units. All these follow the mass distribution of a booklet aimed at evangelizing Jews but using techniques and sentiments which some Israeli pastors reportedly described as "deplorable",

The trend therefore is clear. The enemy raises up an army of supposedly Christian fundamentalists whose actions are then used to justify a crackdown on Bible-believing Christians who oppose the devil's schemes for the world. The ingenuity of this approach is that it further tends to make genuine Christians at the other end of the spectrum keep quiet to avoid some retributions.

What all these indicate is that the battle is to be fought with much spiritual discernment. Trying to avoid persecution outrightly is neither Scriptural nor even possible (2 Tim 3:12). However, all our actions must be birthed in prayers and we must always constantly ruthlessly check our own motives for ministry. This means, effectively, that we become merely part of the Holy Spirit's worldwide network, and not a prime-mover on our own.

**(Vol 1 No 1 January –February, 1998)**

### **Religious persecution in China growing**

Though China's constitution and legal system promise freedom of worship, religious groups are required to register. Registration often means only the 'gospel according to the government' can be preached! Recent human rights groups reports indicate that unregistered Christian groups (Protestant 'House Church' movement) are being frequently harassed and given lengthy prison sentences. China, due to its size remains the country with probably the largest Christian population on earth.

### **Churches Under Fire!**

The forces of hell are unrelenting in attacking now, physical Church buildings, apparently to destabilize, depress, and distract the Body of Christ.

In the United States, a 36 year old man with an interest in satanism was indicted April 20 on charges of burning 10 Churches in the states of Indiana and Georgia. The situation in Abuja, Nigeria is a little bit more complicated; but the long and short, according to reports reaching us, is that several Church buildings are currently being demolished as being unauthorized at the locations they were built. In Vol. 2 no 1, at the beginning of the year, we reported the burning down of some Churches at Ilorin, Kwara State.

**(Vol 2 No 3 March – April, 2000)**

### **Satanist admits torching 26 Churches in the United States**

Going around the Country, self-sponsored, Jay Scott Ballinger, a self-proclaimed satan-worshipper admitted to setting as many as 50 fires in Churches in 11 states in the United States. Ballinger, 36, was arrested in February 1999 after seeking treatment at a hospital for severe burns. Satanic books and writings were recovered from his home. According to US Justice Department officials, Ballinger travelled around claiming to be a missionary of Satan and signing individuals he met to contracts with the devil. He set fire to isolated Churches at night as part of his campaign against organized Christian religion. About 900 places of worship have been burnt down across the United States since President Clinton formed a special task force to investigate Church arson in 1996.

**(Vol 3 No 5 September – October, 2000)**

### **Another Shooting Spree in Church in the USA**

USA Today (Sept 16) reported: "A man dressed in black" walked into a church service for teenagers in Fort Worth on the night of Sept 15, pulled a gun and opened fire, killing six (3 adults and 3 teenagers) before fatally shooting himself in a church pew. An eighth person died later of shooting injuries. Authorities claim they know no motive for the action of the unidentified man in his 30s. Satanically inspired assassination of youths on fire for the Lord may be becoming prevalent in the United States.

**(Vol 2 No 6, November – December, 1999)**

### **The Gospel cannot be stopped**

In the infamous April 20 school shooting at Littleton in the USA (see Vol 2 No 3), we have gathered that at least two of the girls mowed down by the satanically-inspired assassins were of outstanding Christian witness. In actual fact, one of them, Cassie Bernal, was shot because she calmly answered in the

affirmative, with a gun pointed at her head, that she believed in God. Her witness, even unto death, has not gone unnoticed however – even here on earth. At her funeral, the Gideons International exhausted their stock of 10,000 Bibles within one hour. In the neighbourhood, not less than 1,000 youths were reported to have given their lives to Jesus Christ.

**(Vol 2 No 5, September 1999)**

### **Religious Riots in Indonesia**

Serious religious riots are being witnessed in some cities in Indonesia. The fracas between Moslems and Christians left about 65 people dead at the city of Ambon, before spreading to Medan. In our last edition, we mentioned the persecution being faced by Christians in India and Ilorin, Nigeria. Christian communities involved are actually beginning to threaten to return the violence being unleashed upon them if the respective governments continue to maintain current carefree attitude. Let's pray for the peace and safety of God's people all over the globe. It could be anybody's turn tomorrow.

**(Vol 2 No 2, March – April, 1999)**

In Saudi Arabia, a Filipino Christian, employed in the country for the past 19 years was arrested by Saudi "muttawa" (Islamic religious police) in late May (1999) for involvement in Christian activities. The wife of Romeo Macabuhay, 46, told Compass from her home in the Philipines that her husband wa reportedly accused of being a Christian pastor and producing tracts in Riyadh, capital of the strictly Islamic state.

**(Vol 2 No 5, September – October 1999)**

## **VIII**

**West-Africa in Prophecy:** "I see God raising a mighty army of spiritual warriors who were being trained in degrees that were inconceivable throughout the length and breadth of the West Coast of Africa. After this, a wind blew in 2 seasons affecting governments and changing governments and structures at radical levels, followed by a season of peace and stability throughout West Africa. Then from West Africa came an unprecedented move of God that affected virtually every part of the world from there".

Prophecy by Bernard Jordan, an African-American prophet in early 1992.

Source: Herald of the last days, Jan. 1997.

**(Vol 1 No 2 March – April, 1998)**

### **Christianity spreads in Algeria**

Ghaddafi, the Libyan leader during an outrageous Islamic visit to Nigeria on Friday 9/5/97 was quoted by the Daily Monitor (10/5/97) as lamenting: "It was unfortunate that over 4,000 Islamic Muslims in Algeria have deserted Islam for Christianity following the political crisis which (is) being misconceived as religious crisis".

Though wars don't generally help evangelism, nevertheless, they can't stop divine plans. The determining factor is the prayer of the Saints.

**(Vol 1 No 1, January – February, 1998)**

### **Church Grows in Third World Countries.**

The following reports should gladden the hearts of children of God all over the globe!

**India:** The Evangelical Church of India (ECI) had set a goal to plant 1,000 new churches by the year 2,000. This number of new congregations has already been surpassed and buildings to house the congregations have already been constructed for 999 – that one is in West Mambalam. The 1,000<sup>th</sup> is already under construction at Saidapet and will be dedicated this year when they will have a special Church Growth seminar.

**China:** The closure of all Churches at the onset of Mao's cultural revolution in 1966 led to severe persecution and total eradication of institutional Christianity in china. However, since the 19 years of the Church's re-emergence in 1979 detailed reports by *Prophecy Today's* Paul Davenport indicates that the Chinese Church may soon become the largest community of evangelical believers on earth. With over 12,000 officially registered Churches and tens of thousands of unregistered house-Churches, the total number of Protestant Christians have been quoted as something between 10-60 million! Following the ever-increasing growth of the Church, especially among youth, intellectuals and even Communist Party officials (documented in official party reports), government is beginning to step up its persecutions; but local Christians regard these as fair price to pay for their faith.

**Nigeria:** Among several awesome demonstration of God's power in Nigeria has been the regular Holy Ghost services organized by the Redeemed Christian Church of God. Once a month, hundreds of thousands folks all over Nigeria and neighboring countries flock to the Redemption Camp along the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway, in Ogun state, to have a literal encounter with God. In London, the services hold on bi-monthly basis and are no less valued. Now the Church is taking these Holy Ghost services out of her Camp right into the cities. In one of these special Holy Ghost services organized at the National Stadium, Lagos on Jan 16-17, an estimated

750,000 people were in attendance. When the General Overseer, Pastor E.A. Adeboye made the Altar Call, over 30,000 responded. One of the published goals of the RCCG is to establish a congregation within 5 minutes walk of every Nigerian. **(Vol 1 No 2 March – April, 1998)**

**Israeli Anti-mission bill:** In our maiden issue, we reported on a bill introduced in the Israel's Knesset, that would provide for a year's imprisonment for anyone "possessing, printing, copying, distributing, delivering or importing material designed to induce anyone to change his faith". According to the current issue of Christian and Israel newsletter, the Israeli government has now clarified the issue. While agreeing that the events leading to the bill were indeed outrageous, it however feels that the Bill was an overkill. Prime Minister Netanyahu has pledged that the government will work hard to ensure that the bill is defeated in the Knesset.

This is comforting news indeed; and also shows the result when Christians arise to maintain the grounds given us by the Lord. The Israeli government was literally inundated by letters from concerned Christians. Bravo!

**(Vol 1 No 3, May –June 1998)**

#### **TURKEY: Christianity Advances amidst persecution**

Associated Press (Sept 14) reported: "Police arrested 40 members of an evangelical church during Sunday prayers for allegedly holding a religious service without prior authorization." All were released however next day "for lack of any evidence", police said. Meanwhile, ALIVE (Oct 27) reported that over 4,000 Christians, co-ordinated by Peter Wagner took part in a 4-hour service in the ruins of a giant Roman amphitheater in Ephesus, Turkey. Organizers see the gathering as the breaking of the power of a major global spiritual stronghold, in particular the "Queen of Heaven" whose altar used to be located at the amphitheater. (Acts 19:35)

**(Vol 2 No 6, November – December, 1999)**

#### **Cuba for Christ**

Christmas was for the 1<sup>st</sup> time in 30 years declared a public holiday in Cuba in 1997. This reportedly has to do with the scheduled visit of the Pope for early 1998 **(Vol 1 No 1, January – February 1998)**

For the first time in 40 years, Christians in Cuba are being allowed to openly proclaim the Gospel in the public square. Forty-nine Evangelical Churches in the country, from different expressions of faith, combined forces together in the 2month Evangelical Celebrations. Fidel Castro was among the 120,000 people who gathered on the street of Havana to hear the Gospel on the final day of the celebration on June 20.

**(Vol 2 No 5, September 1999)**

### **It's Emmanuel Celebration in Malaysia**

The largest-ever gathering of Christians in Malaysia, involving 50,000 held at the Bukit Jalil National Stadium, for three days Dec 11 – 13. Argentine evangelist, Carlos Annacondia shared the gospel hope for the largely Christian crowd that had gathered for prayer to commemorate the end of the millennium and to celebrate Christmas. The power of the Holy Spirit was strongly felt in the soul-touching meeting as many healings were reported. Ethnic Malays were notably absent from the rally. The Malaysian Constitution, which allows for freedom of religion for all races, also stipulates that Malays, who make up 60 per cent of the population, must embrace Islam. Non-muslims are strictly prohibited from proselytizing to Muslims. Malaysia has one of the largest Muslim populations on earth. (From Mike Gayda's World News)

**(Vol 3 No 1 January – February 2000)**

## **IX**

### **Black Cleric removed allegedly on racial ground in England**

"A strong protest of an alleged racial discrimination against a Nigerian priest marked the commencement of the 10-yearly Lambeth Conference of all Anglican bishops in Britain" reports the Guardian on 22/7/98. The British newspaper is reported as describing Rev Cyril Okorocho's removal as the head of Missions Department in the Church as bringing up "unprecedented revolt by senior bishops" against the Arch Bishop, Dr Carey. Explaining what other Bishops have described as "dishonest and displeasing to God", one source remarked: ***"This is thorough-going fascism; a tyranny of liberal ideas. If you don't bow down to them, you are out."*** That's what happened to Cyril".

However Church Arise! is happy to note that in the same Britain, the largest Church in London (since 1896) was recently opened, pastored by Nigerian Mathew Ashimolowo – the guy who rose up from a truly humble beginning.

**(Vol 1 No 5, September – October, 1998)**

### **Norway's Church appoints 1<sup>st</sup> gay priest**

Norway's state Church (Protestant, Lutheran) has on July 13 appointed an open, practicing homosexual, Jens Olsen as a curate in the capital's majorstuen Church, despite protests from the diocese.

**(Vol 3 No 5, September – October, 2000)**

### **God our Mother?**

According to a recent report in TheNews (8/3/99), a new Methodist worship book recently launched in England is moving “with the times” by addressing the Creator God as Mother instead of the traditional “Our Father”. We wonder with TheNews whether this is feminism or a new spiritual discovery.

**(Vol 2 No 2, March – April, 1999)**

**X**

### **The Dawn of a New Age**

Welcome to 1999, the last year in this significant 6<sup>th</sup> 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 occuring 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 these seven years of manifestation of the failure of Satan, Christ will subsequently establish His own version of One World Government, 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.

**(Vol 2 No 1, January – February, 1999)**

## **XI**

### **Increasing anti-Semitism**

Immigration to Israel by Russian Jews has increased markedly this year as a result of Russia's financial crisis and growing anti-Semitism there, the **Jewish Agency** reported on May 30. "Anti-Semitism has become one of the major reasons for immigration to Israel from Russia since the economic and political crisis began in August 1998", the quasi-governmental immigration agency said in a statement. (**Punch** June 1, 1999 pg 17).

**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

## **XII**

### **Inter-faithism**

**There have always been several** doctrinal leanings in the Catholic Church which most Bible-believing Christians both within and outside that Church are very uncomfortable with. Yet many were surprised when **the Pope** announced mid August that hell does not really exist as a place but merely a concept in the mind of people. When **Archbishop Carey**, head of the 70 million strong Anglican communion worldwide, announced few days later that "we cannot really be sure that Jesus rose

from the dead"(I), the surprise turned to a stunned amazement. As we reported in our last edition, even the so-called Pentecostals are not left out of the doctrinal somersault going on in these last days as highly respected leader of the 'New Wave' Movement, **Rick Joyner** not only took a Knighthood from an ancient Catholic Order, but made mockery of the concept of the coming antiChrist and also assaulted the hope of the Church being raptured. This he labeled as theology of escapism. All the above are mere few examples of the serious on-going efforts to promote interfaithism – the bringing together of all religions under a unifying umbrella. For this effort to succeed, Christianity in particular, must have to re-define her major doctrines to make it compatible with the other religions. In the 3 examples cited, concept of judgement of sin, the power of resurrection and new life in Christ, and the hope of His return, major pillars of Christianity are hacked down by Christian leaders in daring confrontation with Scriptures, clearly and forcefully stated. For example, contrast the statements credited to the above 3 leaders with Scriptures in Mathew 5:29, 1 Cor 15:14,17; and 1 Jhn 2:18, 1 Thess. 4:17, respectively.

**Historical Background:** Interfaithism has its roots in the ecumenical movement. While ecumenicism seeks to unite Christians of all sorts of expression, Interfaithism takes the giant satanic step of further seeking to unite all religious expressions. Today, both movements are fast becoming synonymous. The main foundation for Interfaithism was laid at the Parliament of World Religions held in Chicago in 1893. The centennial anniversary of that convention was marked Aug 28-Sept 5 in the same city in 1993 to launch the final moves to institutionalize Interfaithism on a global scale. The antecedents to the 1993 convention included the founding of the pro-United Nations World Council of Churches (WCC) in Amsterdam in 1948. The WCC seeks mainly to bring liberal Protestant denominations together. Later, on Oct 11 1962, the famous 2<sup>nd</sup> Vatican Council opened. This Council openly canvassed for Interfaithism as it urged "all Christians .. to act positively to preserve and even promote all that is good in other religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, and other world religions". The current Pope acted upon these recommendations when he convened an Interfaith Summit in Assisi, Italy in October 1986. There he invited over 100 leaders from non-Christian religions to join him in fasting and praying for peace. Attendees included Buddhists, Hindus, Zoroastrians, Native Americans, African animists, and snake worshippers. Earlier (obviously working together), the United Nations (UN) had declared the year 1986 as the International Year of Peace with various groups launching different programmes in support of this declaration. One of the major initiatives launched that year was the now annual World Healing Day (every 31<sup>st</sup> December) where New Agers try

to meditate on world peace to facilitate the coming of a personality who clearly is the anti-Christ. Endorsees of this initiative in 1986 included Lucis Trust (formerly Lucifer Publishing Company), the Dalai Lama, Bishop Desmond Tutu, the WCC, among others.

**Clearly defined goals being ruthlessly pursued:** The ultimate spiritual goal of the Interfaith movement is to synthesize a “new” world religion from all the existing religions in the erroneous belief that all religions lead to God. In New Age terms, global religious harmony is required to facilitate the evolution of humankind into ‘superbeings’ or gods. This so-called ‘quantum leap’ into the ‘Omega point of human evolution’ is expected to be ushered in together with the Aquarian Age expected to commence anytime from the year 2000.

The proponents of Interfaithism plan to found a global religious body, the United Religions UR, whose charter they hope to complete and have signed in the year 2000 by 60 million people of the world. Christians should therefore watch out for this document next year, if the Lord tarries. The UR is officially scheduled to begin functioning as an organization on June 26, 2000. It is to be to religion what the United Nations is to politics and the same personalities and interest groups are behind both organizations. Clearly, if the UN will help prepare the way for the anti-Christ, the UR will be helping to prepare the way for the counterpart false prophet (Rev.16:13-14,19:20).

It shouldn't require great gift of discernment for a Christian to recognize what these developments portend for him/her! New agers consider we Christians to be selfish, self-centred people bent on retarding the progress of humankind. Not only do we believe the Lord Jesus' statement that He is the ONLY way to God (Jhn 14:6) and that all are born sinners (Rom 3:23), we also further believe that each person began his or her existence in time at the moment of conception as a creature separate from the all-powerful Creator to whom we are accountable. This is diametrically opposed to, and absolutely irreconcilable with the falsehood of pantheism, which holds that all is God and all roads therefore lead to one's expressing his/her godhood or “christ-consciousness”. This situation has very serious practical implications. As every true Christian as well as every practicing satanist well knows, Christian beliefs and activities such as prayers are seriously inimical to occultic practices. Many a magician/occultist have been known to move shops complaining of “interferences” from Christian prayers.

While the human New Agers hope to be able to “enlighten” Christians and convert them, their demonic partners (often referred to as Spirit Guides and treated as “highly evolved human beings”) do not seem to have such patience. According to one of these demons, Asher, individuals

with “lower vibratory rates” will be removed in the 2-decade period between 1986 and 2006. When the New Ager John Price queried this his demonic spirit guide on this plan to wipe out over 2 billion people off the face of the earth, the demon Asher replied:

“who are we to say that these people did not volunteer to be a part of the destruction and regeneration – for the purpose of soul growth?”

It was precisely this kind of reasoning that led Hitler to exterminate over 50 million people in his attempt to promote a superior human breed.

Another demon, writing through another New Ager, Hubbard puts it more clearly: “we the elders, have been patiently waiting until the very last moment before the quantum transformation, to take action to cut out this corrupted and corrupting element in the body of humanity. It is like watching a cancer grow; something must be done before the whole body is destroyed... the self-centred members must be destroyed.....”

### **Coming: A Legal Framework for persecution**

Arising from the 1993 Parliament of World Religions was the convening of an inner circle of Interfaith religions “authorities” called the Assembly of Religious and Spiritual leaders. This group is currently developing an Interfaith document titled “Towards a Global Ethic”. They hope the document, which will represent “an irrevocable, unconditional norm for all areas of life, for families and communities, for races, nations and religions”, will provide a consensus for “how people should behave”. There is no doubt that the document will be strongly influenced by demonic ‘spirit guides’ such as Asher. A useful analogy may be drawn from a similar document laying out the strategy for the future of global education and which was boldly declared to have been co-authored with a spirit guide, called Djwhal Khul. (This document for global education, known as the World Core Curriculum, has been approved by the United Nations and is currently being implemented principally under the aegis of the Robert Muller Schools – with very generous funding available for whoever would wish to implement it!). Participation in the new ‘ethic’ (religion) is NOT to be optional. There will therefore be a legal basis to punish recalcitrant ‘separatists’ (mainly born-again Christians) very soon!

In the next few months, issues briefly mentioned here will be coming home in very practical terms to everyone of us. Throughout the millennial year (next year), a series of ecumenical events are being planned, allegedly to celebrate the 2000th birthday of the Lord Jesus (a quite noble objective). However, a close look at the main organizers will reveal they are not all Christians. Before participating in such celebrations, check out whether other religions will be participating to “celebrate with you”. Watch out particularly for Robert Muller’s main link to the evangelical community,

Jay Gary [Not Gary Kah, note!]. Jay Gary's plans for the upcoming celebration is unfolded in his book "The Star of 2000". His endeavour to "insure that the year 2000 is celebrated as a **planetary jubilee by the whole human family**" (emphasis added) is being co-ordinated by an organization he has founded for that purpose, Celebration 2000.

The days of 'Casual Christianity' are gone forever. The satanic movement to install the UR is a return to "mystery Babylon" religion and is promoting a massive interaction between demons and humankind much like it was in the days of Noah (Gen 6:1-2, Gen 11:1-4 ). This movement cannot be stopped, and Christians will not be around to witness its final institution. However while UR backers hope to have Christians 'dealt' with (i.e. exterminated), the Bible promises Rapture. In the meantime, the true Church continues to hinder the full manifestation of this evil system and snatch out of the jaws of hell such as the Lord has ordained for eternal life. (2 Thess. 2:6-7). The only thing to fear is compromise! (Mat. 5:13-14, Mat. 16:18).

**[All the facts referred to in this article are to be found, carefully documented beyond any controversy in Gary Kah's new book: "The New World Religion" To order the book or its accompanying Video, write Hope for the World, P.O. Box 899, Noblesville IN 46061-0899, USA].**  
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### XIII

**Interfaithism Initiative in Osun State.:** If anyone will make just a little effort to discern their environment, they will certainly find the tell-tale gearing up activities of the Interfaith movement. In Osun state, for instance, an Interfaith prayer meeting was held at the Osogbo Stadium on June 20 to pray for the state. Islam, Traditional religion and Christianity were jointly involved. **Attendance was by no means voluntary** for most of the participants. Announcements on the State's radio and TV had instructed all officers on Grade Level 7 and above to be present "as a matter of duty". Traditionally, each religion was encouraged to pray for the state at their own separate meetings. It is the several thousands of initiatives such as this that is now melting together to form the global monster of United Religions. If you find it difficult to refuse to comply with a summon to attend an interfaith meeting, such as the one at Osogbo, or even find this article somehow uncomfortable/embarrassing, then you are beginning to understand the coming awesome power and influence the United Religions will soon begin to exert worldwide.

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

#### **XIV**

**2000 Templeton Prize.** The Templeton Prize for religion is the equivalent of the Nobel Prize, in religious circles. It is also, the world's most lucrative award. This year's prize, awarded to prominent physicist, Prof Freeman Dyson is worth N100 million. (May 11, Guardian). The choice of the recipient this year underscores the fact that the coming One-World Religion is trying to reach out to, and merge, every idea, doctrine and knowledge – excepting Biblical Christianity.

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

#### **XV**

##### **United Religions and The Coming Ban on Proselytization**

Sometime in 1993 at Colorado Springs (USA), with the influx of new Christian ministries and associated intensive evangelism efforts, many young Jews and Catholics started giving their lives to Jesus, receiving Him as their personal Lord and ONLY hope of escaping the world and its lusts. The Jewish and Catholic establishments reacted furiously and threatened breakdown of peace if proselytization (i.e. soul-winning) efforts targeted at their youths were not curtailed. The Catholic Bishop bluntly said in a newspaper that “the effort to evangelize by some communities was creating an atmosphere of animosity”. Such was the pressure and obvious blackmail that the evangelical/protestant Christian elders had to sign a ‘Covenant of mutual respect’ with these ‘aggrieved parties’, pledging to “learn from each other in a spirit of goodwill and mutual respect”

This is not some remote event in far away United States. It is nothing more than a refined (for now) version of the action taken by the Islamic establishments about the same time here in Nigeria (Kano, 1991), when they chose to cause mayhem rather than allow the man of God, Reinhard Bonnke to preach and heal in the name of Jesus. It does not matter that hardened criminals are repenting, that the depressed and hopeless are receiving new leases of life, that the physically blind, lame etc, are being healed, the only condition for peace is that the claims and offers of Jesus for the world must not be made known to the world! Today, things are decidedly much worse with the reign of ‘political sharia’ being fostered on parts of the country. Elsewhere, some of our old readers will recall that in our very first edition (vol 1 no 1) we mentioned the then anti-proselytization bill sponsored at the Israeli Knesset, but which thankfully did not succeed in becoming a law.

All these will help us understand the significance of the June 26 formal signing of the United Religion Initiative's Charter. The sales pitch of the UR is peace, tolerance and brotherhood of all mankind. An attractive package,

no doubt, at first glance. But what is the price? There is no ambiguity in the URI's expression of this: no more "soul winning". Let's hear directly from the horse's mouth. The opening words in the UR charter gives the package:

"We, people of diverse religions, spiritual expressions and indigenous traditions throughout the world hereby establish the United Religions Initiative to promote enduring, daily interfaith cooperation, to end religiously motivated violence and to create cultures of peace, justice and healing for the Earth and all living beings... We unite in responsible cooperative action to bring the wisdom and values of our religions, spiritual expressions and indigenous traditions to bear on the economic, environmental, political and social challenges facing our Earth community.....".

And under its principles, UR quite clearly states the price: **"(there should be) no attempts to convert followers of other faiths; but, rather, they should be urged to rediscover the internal significance of their beliefs and rituals without forsaking their chosen paths"**.

Imagine Paul trying to do that at Athens! Furthermore, article 16 of the Principles of the UR goes on to state in part,

**" We (each part of the URI) shall relinquish ... such autonomy and resources as are essential to the pursuit of the preamble, purpose and principles"**.

The real issue is that these are not mere rantings of some layabouts; but carefully set agenda of several of the most influential people in the world today. A prudent person will not trivialize this kind of development! Indications already are that of all religions in the world, only the few of us evangelicals/protestants (cited in URI article on who Christians are as constituting only 38%, nominally) will find the above price unacceptable. Even that figure may further significantly drop should any trial arise concerning it – after all, how many of us have bothered to witness to a single soul since this year began, for instance! Even though the statistics are discouraging, true children of God will never seek to ignore the very last command left by their Lord (the Great Commission), just for the sake of compromise. Because we truly love But more than mere social ostracism, we can be sure physical persecution will follow, if the Lord tarries! If you are serious with your Christian faith, you need to be prepared to be as one of the three Hebrew boys living in Babylon. It certainly is more reasonable and expedient preparing for the inevitable fall-outs (including loss of citizenship rights and outright physical elimination); rather than some unrealistic decade-long economic programme!

Indeed the much-talked about “anti-hatred bill” which was finally passed in the US senate about the same time as the signing of the UR charter, already provides legal grounds for potential stiff penalties for anyone who, in the United States, would dare condemn other people’s way of living, such as homosexuality, or practices such as abortion e the people of the world, and we know the TRUTH that only in turning to Jesus can there be true peace for any one, we will never agree to shirk our responsibility of providing light for the world, and salting it.. Without Jesus, life is hollow and meaningless as the statistics on suicide in the Eastern Religion countries clearly show. The issue is simply whether Truth is absolute (Christianity) or relative (all other religions)!

So, what do all these lead us into? The clear, inevitable fact is that “all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution” (2 Tim 3:12). Jesus warned about people who would be ashamed of His words (Mark 8:38). The emerging world is certainly not going to applaud a ‘narrow-minded, divisive, separatist, religious extremist’, who insists that all who don’t share his view are to be consigned to hell!

Many of us will certainly stand guilty of having a ‘superior attitude’ (soon to be otherwise known as ‘hatred’/ ‘intolerance’) towards other *religions*– as long as verses such as Jhn 14:6, Jhn 10: 1-10, Mat 28:18, 1 Jhn 5:5 , 1 Pet 2:9, 2 Cor 6:14ff etc remain in the Bible! Surely, the Mother of all deception is having to agree that deception does not exist!

We have shown before (vol 2 no 6) that the demons (‘spiritual guides’) inspiring the principal human authors of the UR Charter consider Bible-believing Christians as cancerous cells in humanity, that must be mercilessly destroyed, for the ‘common good’. At Church Arise! we believe the best preparation is for Christians to draw very close to God in fellowship. This is our own opportunity (and a very unique one at that) to begin operating at the supernatural. The Church of God will remain on earth, triumphant, till it pleases the Lord to come take us away. The Gates of Hell can never prevail!

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

**“...and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake”**

**The Lord Jesus** in Mathew 24:9, stating some signs of the end times

## **XVI**

### **Trumpets-bearing angels sighted in Oyo skies**

An SS2 student of Olivet Heights, Oyo, Oluwatobi Adeniyi was reported to have seen a number of angels holding trumpets which they were about to blow. A man among them, partly wrapped in the cloud (presumably the Lord Jesus Christ), was also seen restraining them from doing so. The sight was reportedly verified by several other students around. The secular newspaper which reported the event concluded that the incident might be a Divine alert on the imminence of the return of the Lord Jesus Christ as stated in the Bible (Source: Sunday Tribune, 11/4/99, pg 18).

**(Vol 2 No 3, May – June, 1999)**

## CHAPTER 5: SOCIETY AND ETHICS

**“It will no longer do** for the Church to condemn and criticize. They should show the light and enlighten the Society as the Salt of the earth and Light of the world.”

**President Olusegun Obasanjo**, *at the Year 2000 Deeper Life Bible Church Leadership Strategy Congress, IBTC, Ipaja. Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February.*

**“When the Church is sick**, the country automatically will be sick. I slam is not the problem in Nigeria. Neither is it the military nor the corrupt politicians. The fundamental problem is the Church. The mandate for us as a Church is to change situations and circumstances”

**Pade Tokun**. *Occupy Vol 18 No 1, pg 18.*

**“For too long**, the Nigerian Christian has taken too many things for granted and has become too complacent to the extent of being oblivious to the dynamic changes taking place in the social, economic, political and spiritual life of our nation....

If we Christians are the salt of the earth, we cannot help to change and preserve Society by standing askance and watch while our country is drifting disastrously towards destruction. We must bring all the Christian virtue into full play so that we can succeed in changing the man in us and thus change Society in such a way as to maintain its stability.

[We must determine] not to sit back but to be seen and heard in matters that affect our collective destiny and the destiny of this nation; we must be prepared to make personal and spiritual sacrifices in furtherance of God's work and welfare of this nation. We should strive to be reliable in an unreliable world; responsible and trustworthy in an irresponsible world; careful in a careless world and honest in a dishonest world”.

**Prof. Adamu Baikie**. Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. *Speech delivered at the launching ceremony of the Christian Association of Nigeria, Kaduna, and 10 October 1987.*

## I.

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

Vermont State became the 1<sup>st</sup> 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'

**(Vol 3 No 3 May – June 2000)**

### **Free Sex-change operations in Britain**

In Britain, a Court has ruled that the so-called trans-sexuals, people who claim they feel as if they belong to the opposite sex, are to be 'treated' for this their peculiar "illness". Treatment is not only psychological therapy, but also surgery to change their sex. The \$13,000 (N1.3 million) operation is to be paid for by tax payers.

**(Vol 2 No 5 September – October, 1999)**

### **Bestiality**

In Niger State, a middle-aged man, Adamu Sanni was sentenced to 10 years in prison with hard labour in Niger State of Nigeria for 'raping' a donkey, and a 4-year old girl. He had previously being convicted twice for raping minors. (Nigeria News Network– 20/1/99)

**(Vol 2 No 2, March – April, 1999)**

**Justin Fashanu, Nigerian-born British footballer** committed suicide after being declared wanted by Police in Maryland (USA) for homosexual assault on a 17 year old boy. "I want to die rather than put my friends and family through any more unhappiness" wrote the football "hero". He would have faced a possible 20 years in jail in Maryland where homosexual acts are illegal. The things Satan does to those in his clutches!

**(Vol 1 No 6 November – December, 1998)**

## II.

### **Cannibalism and the Herbal Cure Invasion**

Nigerians were aghast with the discovery on Feb 3 of a shack in Oshodi, Lagos where human limbs and other parts were found being roasted on fire. A hapless, gaunt and exhausted woman, apparently waiting to be eaten by the cannibals was also rescued. A man, Clifford Orji was subsequently arrested and has been in police custody since. The

identity and whereabouts of a second man (Tahiru Aliyu?) often mentioned in the case are not as well known.

The circumstances of the saga, including stories about lines of expensive cars always to be found near the shack at night, the confidence reportedly exhibited by the arrested man that he could not be tried, and the laughable attempt by some people in authority to sell the man to the public as a simple psychiatric case, clearly indicated to us at Church Arise! that high level satanism was involved. Apparently, the man was Satan's street-man to provide human parts (probably for 'minor rituals') to the unending streams of people turning to Satan in these end-times for their unending rituals. For 'major rituals', satanists procure the required parts by outright abductions and killings. Several stories from Ikotun, Ogba, Ikeja and Accra in recent months all consistently involved female victims only. In this case at Oshodi, eating the remaining portions of the bodies is probably only a convenient way of disposing them – although it is known that satanists often eat human parts "to acquire more power". This opinion that the man Orji was satan's street-man is not peculiar to us. The character Hodge in the novel *Millenium's Eve* by Ed Stewart played a similar part.

The police are apparently also thinking along the same line with us. According to Prime Sunset newspaper (Feb 18), "a source close to the Police" stated that "it would be wrong for anyone to believe that somebody like Orji can single-handedly kill and eat human beings as the world is currently made to believe .... there must be more accomplices". And the police had a pretty good idea of where to look: shrines, herbal homes and cult chambers.

We believe the menace of the Herbal homes is now turning to an epidemic; and Christians ought to take not only note, but action as well. In buses, on the newspapers and on the electronic media (notably Radio Oshun and Lagos TV in recent times), there is an unending assault on the masses from people who claim to be nature healers. Whereas their methods are clearly spiritual! For instance a list of "diseases" provided with a directory of "natural healthcare practitioners" in the prestigious Guardian on 15/10/98 included "spiritual husband". The cure is peculiar to each practitioner, whether it is a tea, or a soap, etc, it is the same one cure for all ailments. The undeniable clear evidence is that all who patronize these people are merely establishing doorways for Satan to enter their lives and begin his mission of stealing, killing and destroying – temporary physical relief notwithstanding. Tell (Feb 1) tells the story of a Chinese witchdoctor Hu Wanling, currently being charged for the murder of at least 190 patients within a year. This followed his release in 1997 from a 14-year

imprisonment on similar charges. Yet he goes about with bogus claims similar to those of his Nigerian counterparts and even have a book "*Quigoin Master*" written on him. Other practitioners in Nigeria claim they could confer immunity to their clients from HIV/AIDS thus clearly trying to encourage life-damaging sexual habits. Unlike in China, no one seems to see what damage these occultic people are doing here.

The destruction that awaits every case that is referred to the Nature Healers is clearly shown by the example of Mr Clifford Orji. According to an exhaustive investigative work by the Guardian (Feb 20), Orji's problem actually started around 1995 when he had been talking about a certain oracle in his home town which must be appeased by certain rites by indigenes at a certain age. After initial reluctance, he went to do so and "came back with hair shaven and as well started wearing white clothes only". He later, upon his arrest, claimed to be a herbalist. He certainly must have seen himself as one!

It is time Christians took the invasion of the herbal home more seriously. They have since discarded their traditional attire and don suits compatible with the new age movement of which they are an integral part. We should be aware and protest, appropriately, the wide support they are receiving even from public institutions. But more than exposing them and protesting, we should counter this menace through concerted prayer efforts. We can, and should, make the environment unconducive for them and their practices.

**(Vol 2 No 2 March – April, 1999)**

#### **Traditional Medicine**

**Q:** As a Spiritualist, would you say there is a lot of spiritualism in traditional medicine?

**A:** Well, I have said it on many occasions that traditional medicine is in many parts. We have the physical aspect, the metaphysical aspect, the occult aspect, the purely spiritual aspect, and other esoteric aspects. If you wish to be an efficient traditional doctor, you must be able to know at least two or three of these aspects.

Late **Chief J.O. Lambo**, National President of the Nigerian Congress of Traditional Medicine Practitioners in an interview with **Bisi Lawrence**. *Vanguard*, June 6, 1999. Pg 5.

Church Arise! loves and respects all human beings, irrespective of religion. But no concord whatsoever is possible between Christianity and the new Age falsehood. (2 Cor 6:14-15). Only Jesus died to save Man from Satan. Only Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

### **III. Updates**

**Cannibals:** Punch newspaper carried out a revealing interview with another supposedly mad man whose abode usually hosts fleets of expensive cars. The story suggests that the cannibal Clifford Orji's case is not unique at all. Furthermore, the suggestion that these strange people have strong official connection and protection is buttressed in the interview. See details in Punch, 13/3/99.

**(Vol 2 No 3, May – June, 1999)**

#### **Covering-up the Cannibals?**

In previous issues, we highlighted the problem of satanic street men, such as the cannibal Clifford Orji and co in Lagos (vol 2 no1), and another of his sort in Abeokuta (vol 2 no 2). By their own confessions, these people were connected with powerful people in the former governments and engaged in satanism. We had noted the laughable attempts at covering them up under various guises – such as labeling them 'insane'. The latest of such now, is the 'ground-testing rumour' of a pm newspaper in Lagos, that Orji, still locked up in a psychiatric cell, has become 'born-again'! Whatever the situation, we think it is time the public knew the truth about these people and their backers. They should be prosecuted according to the Laws of the land, without any further delay.

**Meanwhile,** Cross River State governor, Donald Duke has stopped, mid-stream, the traditional herb fair in Calabar and ordered practitioners out of the state. Though details were not given, it has been generally alleged that since the fair started in Calabar, some people have died as a result of complications, resulting from the indiscriminate application of the herbs. The over 400-stand traditional medicine fair had operators claiming ability to cure (or provide immunity against) several kinds of ailments, mainly sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS. The figures in the next article below may help the reader to appreciate better what it means encouraging people to lead loose, irresponsible sexual lives; and making them think that AIDS, for example, is not a Nigeria problem.

**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

#### **Human Organ Theft**

We told of the human organ theft racket in the USA (Vol. 2 No.1). A recent report in Nigeria (see Tell 22/3/99) is similar in methods although it didn't involve any organ theft. According to the report, a veteran trade unionist on his way to Abuja was sent to a coma by the perfume of a lady who came to sit by him at the airport lounge in Ikeja. Thank God, he recovered 3 days later, but all his valuables had been carted off by the said young lady.

**(Vol 2 No 3 May – June 1999)**

**Dead baby beheaded – in hospital**

The human body-parts hunters are still ever in business. Think again, who asked them to procure those parts? And why? At the end of the line, barely out of sight, is Satan, pulling the strings and continuing to lead men to hell. The story below, from Jos, calls for deep reflections:

A baby girl, 9 months old Chibugo Mmeje, was confirmed dead on the evening of June 11. The distraught father however could not settle the bills on that evening as the Hospital accountant was reportedly not around. When the man came to the Hospital mortuary the next morning, however, it was to find the headless body of her deceased baby. The head had been neatly sliced off. Hospital management were reported to have unofficially said that the head might have been chopped off by rats. The Police have been invited into the case (**Guardian 17/6/99, pg 17**).

**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

**Ritualists still at work:**

Do you recall the incident we reported in vol 2 No 4 where a girl's head was supposedly eaten overnight in the mortuary by rats? The following news (Guardian July 8, pg 38) is a sad reminder that this kind of practice still continues, unabatedly, in several hospitals in Nigeria today.

Baby Igbinosa, born 3.45 am on June 3 2000 at St Philomena Catholic Hospital, Benin City was not returned to her mother till 5.00 pm! She was told not to remove the plaster on baby's 2<sup>nd</sup> left toe which supposedly was to protect a minor wound. When the plaster fell off by mistake, some days later however, it revealed that part of the toe had all along been amputated! Hospital confirmed Baby was born OK without any problems on record. Investigation is on-going on this suspected human part ritual use

**(Vol 3 No 5, September - October, 2000)**

**Human Trafficking in Nigerians:** A Nigerian Women Consortium, WOCON, is stepping up its campaign against the international trafficking of Nigerian women, particularly in Europe. The group alleged that hundreds of Nigerian girls are trafficked into prostitution every year and mostly to Italy, Belgium, Holland and Germany. "These girls are in conditions similar to slavery". This sad trade is growing at faster rate. (Tribune May 15, and May 17, pg 15.). Meanwhile, a back-page report in the Tribune of 26<sup>th</sup> May indicated that 6 human traffickers have been nabbed by Edo Police Command.

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

**He who is holy, ....(Rev 22:11)::** Mr Okon Uway, a banker, picked up a N20 million cheque belonging to a multi-national oil firm on the street; and *promptly* returned it. Uway, 36 year old **premises maintenance officer** at Citibank is a born-again Christian.(Guardian May 4, pg 13). Last year, another Christian airport **taxi driver** returned six thousand dollars **cash** which a passenger had forgotten in his cab. Let's face facts, no one has any excuse for unrighteousness.

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

#### **Worldwide: Demonic Healings Continue to Receive Mass Promotion**

The popularization of demonic-inspired healing methods continue unabated worldwide. The nomenclature varies from continent to continent: Integrated Medicine, Guided Imagery, New-Age healing, etc. The media in recent times have been inundated with programmes giving credence to "Alternative Medicine".

In Nigeria, especially as a result of the depressed economy, there is massive promotion of so-called "traditional medicine" under Fairs, and over grassroot-targeted mass-publicity instruments like radio stations. Most of the people featured openly appeal to idols and other demonic powers. The only alternative to stopping people rushing in to exchange their souls with some expected relieve in their bodies is for Christians to manifest the true gifts of the Spirit rather than engaging in mere "spiritual gymnastics" and "charismatic" showmanship.

**(Vol 2 No 4 July –August, 1999)**

### **IV.**

#### **HIV/AIDS Epidemic Hits Nigeria**

This statistics is frightening: More than 3 out of every 7 people screened in Otukpo, Benue State of Nigeria, have AIDS! According to an NTA Newslane Report, the situation might not be too different in other states, if the whole truth is to be told. In fact, it was affirmed that of the several AIDS-related death in Otukpo, several of them lived in other cities in the country, and only came home to die. A reliable source told us of a hospital in a major city in South West Nigeria, where HIV virus was being detected, in very many cases, in blood of patients who had come in for other medical reasons! Though there are several means by which the disease is transmitted, by far the commonest is through sex. That is why it is very unfortunate to see people still placing hopes in 'safe sex' rather than 'responsible sex'.

**....And a cure for AIDS?** Church Arise! is always wary of promoting fakes or raising false hopes. But it is interesting to note some of the several

claims concerning cures for AIDS. A notable one is that by one Abuja-based surgeon, Dr Abalaka who on NTA news announced he has both curative and preventive vaccines for HIV/AIDSs. However he has not been able to get co-operation from his colleagues in the medical profession at the nation's Teaching Hospitals as none would agree to send patients to him for verification. Could it be something is so plainly wrong with his claims (CA! for instance wonders at his claims that mosquitoes transmit the virus, contrary to definite pronouncements by WHO), or could it be part of the One World Government conspiracies which according to respected researchers such as Barry Smith, not only generated the Aids virus in the first place but is bent on making it remain an issue for as long as they wished? (See Final Notice by Barry Smith in our Library).

Another notable claim of a cure for HIV/AIDS is by a Jacob Abdulahi also of Abuja, with his drug, WinnieCure.

**Meanwhile, a CNN report** (<http://CNN.com/2000/HEALTH/AIDS/01/31/aids.priests/index.html>) has indicated that in the United States, Roman Catholic priests are dying from AIDS-related illnesses at a rate four times higher than the general population.

**(Vol 3 No 2 March - April, 2000)**

### **AIDS in Nigeria**

In 1998, one Nigerian got infected with HIV every minute, resulting in 1500 **new** infections daily. In the same period, 140,000 people died of AIDS in the country. The figure for this year is expected to be more! In fact the prediction is that **1.4 million** Nigerians will **die** of AIDS in the next 4 years. (Source: First Bank Medical Services)

**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

**AIDS Scourge not yet over:** Just as new breakthroughs in Aids research is bringing some measure of relief and hope to many, a recent announcement by French scientists is puncturing such hopes. The scientists reported they have identified a new strain of AIDS virus from a Camerounian woman that does not belong to the two main types of HIV-1, and warned that the virus may escape detection by existing Hiv tests. There are similar reports of yet other new strains as for instance that allegedly imported into Britain from Thailand. Though there are several innocent people suffering from Aids, yet the vast majority contracted the disease through sex and loose, unBiblical lifestyle. As far as Aids is concerned, the final word may yet be that there is no such thing as 'safe sex', only 'responsible sex', that is one done in context of Christian marriage.

**(Vol 1 No 6, November – December 1998)**

**AIDS, Security Threat:** The US government has formally designated AIDS a “security threat that could topple sovereign governments, torch off ethnic wars and undo decades of work in building democracies abroad” (Washington Post April 30). This can hardly be called an exaggeration:

In Rwanda, more than 4 out of every 5 deaths are now AIDS related, and according to Feb-April 2000 data, 70% of the patients in the main hospital in Kigali had tested positive to HIV) (Guardian May 5. With over 5% incidence of HIV in Nigeria, Nigeria may, within the next few years, have the largest number of AIDS cases in the world. Even 5% of our current 100 million is more than the population of many African countries already! Reportedly, Nigerian lawmakers are including generous provision for treatment of AIDS for themselves in the on-going budgetary allocation face-off between the legislature and the presidency.

Meanwhile, an authoritative pronouncement on **Abalaka** has come at last. The expert committee set up by the Nigerian Medical Association has announced its finding on Dr Abalaka's AIDS cure claim: “inconsistent and of no scientific merit”.

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

#### **HIV Disclosure law in Botswana**

In Botswana, with more than 1 in 3 adults infected with HIV virus or having AIDS, the country has enacted a law making it an offence for an HIV positive person to have sex with a person without informing them of their HIV status. In neighbouring Malawi, AIDS is now the major cause of death in the House of Parliament. According to the Speaker, over 29 Members of Parliament have died of AIDS in the past four years. (Africa Today vol 6 no 9, pg 6-7)

**(Vol 3 No 6, November – December, 2000)**

#### **V.**

##### **Girl 6, robs bank**

Australia's (perhaps the world's) youngest bank bandits, two girls aged 6 and 11, were caught red-handed after smashing their way into a Commonwealth Bank branch in Armadale, Australia. The girls were found by the Police hiding under a desk in the bank when officers arrived to check a broken window and a silent alarm that had been activated. (Sketch, **26** May, 1999)

**(Vol 2 No 4 July – August, 1999)**

## **VI.**

**Dressing:** While it has been interesting following the debate between Christians who see nothing wrong in ladies putting on trousers, on the one hand and the antagonists of such a practice, we find nothing funny at all in current increasing trend among so-called born-again who go about virtually half naked, (or thigh-length minis, or normal skirts slitted up to abnormal heights!). This sort of dressing is obviously designed to arouse base passion in the opposite sex. Pure and simple. Pray what is the primary value of clothing if not to cover one's nakedness? We urge every lady who is involved in this practice to check themselves for their deep motives

**(Vol 1 No 6, November – December, 1998)**

**Mini-Skirts, Aids And Rapes:** Swaziland has admitted that there is a definite link between outrageous female dressing and sexual diseases. Now in order to halt the spread of AIDS, mini-skirts have been banned in all the nation's schools. (Guardian July 22, pg 7). In a related issue, Catholic Bishop Juan Iniguez of Guadalajara, Mexico has said women must share in the blame for sexual abuse because of the "provocative" way they dress (Guardian, 19<sup>th</sup> August, pg 6)

**(Vol 3 No 5, September – October, 2000)**

## **VII.**

### **"Do-It-Yourself"- Suicide Video**

A new, do-it-yourself **suicide** video has been produced from the best-selling book, "Final Exit" by 69-year old Derek Humphry. The video gives simple, easy-to-follow guide to committing suicide and is reportedly doing well in the market. The print version has sold more than 1 million copies and has been printed in 12 languages. Now according to Associated Press (Feb 1), a Public Television Station in Oregon, USA actually planned to air the video on its station. What on earth is happening if there is so much interest in committing suicide? Oh that the Church may proclaim the Gospel of Life and Hope to the disenchanted millions!

**(Vol 3 No 2, March – April, 2000)**

## **VIII.**

**Kleptomania:** A German police chief in charge of about 300 police officers in the state of Hesse, was caught, in his uniform, shoplifting a small bottle of ant poison worth a few deutchmarks. "I didn't know what I was doing", he was quoted as saying. "A blood vessel in my brain must have burst". He was arrested only after a hot chase and with the assistance of other police officers. (June 8 pg 11)

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned?  
Mathew 5:13a

## IX.

### **Damning Deadly Data**

There are over 70,000 pornographic sites on the Internet. These are increasingly being targeted at children. It is strange that many people still fail to see the ugly dark hands of Satan in this sickening and perverse business.

There are over 100,000 human embryos in frozen state in the United States alone. It is incredible that Society still holds these as mere properties. Recently in July (1999), a fertility clinic in England announced it was folding up, and that the thousands of unclaimed embryos in their stock will be destroyed. The humanity of these embryos was clearly demonstrated in the case of the 14 year-old embryo that was thawed out and successfully implanted to give a normal healthy boy as we reported in our earlier volume. Recently Dr James Dobson's Focus on the Family (USA) also featured a story where one of the frozen embryos was adopted by a couple, who later successfully gave birth to a beautiful girl, shown for the world to see in the TV studio.

**(Vol 2 No 5, September – October, 1999)**

## X.

**Ugh, Ugly:** Nigeria football stars Austin 'J.J' Okocha and Emmanuel Okechukwu both playing professional soccer in Turkey, have been reported to have taken up Turkish citizenship in order to beat some rules by the Turkish F.A. and maintain their positions in the first team. Well, that may be professional enough. **But were they also required to change their names and religion as they now seem to have done?** Is this a case of selling one's birthright for a mess of pottage or perhaps they never had any previous religious convictions? Esteemed Reader, may we ask: is your own faith in Christ also not more than another exchangeable item on the shelf, (apparently) like these two gentlemen's?

**(Vol 1 No 3, May – June 1998)**

## XI.

### **Evolutionary Psychology book says Rape is natural:**

The fruit of the evil doctrine known as evolution continues to amaze sane people, religious or otherwise. Already evolution is the theoretical

framework supporting such philosophies as communism, Nazism, racism, etc, and it is now currently giving mass promotion to the labeling as “normal” and even “good” such demonic practices as sexual promiscuity, homosexuality, abortion, and in recent times even infanticide and euthanasia. The usual premise is that since these practices have been allegedly observed in various species of animals, they are therefore nothing more than natural biological processes in animals. And man is just a more advanced animal. The latest outrage however is the publication of a book, A Natural History of Rape, last year by Profs Randy Thorhnill and Craig Palmer. In this ground-breaking effort, all they say for now is that rape is “natural” to animals, including man. The rest of the story is bound to follow.

**Vol 3 No 5, September –October, 2000)**

## **XII.**

**Q** What have the various ideas listed below, a motley group often contradicting one another, in common?:

Induced abortion; Artificial Insemination by Donor (AID); Cloning; Baby farms (where young women bear children intended for sale for adoption – common in Eastern Europe; Breeders (in satanism, where women bear children for use in rituals); bestiality (sexual intercourse with animals – often demanded of people who visit ‘spiritualists’, and consistent with the doctrine of re-incarnation); euthanasia; eugenics; communism; humanism; women lib. etc, etc

**A:** They are all working towards cheapening the value of human life and knock it off its Biblical pedestal. The ultimate goal is to resist the Kingdom of God and lead men to hell! **(Vol 2 No 2 March – April, 1999)**

## **XIII**

The 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the annual Meditation on World Peace organized by New Age leaders, John and Jan Price, is expected to hold December 31, 1999. Began in 1986, Mr and Mrs Price hope to eventually get some 250 million people on earth to give their ‘mental assent’ to the coming new age. By the beliefs of New Agers, a “critical mass” of like-minded people pursuing the new age ideal is required to enable humanity take the “quantum jump” and attain a “conscious evolution into the Omega point”. The reality is that as long as there are sincere, uncompromised believers alive and well on earth, this satanic goal cannot be met. In fact this is the main reason new age advocates simply can not even pretend to tolerate genuine Christianity.

**(Vol 3 No 1, January – February, 2000)**

## CHAPTER 6 – EDUCATION AND FAMILY

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 underlying philosophy upon which The Robert Muller School is based will be found in the teachings set forth in the books of Alice A. Bailey by the Tibetan teacher, Djwhal Khul (published by Lucis Publishing Company, 113 University Place, 11<sup>th</sup> floor, New York, NY, USA 10083) and the teachings of M. Morya as given in the Agni Yoga series books (published by Agni Yoga Society, inc. 319 West 107<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, N.Y. USA 100250)

From the Preface to the World Core Curriculum Manual, the foundation for education in the new age already adopted by the United Nations. Alice Bailey referred to was one of the principal founders of the occultic new age movement, the Tibetan teacher referred to is not human, but a spirit being (a demon), while Lucis Publishing Company used to be Lucifer Publishing Co.

The unifying of traditions into a single common pool of experience, awareness and purpose is the necessary prerequisite for further major progress in human evolution. Accordingly, although political unification in some sort of world government will be required for the definitive attainment of this state, unification in the things of the mind is not only necessary also, but it can pave the way for other types of unification.

**Sir Julian Huxley**, noted evolutionist and the first Director-General of **UNESCO** in a paper written in 1949 but kept "in-House" at the UNESCO for 30 years. Later published in the Humanist, vol 39, 1979, p 35.

Correct your son and he will give you rest

**The Holy Bible** (Proverbs 29:17)

## **I. HOMOSEXUALISM**

> Disneyland. The (British) Daily Telegraph (19/6/97) reported that members of America's largest Protestant Church – the Southern Baptist Convention – have called a boycott of Disney Theme Parks because of their promotion of homosexuality. Disney's clean-cut family image has been tarnished with the promotion of festivals for homosexuals and publications for them through their allied publishers. (Prophecy Today, vol. 13, No 5, 1997)

**Vol 1 No 1 (January – February 1998):**

### **US admits moral decay in Society**

In several round-about ways, the government and people of the United States are admitting to serious moral decay in their society. Apart from the implied attestation to this in the way most Americans shrugged their shoulders at the admittance of "inappropriate" sexual relationship by president Clinton; the Pentagon is reportedly considering softening military's "strict approach on adultery " to "bring it more in line" with attitudes of contemporary America. The US House goes even a step further, upturning a veto by Clinton perceived to be harsh on homosexuals. Meanwhile, according to senate majority leader Trent Lott (CNN 21/7/98), the Senate is waiting "for an opportune time" to present one Janines Hornel (self-confessed homosexual) as an ambassador to Luxembourg. He will be the country's first gay ambassador.

**(Vol 1 No 5, September – October, 1998)**

**The European Parliament** has called for legislation, which would be binding upon member states to legalise homosexual marriage and allow homosexual couples to foster or adopt children. (Prophecy Today Sept 1997, pg. 31).

### **Archbishop supports homosexuality?**

Moriel Prayer and Newsletter has recently reported that the Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey has said that homosexuals can now be Anglican Clergy and that homosexuals and heterosexuals have much to learn from each other. This is a very sad development indeed, which no one would have thought was possible some years back. The time for the Church in Nigeria to stand up against this trend is NOW.

Meanwhile, homosexuals in Britain have been accorded co-equal rights to adopt children and bring them up in homosexual environments, and both the Boy Scouts and the Royal Forces have decided to allow homosexual membership.

**(Vol 1 No 1 January – February, 1998)**

### **United Methodist elevate Guideline against same-sex unions**

The United Methodist Church has elevated a guideline against same sex marriages into Church Canon and said ministers who perform the ceremonies could be defrocked. The Judicial Council of US second largest Protestant denomination, ruled that "ceremonies that celebrate homosexual unions shall not be conducted by our ministers and shall not be conducted in our Churches". Did someone say Praise God for some sanity somewhere?

**(Vol 1 No 5 September – October, 1998)**

### **Pro-Gay clergy still unrelenting though**

Despite the recent decision of the United Methodist of the the USA to ban Gay marriages, the contrary party are still unrelenting. According to a recent report 363 clergy of the Church have written to press for an end to the ban. they will not succeed in Jesus name.

**(Vol 1 No 6, November – December, 1998)**

## **II. MARRIAGE**

### **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?

**(Vol 2 No 1, January – February, 1999)**

### **Marital Vow to be changed**

The Church of England is currently trying out a new form of marital vow, according to Saturday Champion, (11/10/97, page 2). The reports indicate that brides are no longer to pledge obedience - a virtue that Scriptures directly recommends (1 Pet 3).

**(Vol 1 No 2, March – April, 1998)**

### **Churches go for compulsory medical Pre-marital testing**

In Abuja, the *Catholic* cathedral's administrator, Monsignor Kenneth Enang has directed that intending couples must first undergo HIV test. In addition they are to undergo pregnancy and genotype tests. Reason cited for this is "to protect such marriages, the couples and their offspring" (Guardian May 1, page 3). The *Anglican* Church in its own case is reported to be seriously considering barring expectant brides from the Church.- as a way of

“restoring chastity into the fold”. (Guardian May 2). Although the House of Bishops has not decided, the new primate, Rev Peter Akinola is said to regard the issue as one of his priorities

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

**Dangerous Statistics:** In Britain, Divorce now ends one in every two new marriages, with two out of every three marriages failing. Forecasts indicate that one in every four children will now see their parents divorce. Every Christian must determine not to be part of this grim reality. (Source Guardian Newspaper, 23/05/99)

**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

**One advantage of marriage** is that, when you fall out of love with him or her, it keeps you together until you fall in again. - Judith Viorst

### **Marriage Penalty Tax in the United States**

Married couples in the United States pay, on the average, \$1,500 more tax than they would pay if they were not married. Pro-family Christian groups are referring to this situation as a ‘marriage tax’. A recent newspaper report carried the story of a couple who reluctantly agreed to divorce because they felt that would ease their financial burden. Talk about the devil breaking homes!

**(Vol 2 No 5, September – October, 1999)**

### **‘Marriage Penalty’ Tax relief in sight**

We mentioned before (Vol 2 No 5, 1999) that married couples in the US pay as much as \$1,500 excess, on the average, as taxes, than they would have paid if they were not married. The good news is that the US congress is now seriously considering redressing this outrageous situation which affects an estimated 25 million families.

**(Vol 3 No 2 March – April, 2000)**

### **Romance Quiz:**

**Q:** Why did Emily Cavanaugh break her engagement to William Franklin Graham in 1938?

**A:** She wanted to marry a man that was going to amount to something, and didn't think he (Billy Graham) was going to make it.

(Source: A Prophet with Honor – by William Martin, Morrow, and N.Y. 1991.)

**Pseudo-science:** A recent report ( by Halsey and Dennis) has shown that children from broken homes performed less well in school than those from intact homes. However some 'social scientists' are taking issues with this finding. When one of these was pressed repeatedly to identify the research that repudiated the Halsey / Dennis thesis, he said, in summary, this: *"of course it was correct as far as the research was concerned, but where did that get anyone? Nowhere! Was it possible to turn back the clock? Of course not! And why were they so concerned above all else for the rights of the child? What about the rights of the parents, which were just as important?"*

This clearly demonstrates the mindset of many a so-called researcher. They are trying to sell either their personal failures or religions to the unsuspecting public. Refer to Prophecy Today (Sept-Oct 1997) for details. **(Vol 1 No 1 January – February, 1998)**

**"I do not pretend to be violently in love, but I have a sincere affection and esteem for my wife"**  
**Martin Luther (in a diary entry for June 13, 1525)**

### **III. CHILD DISCIPLINE**

#### **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.

**(Vol 3 No 3 May – June, 2000)**

#### **IV. CHILD ABUSE**

##### **Child Racketeering!**

Dear reader, we have heard a lot about child abuse, child enslavement, and even the use of children in money-spinning *jujus* and other occultic rites, but yet another dimension was introduced recently by events reported on NTA Newslane (13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February). Can one sell a child who is only guaranteed a pauper's existence with his biological parents to a prospective buyer willing to offer the child a first-class status in life? This is no idle question as the young man in the news item gave off his only baby boy for a sum of N30,000 cash. But for the outcry of the baby's mother on NTA, Baby Bethel might never have been found again. He was however retrieved, cladded in expensive clothing and obviously looking very well fed, about a week after the sale. There are innumerable similar stories that fly around in this country. In particular a particular General Hospital in Lagos State is reportedly notorious for swapping new-born babes (to give desired sex to their no-doubts confused 'clients'), or outright declaration of babies as dead without having any bodies to show the hapless mothers! A big question: why do people involved in such practices simply not go and adopt from the numerous abandoned children in various Homes in the country? A big warning: Take very good care of your children and wards!

**(Vol 3 No 2, March – April, 2000)**

##### **Global rise of sexual exploitation of children**

The Nando Times (22/9/99) reported: "Commercial sexual exploitation of children is growing, despite promises from more than 120 countries to halt abuse, pornography and sex tourism, according to children's rights workers gathered in Bangkok on Monday. The children's rights activists said the easy availability of sex on the Internet – including pedophile chat lines and advertisements from companies that organize sex holidays – is among the key reasons why sexual exploitation of children is a bigger global problem than ever before.

Comments: By circular reasoning, such exploitation and abuse will provide the excuse to foster the new demonic ethic governing child care on everybody --including Christians. (see first article under section IX)

**(Vol 3 No 1, January – February, 2000)**

## **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.

**(Vol 3 No 3, May – June, 2000)**

## **V. MEDIA**

### **London: TV continues to promote decadence**

A new show on London Weekend Television (Dami Behr) offered as prize, "a date with a stranger (condoms provided)". It was however stopped following protests from an outraged public.

**(Vol 1 No 1, January – February, 1998)**

### **Media Influence**

There was a time when children were taught kindness, purity, loyalty, obedience to authority, and reverence for God. At that time, the media reflected that we are moral beings who should exercise self restraints and seek the good of others. Not so anymore! Today the 'in-thing' are computer games, musicals, and movies from somewhere in Hollywood entrenching anti-Christian values in young fragile minds. (For instance, a computer game we recently came across, was aptly named 'Gods', and it unabashedly sells the new age idea that man can become 'God' as he moves up the 'evolutionary ladder'). Of course any talk of right or wrong moral has been declared obsolete already! Parent! Is that activity which you are currently pursuing to the detriment of time spent with your child really worth it? In the words of NTA's Frank Olize, 'Do you know where your children are' – physically, mentally and spiritually?

**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

## VI. CULTISM

### **Nigeria: Cultist on Campuses**

Has anybody noticed the massive invasion of Campuses of tertiary education, especially in the West by secret cults? There are many confessions in both secular and Christian press in recent times that this is a carefully planned-out development.

Associated with this influx of the cultists (even secondary schools in Oyo state, according to a recent radio O-Y-O report are being seriously infiltrated) are concurrent violence in campus towns. The violence and carnage at Akoka-Lagos, Iree, Ilaro, Ile-Ife in recent times are unprecedented. One of the factors attributed to the quick growth of Christianity in the early days was *Pax Romana*, the general peace and tranquility in the Roman Empire. While violence often tends to solidify people's faith, it hardly is the best environment for evangelism. Pray for the peace of Nigeria, please

**(Vol 1 No 1, January – February, 1998)**

**7 OAU students killed** in cult-related violence in Ile-Ife. Meanwhile President Obasanjo has given the heads of Universities 90 days to rid the campuses of gangs and cults. In Ilorin, 19 were detained (AFP Aug 2); while 192 students and 27 lecturers have appeared before panels on cultism in Auchi (Punch Aug 2).

**(Vol 2 No 5, September – October 1999)**

**The Menace of Cultism...** About 256 cult members identified by a panel set up by the Oyo State government are to be expelled even as 40 students of OSU, Ago-Iwoye were declared wanted by the police for alleged cult activities. (Concord, 18/2/98). However, almost everybody is shy to address the real issues in cultism, and more importantly acknowledge that students' Christian activities are probably the most effective antidotes to-date. The next article below is therefore interesting:

**...Secular Campus paper calls for Prayer.** The leading students' magazine, Campus Monthly in the Dec 1997 edition did a special report on cultism on Nigerian campuses. Revealing a near-hopeless situation, the only concrete suggestion the paper could give as an answer to the menace of cultism came from the publisher, Tonnie Oganah who proffered that salvation will come "if and only if we seek the face of the Almighty, our Creator, Jesus Christ."

**(Vol 1 No 2, March – April, 1999)**

## **VII. VIOLENCE**

**Superviolence?** It is also called “extreme fighting” or “ultimate fighting”. Two men clobber each other until one surrenders or is knocked unconscious. They wear no gloves to soften the blows, there are no rounds or time-outs, only few rules and restrictions against biting or eye gouging. The opponents use techniques from boxing, judo, karate, wrestling, or street brawling – often with very bloody results. The contests are held before wildly cheering crowds of fans, who pay as much as \$200 for tickets; the fights are also popular on Cable TV and as rented videocassettes. Many states in the USA have already banned these events.

This report from the New York Times once again reminds us the level of decadence of Society. One of the marks of declining civilization, as clearly typified by the Roman Empire, was a general lust for violence such as this.

**(Vol 1 No 2 March – April, 1999)**

**Satanism-inspired teenage violence make headlines in the US** – A teenage accused in a Mississippi school shooting rampage testified on Thursday (11/6/98) that he opened fire on his classmates at Pearl high School after becoming involved in Satanism, which he said bestowed “power over many things”. Luke Woodham, 17, took the stand against his lawyers’ advice after a defense psychologist told jurors the boy was legally insane. Two students were shot to death while 7 others were wounded in the attack. Luke had earlier stabbed his mother to death when according to him, “red-cloaked” demons urged him to do so.

Similar juvenile killings were reported in November last year and also in March and May this year. In the May killings (21/5/98) 15 year old Kip Kinkel first gunned down his parents before killing 2 other fellow students at school. These sordid events should have a message for all who still have ears to hear!

**(Vol 1 No 4 July – August, 1998)**

### **• United States: 30 Dead in High School Violence**

School violence in the United States hit national headlines again. This time, the worst incident so far occurred in the little town of Littleton, and left 14 students and 1 teacher dead on the spot. 2 students, suspected to be part of a Trench Coat Mafia unleashed the havoc which was planned over a year in advance to coincide with the birthday of that notorious satanist, Adolf Hitler (Apr 20). At press time, the dead toll had risen to 30.

School violence is a global phenomenon. A similar incident, claiming 4 lives, also has just been reported in **Canada**. Some weeks previously, at the

Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife in **Nigeria**, a submachine gun was among other fire-arms recovered at the hide-out of some cultists on campus. In **South Africa**, the possibility of re-introducing the death penalty is back on the agenda following the battering to death of a High School Principal by students.

**(Vol 2 No 3 May – June, 1999)**

### **School Violence still continues**

School violence such as we reported in the last edition still continues to be witnessed all over the world. Apart from the USA where fresh school shooting has again been reported, **Alamadina** newspaper in Saudi Arabia reported in May that a drunken youth entered a school in that country armed with a gun – a second occurrence in two weeks. The previous week, a 14 year old school boy had opened fire on his classmates with an automatic pistol at a school near the Saudi capital. No lives were lost in these incidents. (**Sketch** 25/5/99) Meanwhile, at Nyeri High School, Kenya, a group of students, suspected to be under the influence of drugs, locked the door on four sleeping prefects, and poured petrol through the window setting the dormitory on fire. The prefects were rescued and sent for intensive-care treatment. (**East African Standard**, 25/5/99)

**(Vol 2 No 4 July – August, 1999)**

### **Fresh Outbreak of Violence on Campuses**

Satan is again raising his ugly head on several Campuses of higher learning in the country. Mainly the protagonists are students, either cultists as in Uniben, Benin (see Punch Sept 8, pg 9) or so-called Students Union Governments such as nearly killed their Vice Chancellor at DELSU, Abraka. At the Fed Poly, Ilaro, it was a students 'mob' that stabbed and stripped a lecturer naked for allegedly passing unsavoury comments on a deceased student. However at the OAU Ile-Ife, violence was initiated by one of the workers union which took industrial disputes to the level of display of charms and fetishes to press home their demands.

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The devil's modus-operandi is no longer a secret. He seeks to cause chaos first on Campuses as a prelude to carrying such to the cities and communities hosting these campuses. Children of God must counter these moves and send the demons packing through the 'overflowing scourge' – strategic fervent and continuous prayers. (Isa. 28:18)

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**Vol 3 No 6, November – December, 2000)**

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## VIII. FATHERS

**Attention Fathers.** Some researchers in the USA are of the conviction that the father's role is as important and possibly more important, than the mother's in giving the son or daughter confidence in sexual identity. Historian Norman Stone sees the absent father as an appalling trend, and believes it is, 'encouraged by public policy', while Prophecy Today columnist, Sue Pheasant believes that feminists (especially lesbians) have a great deal to answer for in the breakdown of family life.

**(Vol 1 No 1, January – February 1998)**

**Connected Daddy.** When my small boy was playing with his buddies in the back yard I overheard them talking one day – and the conversation was, amusingly, one of those 'I can whip your dad' routines. One boy proudly said, "My dad knows the mayor or our town!" Another said, "That's nothing – my dad knows the governor of our state!" Wondering what was coming next in the programme of bragging, I heard my son say, "That's nothing – my dad knows God!" I slipped away from my place of eavesdropping with tears on my cheeks. On my knees in my room, I prayed earnestly and gratefully "Oh, God, I pray that my boy will always be able to say, 'My dad knows God.'" H. Halverson

**(Vol 1 No 3, May – June, 1998)**

**MANHOOD.** Where does a boy learn the privileges and responsibilities of manhood but by watching his father? The great gift of a man to his son is a strong father image – stability and tenderness, a daily example of courage and integrity, a balanced combination of aggressiveness and contentment – all enhanced by his dedication to Christ. Dr. J. Allan Petersen

**(Vol 1 No 3, May – June, 1998)**

## IX. PARENTING

### **Parental Control: Going, Going, Go...?**

This is a true life story. A Nigerian lady learnt that her adolescent son was being detained in a Police Station in East London, having been arrested as part of a disorderly gang. On arrival at the Station and seeing that the report was true, the lady made straight for the young man, slapped him hard and grabbed his shirt, giving him a vigorous "see-what-you're-doing-to-the-family-name" shaking. The Police officer on duty, not used to such mode of parental correction earnestly turned to the young man and asked, "Do you want to press charges?" To this the lady retorted, partially weeping, "In our country,

we do discipline our children!". The somber face of the young man confirmed that was true, and the lady was saved a jail term.

That was December 1990, nearly a decade ago. Today things have changed drastically. Indeed by May 10, 1989, storms of a new ethic that would govern parental discipline have been gathering in Britain, when a clause was tabled to the Children's Bill in the House of Commons making it illegal for parents to smack their children. The wresting of children out of parental control is particularly pronounced in a country like Canada where due to an unusual high rate of child abuse (including incest), the governmental agencies are all too ready to remove a child from the parents' home at the slightest complaint from the neighbour. In several cities in the United States, there are serious campaigns encouraging children to report their parents for any 'abuse'. The 'Ero ya' phone-in programme on Radio Osun on Sunday 26/12/99 was an apt reminder that the issue under discussion is not far from home. (In fact, a caller felt very strongly that the programme was inciting children against their parents – under the guise of stemming 'child abuse!'). Clearly in the unfolding new world order, the Biblical "rod of correction" is an outrage. In its place are philosophies which have been many a times shown to be handed down directly by demonic forces.

Now the essence of our sharing all these is to alert that parents should brace up for similar laws and ethics becoming applicable EVERYWHERE in the whole wide world (including here in Nigeria) beginning anytime from this new year 2000. The various conventions of the United Nations on children and families in general are set to ensure this. One of these called for the provision of "networks of child care centres for infants", with the unspoken but clearly implied intention of removing them from the so-called "negative" influence of their parents. (Roman Catholicism and Communism have both demonstrated over the decades the effectiveness of such an approach). In fact the World Core Curriculum, already adopted by the United Nations expects that "the school will begin at birth, with the parents having used the Balanced Beginnings Program prenatally...", and is to last "throughout life".

Parent! A stitch in time saves nine! Now is the time to re-commit yourself to spending quality time with your child (yes, each child as an individual). The currently unfolding world order definitely has a clear programme for your child. It is a plan that seeks to "cure" them of such "mind diseases" as belief in the concept of sin, "narrow-minded" loyalty to parents or country at the expense of the earth (or better still, Gaia, the earth goddess) and a global world government; old-fashioned "intolerance" of homosexuality, and most serious of all, the concept of an almighty Creator God to Whom all are accountable. With the array of armoury in the kitty of

new world order advocates, the battle looks tough enough even for the most determined parents. Church Arise! is free from the blood of those parents who can't be bothered by the information being shared here.

**Chasten your son while there is hope. And do not set your heart on his destruction.** (Proverbs 19:18).

**MODELS** Long before a child can say, "Daddy" or Mommy", he can "read". Not words, of course, but parents' lives. When should parents begin to teach him the Word of God? As soon as he is born, for this is when he begins to observe, to feel and to interpret expressions. By the time a child is two, the attitudes he has observed in his parents regarding God, Jesus, the Bible, and other members of the family have already influenced his personality development.

Dr Gene Getz

**(Vol 1 No 3, May – June, 1998)**

**Contact:** An article by Dr John Robinson in Homemade, states that the amount of total contact parents have with their children has dropped 40% during the last quarter century. In 1965, the average parent had roughly 30 hours of contact with his or her children each week. Today, the average parent has less than 17 hours of child contact per week.

How many useful hours of meaningful contact do you have with your children and spouse, every day?

**(Vol 1 No 2 March - April, 1998)**

### **Study: Better Child Care, Better Behaviour**

Young children who are cared for in "high quality" settings, where caregivers actively play and talk with them have fewer behavioural problems than children cared for in settings where they don't get such intense attention, according to the results of an on-going federally-sponsored (USA) child-care study. (CNN 4/4/98).

**Just how much do you consider it worth, to have your children live for God, untainted by the spirit of the age? It may not cost you more than mere re-ordering your priorities (and of course you schedules)!**

**(Vol 1 No 3, May – June, 1998)**

### **Take Your Time**

A nation is only as strong as its families. Not losing the family to the trend of events in these last days requires not only the efforts of the Church or School, but a conscious effort of the family members as well. No matter what the Church or School situation is, the main responsibility of spiritual training belongs to the parents (not even grand parents!)..

The Bible enjoins us to teach our children and bring our children's children up in the fear of God. However, wrong priorities in pursuit of shadows and the new age of computers, internet, movies, etc are snatching children fast away from the reality of God's love for mankind.

Parents! Children are gifts from God and strong families can be built only on obedience to God's words. Children need to know God. They need to learn from us about His love, His faithfulness and His grace.

Take time to tell your children about God

Take time to point them to the right way

Take time to teach them about Christ

Take time to build loving responsible children and not rebels.

A godly influence makes all the difference, take time to build a Christian home. **Christian homes don't just happen, they are built .**

Take time to love your spouse (and show it – Prov 27:5) and so enable a stable secure environment for your children (even if they are yet to begin arriving) to grow up and thrive in. Take time to.

**(Vol 2 No 3, May – June, 1999)**

**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).

**(Vol 3 No 3, May – June, 2000)**

*"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Pro. 22:6)*

Parent, have you ever sat down to REALLY ponder upon the above piece of advice? Ever meditated on this before? A parent once remarked, "he will never listen to me, even if I try teaching him, he will run away. That is why I dislike him".

As a parent, do you in anyway dislike your child or his/her behaviour? Be careful how you handle it, because the devil is there roaming around and looking for an opportunity - a loophole to access the life of your child. The moment you 'disown' your child (consciously or otherwise), you have already made a doorway to the devil in your child!

The word to you now, is that you should take the time to find out what is wrong with the child – afterall he is your child, an expression of your very self and what you could have become had you been in his shoes. Moreover there he is, desperately crying out for the help only you have been ordained to give. *The problem might be something physical, medical or psychological, but usually, care and understanding from you do go a very long way.* In any case, Prayer opens many doors that seem to have been tightly and securely locked. **(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

*The Father has not left Me alone for I always do those things that please Him* (John 8:29b)

Jesus knows His Father. He knows what the Father can do and He is sure of His assistance and support at all times. According to Scriptures, Jesus did not just get to have this kind of relationship with the Father. Rather, He was obedient in all things, even to the Cross (Phil 2), learning obedience by the things He suffered (Heb. 5:8)

As human beings, it is always the joy of parents to have obedient children. In all its ramification, obedience is the mother of all virtues. It gives peace, joy, and confidence. The Bible says the sin of disobedience is as the sin of witchcraft. In essence, parents should endeavour to see that the children are on the path laid down by Jesus Himself. If we can succeed in this important assignment to get our children obedient not only to us, but to the Lord Jesus Christ, then we are successful indeed. How is this to be done?

First, Parents should be the role models to their children. When we decide to be obedient to our Father in Heaven and take very seriously His words as recorded in the Scriptures, we give very powerful and effective sermons to our own children on the subject of obedience. Secondly, we need prayers and the intervention of the Holy Spirit. We have the sure promises of God as recorded in Mat 7:7 on this issue.

**(Vol 3 No 5, September – October 2000)**

### **Tough Choice**

In the United States, relatives of two children apparently switched by mistake at birth three years ago have met face-to-face for the first time, mediated by one of their Pastors. Each side reassured the other that they are not interested in seeking custody of the child currently being raised by the other. Some tough choice!

**(Vol 1 No 5 September – October, 1998)**

## **X. ABORTION**

### **\$100 million verdict against on-line anti-abortion activists....**

A Federal jury in Portland, Oregon (USA) decided that a controversial web site and “wanted” posters amounted to death threats against doctors who perform abortions. More than a dozen defendants involved were therefore ordered to pay damages – of greater than 100 million dollars! The defendants have indicated they will appeal.

### **.....whereas, On-Line Porn gets more leverage**

A Federal judge issued a preliminary injunction, on Feb 1, to continue blocking federal law aimed at shielding children from on-line pornography. Judge Lowell A Reed said the Child Online Protection Act could have the effect of hindering constitutionally protected speech! New age advocates (the real sponsors) could then proceed with their “catch –them-young” policy.

**(Vol 2 No 2, March – April, 2000)**

### **Abortion In Nigeria.**

A recent study by an NGO has indicated that 610,000 abortions are carried out in Nigeria annually. That is some 1,671 human sacrifice per day on the average. According to the report, these are carried out mainly in privately-owned facilities. Almost 2/3 of those seeking abortion at any time have had at least one previous abortion. Over one third of all these abortions in Nigeria are carried out on married people. (See Guardian Jan 31)

**(Vol 2 No 2 March – April, 2000)**

“For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.”

**The Lord Jesus Christ** in *Mathew 24:38-39*.

## **XI. TEST TUBE BABIES**

Designers Babies Now Available

In a recent edition (Vol 2 No 2), we highlighted some of the developments in Genetic Engineering and their implications. Now these developments are coming out of research labs to become routinely available realities. The **BBC** reported (19/5/99) that it is now possible to choose not only the sex of your baby but certain features as the height, shape of the nose, etc.

That may sound wonderful indeed. But think again: the bottom-line is that in the warped thinking of Man, more and more issues are being taken out of the “hands” of nature/God and being placed in the hands of Man. That’s another sure step towards the enthronement of the idea called humanism – that Mankind is God. The embodiment of that idea will be the anti-christ.

**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

**New-born baby dead at dance:** A baby born to an American teenager during a high school dance was found dead in a waste bin by a janitor. County prosecutors say the 19-year-old returned to the dance floor after giving birth to a six pound baby in a lavatory at the dance in Aberdeen , New Jersey. (Daily Telegraph 10/6/97)

**(Vol 1 No 2 March – April, 1998)**

### **For the sake of Fashion:**

A mother, Dianna Mecks, who had manicure before taking her starving 2-month old baby to hospital was sentenced to 4 years in jail for his death. “There is no sign of food on the baby’s system” says medical examiner (CNN News 20/9/98)

**(Vol 1 No 6 November – December, 1998)**

### **Commercialisation of Life Through Patents**

The European Parliament in July 1997 voted to allow industry to hold patents – exclusive monopoly ownership rights – on the genes of living organisms such as human parts, animals and plants. This decision prompted spontaneous outcry and severe criticisms from non-governmental organisations. According to the NGOs, the decision was no more than “patents on life” (**South** October 1997)

This policy is bound to have far-reaching implications for socio-cultural and economic well-being of the people. For example, a farmer who used wheat seed that had been genetically modified in some way might have to pay royalties to the company holding the patent, otherwise planting the seed would be illegal

However, beyond socio-cultural and economic issues, is the reality that once the masses have come to depend on these exotic genetically engineered varieties, the very food security of all now lies in the hands of the patent holders. Furthermore, since only multinational corporations/institutions are rich enough to sponsor most of these researches, the situation is gradually leading to a weakening of the sovereignty of National Governments. As we keep saying, the multinational corporations are destined to keep on merging till a One World government, headed by the anti-christ, arises. **To find how close home to Nigeria these issues are, check the Guardian of Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June for a discussion on Genetic Engineering in plant varieties, and the activities of the International Institute to Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Ibadan.**

PS. Even Surgical procedures are now being patented. Those who depend exclusively on modern medicine for staying alive may therefore, in the near future, find themselves on the spot; as they may be denied the products of new medical findings, if deemed uncooperative enough by the ‘Patent Holders’.

**(Vol 2 No 4, July – August, 1999)**

### **XII. EDUCATION**

**For the records, the education minister** has announced that there were too many people seeking tertiary **education**, describing the situation as a mad rush.

**(Vol 1 No 2, March-April 1998).**

## **UNESCO URGED TO INTRODUCE FUNDAMENTAL OCCULTIC PRACTICE INTO EDUCATION.**

Recently, the UNESCO organized a world conference on Higher Education, seeking “to design a new future for education”. In an address to this Conference, one Dr Beran Morris, International President of Maharashi Vedic Universities, made a bold-face call for the introduction of Transcendental Meditation, a fundamental occultic practice, into higher education worldwide. This, he claimed, will not only turn earth to heaven but also ensure that students “gain the fruit of all knowledge” Doesn’t that sound like the devil at the Garden of Eden all over again? Unfortunately, Dr Morris has even more than the ears of the UN agency for education. He has its heart! Visit our Centre for the full article by Dr Morris and other details.

**(Vol 3 No 2 March – April, 2000)**

## **British Schoolchildren taught homosexual role playing in the name of tolerance**

The London Telegraph (22/11/99) reported: “Children as young as 14 are being encouraged to act out homosexual scenes in the classroom in a move to promote “tolerance”. A game called Spot the Heterosexual and role playing, such as pretending to be a married man who has sex with other men in secret, are included in an educational pack for teenagers. The teach aid, intended for 14-, 15-, and 16-year olds, also includes a video of under-age gay males and teenage lesbians talking about their sexuality. The pack, called “Beyond a Phase” has been put together by part of the National Health Service and, because it is ‘educational’, is not governed by Section 28 of the Local Government Act which prohibits education authorities from openly promoting homosexuality.

**(Vol 3 No 1, January – February, 2000)**

## **EDUCATION IN THESE LAST DAYS**

The Ohio Education Association (USA) is working to root out conservative religious activity in the state’s schools. In 1995 participants in one of the group’s meetings were asked to fill out a questionnaire on religious activity in their school districts. One of the questions asked was: “Are any of the school board members in your school district known or suspected to be proponents of the radical right?” Activities that could indicate allegiance to the “radical right” included parental challenges to sex education, opposition to AIDS curriculum and to outcome-based education, and requests for “public review of curriculum” The group plans to use the information “to combat the negative impact of such activities”. **Groups listed on the survey that were classified as being members of the “radical right”**

**included Focus on the Family, the Christian Coalition, Concerned Women for America, and Citizens for Excellence in Education.**

In Nigeria, Christians may think it's time to relax after the protracted battle to save the mission schools, fought particularly in the last republic. However the report above shows us that the battle, globally, is only shifting towards curriculum and educational structures. And if we take time to reflect on this again, we will see several tell-tale signs in this country right from primary education to University education. One of the requirements for OIC states is that the education minister must always be a moslem – and changes in names to doubly confirm this might even be required! The tolls are definitely on us.

It is time Christians arose to this challenge. The Bible places a solemn responsibility on parents and the local church to be involved in education. The Great Commandment (Deut 6) states, "These words which I command you today shall be in your heart, and YOU (parent) shall teach them DILLIGENTLY to your children. See also Eph 6:4. Church Arise! wishes to commend to us the Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) programme which has been producing great fruits all over the world and is now available in Nigeria by subsidy of Christians abroad. (Please contact ACE Nigeria, c/o ECWA, Box 63, Jos for further details). We should also endeavour to show interest in what and how our children are being taught. With the vast fortune most of us commit to our children's education, we certainly should be able to have a say in the system, especially when Biblical standards and principles are involved.

**(Vol 1 No 3 May – June 1998)**

### **Brazen Satanism**

One of the very clear evidences that we are in the last days is the brazenness with which Satan is now going about his activities in Society. It used to be that his chief weapon was making his very existence a subject of debate. However, if as Scriptures put it (Rev 12:12), Satan knew he had but a short time left about 2000 years ago, then his present state of mind can then be easily understood. The brazenness with which satanism, (selling the same old lie offering to turn mankind into gods, full of knowledge and made immortal) is being practiced in various areas of life tells a story that cannot be missed.

The open infestation of the Internet with satanic themes and values (and repudiation of the old principle of 'security through obscurity') is mentioned in the article at the back page of this issue of Church Arise! We all need to be aware and be warned of what is going on. Only Jesus, is the way of salvation out of the deep mess the world is in. Not technology, not

Satan. Following are some other vital areas where satanism is being brazenly manifested:

**The Church:** Starting from the early 70's wide publicity was being given to the organized move to openly worship Satan through the establishment of the so-called Churches of Satan. The best known of these is the "First Church of Satan" in San Francisco (USA), headed by one Anton LaVey. He it was, who reportedly said "The Satanic Age started in 1966. That's when God was proclaimed dead, the Sexual Freedom League came into prominence, and the hippies developed as a free sex culture". Every activity in these so-called "churches" is a reversal of what happens in the Christian Church – e.g. sexual perversion is the order of the day, the Lord's prayer is read backward, the Cross is held upside down, etc. The Satanic church has a Satanic bible to accompany their activities. In Nigeria, we have the Otokoto saga of recent memory to assure us all these are not mere fairy tales.

**Education:** Inherent in most of the so-called modern educational theories are ideas taken directly from satanism. For vivid examples of actual syllabus contents, check the book final notice by Barry Smith (available at CALM library) or several others on the subject. This is apart from satanically-inspired curricula such as evolution theory and sex-education (which now, at least in the USA, includes teaching youngsters to express their "inane" homosexuality and use of masturbation "in order to avoid the menace of aids"). Other notable ones include the relativity principle where "sin" is now regarded as a meaningless or at best a relative concept. Back home in Nigeria, the most prominent expression of satanism in education is not in the curricula per se (hardly is **anything** being taught anyway); but equally dastardly effective, in the practice of cultism. Even down to daycare centres (up to Universities) reports of active recruitment and initiation into one satanic group or the other are becoming quite rampant.

**Games, Toys etc:** To complete the infiltration of society with satanism, the open market is filled with materials which provide direct initiation into satanism. Several games (now available on the computer- not to talk of the Internet!) are based on role-playing. The player is required to imagine he is somebody/ something else. They compete to "summon demons to defeat opponents", to "employ dark forces to win battles", drink some magical potion to acquire some supernatural skill and ability, chant incantations to get help from "Higher Guides" – all ideas direct from satanism. The list of such games include Dungeons and Dragons, Tunnels and Tolls: A Sword and Sorcery Fantasy Role-Playing Game, Hellpits of nightfang, Prince, etc. All are marketed as "fun and fantasy" and are now being directed at gifted children in particular. Role-playing itself is recognized as nothing but a

subtle (sugarcoated) form of psychodrama adapted to humanistic designs for sensitivity training and values motivation. It is a first step form of psychotherapy that can destroy what humanists call “the God syndrome” – that is, belief in God. (For details please contact Plymouth Rock Foundation, P.O. Box 577, Marlborough, NH 03455, USA – or write through us at Church Arise!)

Recently at the Ile-Ife main market, a very attractive child's dress was found, on closer inspection, to contain the word 'DRAGON' inscribed all over it in a cleverly disguised fashion. Similarly, only a few people seem to be aware that the symbol adopted by the peace Movement is identical (not to say the same) for the well-known symbol for witchcraft – an upturned cross with the two arms broken down at an angle. This symbol is found on many a t-shirt today, proudly sported by undiscerning Christians.

The list is endless. There is only but ONE way out. That Way is the only person in history Who ever categorically (and with fruits and works confirming) declared: I am the Way, the Truth and the Life'. Either cling to Jesus or get swept away by the flood tide of the New World Order. It's your choice (1 Jhn 5:5)

**(Vol 1 No 4, July – August, 1998)**

### **XIII. MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **FACTS FILE**

- Aids: 36% of adults in Botswana are now infected (Peter Piot of UNAIDS, July 10, Guardian)
- Not less than 610,000 abortions in Nigeria per annum. (more than one innocent baby murdered every minute, round the clock).  
(Campaign Against Unwanted Pregnancy – CAUP. They are calling for abortion to be legalized in Nigeria).
- Two-thirds of boys and one-fourth of girls among 10<sup>th</sup>-graders (i.e. SSS-1) in Washington DC reported “having recently had four or more sexual partners”. Reader's Digest report cited by Guardian, Aug. 19, pg 35).

**(Vol 3 No 5, September –October, 2000)**

## CHAPTER 7: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

**"But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase"**

Daniel 12:4

"One has only to contemplate the magnitude of this task to **concede** that the spontaneous generation of a living organism is **impossible**. Yet, here we are – as a result, **I believe**, of spontaneous generation."

**George Wald**, Nobel Laureate, in Scientific American, August, 1954

"He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed"

Rev 13:15

### I.

#### ***Is the Bible a Secret Code?***

Much has been said and written both within and outside the Church about Michael Drosnin's book, "The Bible Code". The book is based on the discovery of a code in the Torah made by Israeli Mathematician, Professor Eliahu Rips. Other internationally acknowledged mathematicians say they could not fault Rip's finding; but it was journalist Drosnin who, based on his own further research, now claims to be able to use the Code to predict major events like the rise of Hitler, man's conquest of the moon, the Gulf War and the assassination of important figures as Yitzhac Rabin, Anwar Sadat, and both John and Robert Kennedy.

According to a review by John Job in *Prophecy Today*, "The claim, in a nutshell, is that when the Hebrew Scriptures are written out in horizontal lines, with length determined by the interval between consecutive letters of some key phrase, words or names or phrases come in the same area of the display as this one and have a related meaning. The most striking example proposed is that when the name Yitzhak Rabin was fed into a computer, it is alleged that the letters are found one by one at an interval of 4772, and that when the text is arranged in this way, the name is intersected by the phrase, "the assassin will assassinate". Nearby, at nine-character intervals are to be found in the right order, the letters of the name "Amir" (the man who eventually did the deed on 4/11/95).

In a 3-day review of the book by the big British tabloid, the *Daily Mail*, the Code was said to predict 2 possible dates, the years 2000 and 2006, for a nuclear war centred around Israel, and identified as the War of Armagedon. Further, the concluding article suggested that the Code is capable of helping us to avoid the catastrophic end of human history. Here is how it put it:

***"The code is more than a warning. It may contain the information we need to prevent the predicted disaster. The words 'code will save' appear right above "atomic holocaust", just below "the End of Days" - the biblical Apocalypse. The Bible Code is not a promise of divine salvation. It is not a threat of inevitable doom. It is just information. Its message is that we can save ourselves".***

From this conclusion, the spirit behind the Bible Code is clearly revealed as that of the anti-Christ, selling the time-worn message of humanism - the belief that man can solve all his own problems. Further, this attempt to turn the Bible into a crystal ball, looking for some deep meaning is quite obviously the same old game being played by such occultic groups as the Rosicrucians, Grail Message, Eckankar, etc. It was the same message promoted by the heretical Gnostic movement that plagued early Christianity - and of which Paul warned severely in the letter to the Colossians.

The message of the Bible is very clear indeed. We do not need any computers or special mathematical interpretation of the Bible to understand its message about the impending doom coming upon the earth. It is the logical conclusion to the rebellion in Eden. The Lord does not wish any to perish, and the way of escape has also been clearly stated: **FAITH AND TRUST IN THE FINISHED WORK OF JESUS CHRIST ON THE CROSS, alone.**

**(Vol 1 No 1, January – February 1998)**

### **Scientists find genetic evidence to Jewish Priesthood**

Scientists have found fresh genetic evidence that Jews who consider themselves part of the priestly class known as Cohanim really are part of an unbroken line extending back thousand of years to Aaron.

This report by the CNN (July 10) not only once again confirms the reliability of the Christian Scriptures as historic documents, but also provide a hint to how the Temple worship by Aaronic priests, might be resumed again. (Scriptures insist this must once again take off, presumably after the Church's rapture, during the reign of the Antichrist.

**(Vol 1 No 5, September – October, 1998)**

## **II.**

### **British Telecom Chief Advocates the Mark of the Beast.**

Peter Cochrane, head of Advanced Applications at BT, has been reported as promoting the idea that microchip under the skin is the answer to buying and selling in the 21<sup>st</sup> century (Light for the Last days, July 1997).

According to Mr. Cochrane, "just a small slice of silicon under the skin is all it would take for us to enjoy the freedom of no cards, passports or keys. Put your hand out to the car door, computer terminal, the food you wish to purchase and you would be instantly recognized and dealt with efficiently. Think about it, freedom – no more plastic"

What Mr. Chochrane did not say however is that this so-called freedom also means that the one so marked by the implant is now effectively tagged and all his/her activities and movement can be monitored and even controlled. This is exactly the system the Bible predicted will come to pass in the last days under the antichrist!

"He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has at the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name" (Rev 13:16-17)

**(Vol 1 No 1, January – February, 1998)**

**Europe-wide ID Card planned.** The *Light for the Last Days* newsletter has reported that European officials have said it will be **essential** for all adults to carry a plastic identity card to act as a social security document, passport and driving license if the launch of the single currency in 1999 is to be a success. This high tech card could also act as an 'electronic purse' which could be filled with money from the holder's bank account over the

phone. The European Monetary Union believes that an absolute proof of a citizen's identity is essential for the success of monetary union and future of banking in Europe.

This report seems to be suggesting that carrying the card may soon become a necessity (essential it says). We can confidently predict that in the very near future this development will soon spread to third world countries and will prepare the grounds for the mandatory mark of the beast the Bible speaks about (Rev 13:16-18), which microchip idea is being promoted at British Telecom as we reported in our last edition. Anyone who doubts that such technology would be transferred in a "twinkle-of-an-eye" should consider the scramble of Europe to put Africa on the Internet, apparently at their own expense.

**(Vol 1 No 2, March - April, 1998)**

### **No relenting on World-wide personal numbering idea**

The idea of tagging every human being with a personal identification number – which the Bible says is inevitable in the end-times – has just refused to stay out of the news in the past few decades (see vol 1, nos 1 and 2). Last year (Aug 8), Clinton administration unveiled its plan for all individual Americans to have an e-mail address to go along with their street address. The project to be coordinated by the US Postal service is to connect physical and electronic addresses using the nation's internet "country code".

Now, computer chips giant, Intel is also making proposals of ideas capable of paving way for the "Big Brother is watching you" idea. Late January, it announced that it would include a processor serial number (PSN) in every one of its new Pentium III chips for on-line merchants to use in identifying and authorizing users for secure Internet commerce. Privacy groups, predictably, are kicking against the idea. Not even Intel's proposal to switch the PSN in the "off" position is making the groups relent in its plan to boycott any PC manufacturer that uses any such ID-tagged number.

**(Vol 2 No 2 March- April, 1999)**

### **The Chip is Now Ready**

But for probable minor changes in details, the microchip that the anti-christ will require all to carry for identification and commerce in the very near future (as predicted in Rev. 13:16-17) is now ready.

The human implantable bio-chip, BT 952000 is one of the several chips developed to meet the aspirations of One World Government advocates; and this particular chip seems to have received the approval of its patrons.

The chip was engineered by Dr Carl Sanders and produced by tech giant, MOTOROLA for the MONDEX SMARTCARD (see Topical Issue on back page and also the box). The chip, about the size of a grain of rice, measures 7 mm long and 0.75 mm in width. It contains a transponder and a rechargeable lithium battery charged by a thermocouple circuit that produces voltage from fluctuations in body temperature. According to a write-up passed to Church Arise! by one of our readers in Ile-Ife, after an extensive \$1.5 million dollar research, it was found that for maximal functionality and efficiency, the chip would need be placed only either on the FOREHEAD (just under the hairline) or at the back of the HAND. Once again, the Bible is right on target - Rev. 13:16)!

Dr Sanders is an accomplished inventor with several patents to his credits, both for the US military and for private industries. Having been introduced to the prophetic Scriptures in the Bible concerning the "mark of the beast", he has become a Christian and now conducts seminars on this topic.

By now, this chip is being produced in several millions per year and are mostly being used for the MONDEX smart card – a card which is already on its way to Nigeria (see Topical Issue). Though the Smart Card looks very much like the previous cards for electronic cash exchange (e.g. Master Card, VISA, and the various Bank Cards), they are generations apart. The previous cards are based on the old magnetic stripe system whereas the MONDEX SMARTCARD contains the deadly BT 952000 chip. We allow MONDEX to tell you the details itself:

"Mondex is more than electronic cash. As the technology ... gains acceptance in the marketplace, Mondex cards will allow other applications to occupy the same chip. Loyalty programs and digital certificates may sit side-by-side with Mondex electronic cash...." "Think of all the cards that allow you access to something. The Library, the Videostore, your health club, your autoclub, your grocery store's frequent buyer program..."

The summary of the above is that the single chip in your Mondex Card is able to store an enormous amount of information. In fact you need carry no other card or identification save your Mondex card. Mondex further emphasizes that their card based on the 'chip' is "the only electronic cash system that requires no clearing and settlement of individual point-of-sale transactions. A retail transaction takes just seconds and with no change to count...". This of course, is achievable only because every information possible on the individual can be placed on the single chip. All you need carry is the one chip - no more cash, no more cheques, no more ID cards of any sort, no more Passports. Just the one single chip, for now embedded in a plastic card.

And from the tone of the previous quotes, one can almost hear what the next word from Mondex would be. Wouldn't it be the commencement of the final phase of implanting the chip in humans "as the chip gains acceptance in the card"? Why was the chip required to be bio-implantable in the first instance anyway?

That is the only logical conclusion to the business. Already, there are several serious well-known problems with cards: They can be counterfeited and the values altered, they wear out fast (within a year - hence need for millions – a report said a billion - of chips being produced every year). And, of course, they can be stolen, broken or lost. Implanting the microchip directly in humans will then be the next logical step - just as the Bible predicted and warned. This is already happening in animals where the company INFOPET is leading the way in inserting bio-chips into pets so they can be monitored and rescued in case they wandered away or are stolen. (Refer also to Vol. 1 No 1 for the call by an official of British Telecom for chips to be implanted on human beings

If you are not able to say 'NO!' to Satan, sin and the "World Order" today, we guarantee you, you will not be able to say 'NO' to the mark of the beast when it is inevitably introduced

(Notes: quotes from the MONDEX in this article are from the homepage of MONDEX USA, on the Internet)

**(Vol 2 No 3, April – May, 1999)**

### **Global Monetary Offers Cash for Microchipping – a hoax; but Microchipping plods on**

We cautiously reported in our last edition that the company Global Monetary, claiming to be a \$5 billion establishment is offering an inducement of \$250 to anyone (subject for now to demographic factors and having a qualified computer) who would agree to receive the Idchip implant in his/her right hand. Even though this was later proved to be a hoax, as we pointed out (see page \*\*\*), we consider it more a less a testing of the world's preparedness for such a system. This hoax (offer of inducement) apart, it is a real fact that very rapid progress is being made in the field of microchipping. For instance, Britain declared a National Microchipping Day on April 24, 1999, **compulsory** for all pets. Similarly several companies are vigorously promoting one human implantable device or the other (see for example [www.electronicidinc.com/](http://www.electronicidinc.com/) - **NOT a hoax**);. Why must you NOT join this 'irresistible' new technology? Here is a short list:

1. Despite the usual claims that such a device is absolutely safe in your body and will never need to be removed, Bible says the "mark of the beast" will cause physical troubles later on for the bearers (Rev 16:2)
2. Details about the capabilities of these microchips have not been published in scientific journals for all to assess. It is quite likely that it will be possible to cause mass hypnotism in people who are fitted such chips. This is highly likely judging by the attitudes of the people behind this development, and the Bible's categorically stating that those who take the mark are lost to the devil without remedy. Of course this is no science fiction. As early as the 1950s Jose Delgado of Yale has been carrying out research to modify behaviour of animals (ferocious bulls) via radio-controlled electrodes implanted deep within their brain. See the book **Mind Control** by Peter Schrag (in our Library) for details.  
**(Vol 2 No 6, November – December, 1999)**

**Microchip Implantation-Psychic Dimension revealed:** In vol 2 No 6, warning against anybody receiving microchip implant despite the very many 'conveniences' that would be promised, we suggested that it might be possible for anybody so-microchipped to be opened to manipulations via hypnotism and similar psychical phenomena. To us, that is only an inevitable conclusion based on Bible's warning that those who take the mark might as well be irreversibly sold-out to Satan. Now the news item below confirm we were not just making wild-guesses, far-fetched as our line may sound. Please ensure you understand what the following report is saying:

Wired Magazine February issue sports a picture of the University of Reading [in the U.K.] cybernetics professor Kevin Warwick who has pioneered bio-implantable microchips in humans using himself as a test subject. In his latest experiment, he is quoted as saying, "...If the experiments are successful, we would then place implants in two people at a time. We'd like to send movement and emotion signals from one person to another, possible via the internet. My wife Irena, has bravely volunteered to go ahead with his-and-hers implants. The way she puts it is that if anyone is going to jack into my limbic system – to know when I'm feeling happy, depressed, angry, or even sexually aroused - she wants it to be her. Irene and I will investigate the whole range of emotion and sensation..." CA! has mentioned Prof. Warwick's work before in Vol 2 No 5.

**(Vol 3 No 2, March – April, 2000)**

**PC COMPUTING Magazine columnist predicts the inevitability of implantable Microchips in humans:** Opinion columnist Paul Somerson's article "Inside Job" in the October issue of PC Computing magazine reiterates the litany of examples of the uses and potential uses for bio-implantable microchips in humans. He concludes by saying, "How will they convince people to implant these chips? First, they'll hype the convenience of leaving your keys, credit cards, and money at home. Then they'll automate everything from cash registers to tollbooths so if you're chipped you can zip through in a digital carpool lane. **Me, I'll wait.**" (*From World News by Mike Gayda*) Sounds like Church Arise!?

Meanwhile, in Nigeria, the chip-embedded ValuCard continues to receive massive promotion in National Dailies.

**(Vol 2 No 6, November – December, 1999)**

### **Microchip Implantation in humans is on-going**

Just in case somebody still thinks the idea of all humans being required to carry microchips under their skin as something for the distant future, we are constrained to tell such a person that the future is already here. There are several examples of people already microchipped, and this is on-going. For instance, according to World Net Daily Columnist, Jon Dougherty (July 30), "The London Times reported in October 1998 that film stars and the children of millionaires are among 45 people, including several Britons, who have been approached and fitted with chips (called the Sky Eye) in secret tests". Also the May/June edition of Endtime magazine cited a similar implantation in the arm of Kevin Warmick, professor of cybernetics in the Reading University. The antichrist is waiting in the wings and will introduce his mark at the allowed time. Now we have a choice to go all out for Jesus Christ or hang around and face the hopeless forthcoming humanistic society.

**(Vol 2 No 5, September – October, 1999)**

### **MONDEX - Marketing The Mark Of The Beast**

The big news was casually tucked in, on page 42 of TELL Magazine of April 5, 1999. "Here comes the Smart Card" read the headline. The report went on to indicate that "a consortium of 26 banks including the 'big four' - United Bank for Africa, UBA, Union Bank, First Bank, and Afribank, under the name Smart Card Plc has the tough task of trying to get Nigerians hooked on plastic money"

TELL reporter knew that the card would be based on "silicon chip technology, state-of-the-art VSAT satellite technology and the latest smart card computing and IBM encryption software", but considered it merely "an

improvement on the 'magnetic stripe' money card in use in most of Europe and the United States". As our readers will find on page 3 of this edition of CAI, the use of the chip and Internet facilities in the smart card does not represent a mere improvement, but a whole different ball-game entirely!

This development is not restricted to Nigeria alone. The same thing is happening all over the world! Countries with the old 'magnetic stripe' cards are changing over rapidly to chip technology. France, as usual, is leading the rest of Europe in this direction, while all Canadian banks have signed on! The company anchoring all this development is called **MONDEX**, and by last year, has already franchised over 250 companies in 20 major nations to use the chip. If you have access to the Internet, see the fascinating (somebody will say fearful) diagram of how virtually all the businesses that matter globally have already hooked up to MONDEX. The website is: <http://www.fintec.com/mondex.html>.

The system based on SMART CARD technology was created in 1993 by London bankers Tim Jones and Graham Higgins of NATWEST/COUTTS, the personal bank of Britain's Royal Family. All transaction systems are being made secure by adopting SET protocols (Secure Electronic Transaction) and will display the **SET MARK**. Other SMARTCARD systems are quickly being put aside in favour of MONDEX, especially since MasterCard, which is supposed to be a major rival, bought a 51% stake in the company. According to Robin O'Kelly of MONDEX international, "with MasterCard's backing, there's nothing to stop MONDEX now from becoming the global standard." " This is the final stage in becoming a global reality".

The TELL article had suggested that tough competition is on the way for Smart Card Plc and that another smart card by Gemini Systems, GEMCARD may get to the Nigerian market in May this year. We however wonder if the GEM CARD is associated with the company GEMPLUS. For in actual fact, according to an agreement made in November 1996, GEMPLUS will be supplying smart cards for the global implementation of MONDEX - the franchise having been bought for MONDEX USA by AT&T/**Lucent** Technologies.(See box for more on Lucent technologies) As we have been mentioning in this newsletter, the ultimate goal of the New Age Movement under their One World Government plan is to have just a single organization handling each business endeavour by repeatedly merging all competing organizations together (see vol. 1 no 5). In this way, all possible room for maneuver by any would-be dissenter will be firmly blocked. In any case, according to Patrick Merino of Smart Card Plc in Nigeria, "we are not afraid of competition".

The major battle MONDEX is fighting is against privacy groups - most of which are secular. In September 1995, one of such groups, Privacy International, through its Director General, Simon Davies, investigated Mondex's claims that their digital cash service was "anonymous". Davies found out and showed that, contrary to MONDEX's public statements, the system was not anonymous and that the bank and merchants could find out the identity of the users. MONDEX later changed its literature and no longer claims that it is 'anonymous'. In fact, today MONDEX now seems to be pushing the fact that its system is fully auditable as an advantage, in that safety of funds will be guaranteed. The clear fact, as privacy groups insist in return, is that something cannot be "fully auditable" and "private" at the same time.

But the issue of privacy is not trivial at all! Imagine if a record of every financial transaction you ever make, plus a detail information of the goods and location of the transaction is always available. In short there is no hiding place or retreat possible for you - except you would refrain from 'buying and selling'. It will be naive to think that only criminals have something to fear about that prospect - as those who will be around when the anti-christ fully takes over with his One World Government will soon find out.

The writer of the TELL article was therefore correct in the identification of the major assignment facing Smart Card Plc (is this the precursor to the Nigerian chapter of the One World Bank?) as "to get Nigerians hooked on plastic money". Even if majority of Nigerians are not particularly bothered about privacy issues at the moment (other issues being more important), the fact is that the same majority will actually rather prefer not using the bank at all, due to the poor services they get. However, the trend from the western world is quite instructive. As people are forced to use the bank (to collect salaries or payments for works done for government/other corporations), they will also be coerced to use the card or else miss out on exciting opportunities, discounts, low bank rates, etc until the card is eventually made compulsory. People will be heavily 'penalized' for using cash or coming to the bank (e.g. by way of heavy charges) when they could have made electronic transactions.

As we mentioned elsewhere in this issue, the chip will eventually be removed from the plastic and inserted under the skin of people - it is human implantable. With the high level of illiteracy/apathy in Africa, we, at Church Arise! have a feeling that the eventual move to transfer the chip from the plastic to humans might be flagged off from here. We can understand if some reader feels this technology cannot get to his village for the next 100 years. As a response to that, we will only like to mention that some thought the same way when we wrote our article on the Internet (vol. 1 no 4). Developments

that arose almost on the heels of that article has since forced such people to review their skepticism. But mind you, you can't always wait to find things out. The time to DECIDE not to take the mark of the beast is NOW.

#### **AMAZING BRAZENESS OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER ADVOCATES**

*See the terminologies they freely and boldly adopt!*

**MONDEX**: MON – DEX – A compound of the words MONETARY & DEXTER (Dexter means belonging to or located on the right hand)

**SET**: The Egyptian god of evil, or Satan

**LUCENT**: compounded from LUCIFER – ENTERPRISES

Located at 666 Fifth Avenue, Manhattan, NY, famous products from AT&T/Lucent Technologies include **STYX** (named after a river in Hades), **JANUS** (the 2 faced god), and **INFERNO** (promoted with a quote from a popular story about Lucifer in the bowels of hell). One of their proudest achievements is **TTS** (Text To Speech) in which they give the human-like quality of speech to lifeless technology (compare this with Scriptures in Rev 13:15, Dan. 12:11, Mat 24:15).

#### **Biometry – Linking the plastic and the Mark**

Our past two issues had highlighted the advent of the chip technology which has seen the old magnetic stripe card system being swept aside and replaced by one carrying a human implantable chip of practically limitless information storage capacity. The chip crops up on both e-commerce cards as well as in general-purpose identity cards. We then saw that the remaining step, the climax of the whole business will be the implanting of the chip on human beings. In fulfillment of the Scriptures concerning the antichrist, the implantation of these bio-chips on animals continues to one major way of softening the round ahead of human implantation. (see page 3, vol 2 no 5).

Simultaneous in the ground-breaking efforts preceding the inevitable transfer of the chip to human's foreheads and hands as the Bible clearly predicted would happen (Rev 13:17), is the advent of the technique known as biometry. Biometry involves measurements of some properties of the human body which can be used to identify each individual human being. One of the commonest forms of biometry is fingerprinting, common as in passports, driver's licence, etc. However, the human fingerprint is not really unique and the chances of having two individuals with indistinguishable fingerprint is not insignificant. Moreover, this form of identification has been stained with its association with criminal investigations, etc. Similar problems/limitations are associated with several of the other biometry methods, such as signatures/handwriting, facial features, voice prints, etc. However, the iris

pattern recognition form of biometry is currently making waves in technology. In this method, unique identification of each individual is provided by the pattern in the iris of the eye. Whereas fingerprints contain 36 measurable identifiable properties, the iris pattern has 266. The chances of the iris patterns of two individuals being identical is practically zero. The method is also quite convenient to use. The individual merely looks straight into a scanner, and the patterns of his iris are recorded in 3 seconds. This is then stored and used in identifying the person automatically any other time.

The technology has been in use for at least the past three years, but previously confined to the military and some private sectors. Now, this year (1999), it is being seriously marketed to the public, and it is destined to become common place by the beginning of next year – the famous year 2000. Though current/potential applications include securing building, computers, internal networks or simplifying verification of passengers at airports, subways, train stations, etc; it is clear that the current major focus is in e-commerce. For example in Texas (where George Bush Jnr, top candidate for the US presidency in the coming election, is governor), several Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) have adopted Iris Pattern biometry. The customer simply walks to the machine and looks straight at it. In 2 seconds, his iris pattern is automatically compared with the already stored pattern, and pronto, he has access to his accounts and could withdraw money or make other transactions. No passwords, no p.i.n. number, no signature, no questions! Not surprising, the system is already garnering support everywhere. In Britain, 91% of people polled said they preferred it.

However, we can be sure that the ultimate goal of biometry is merely to get people used to the convenience of simply walking up to machines and getting instant services without carrying cards or remembering one of the several numbers they have to carry about in memory for identity confirmation. The superiority of the chip in actually sorting tons and tons of data cannot in any way be contested by biometry. In fact, biometry merely identifies and provides access to your data somewhere else, whereas, the chip carries all the data about you on itself. The chip therefore promises a new kind of technology, superior in efficiency and operation. Hence, little efforts will be required to show the masses already booked on cardless services through biometry, that they can combine the benefits of biometry with their chip-based card simply by having the chip transferred from the card to their body. This is in addition to other existing compelling reasons to implant the chip in the body (e.g. to prevent identity thieving, loss/damage of the cards, etc) as we discussed in earlier editions. Clearly, when the time comes (and it surely can't be long) few people will have any hesitation in applying for (voluntary) chip

implantation; and they will have little choice anyway as all new technological designs will assume that all have been implanted.

We at Church Arise! do not expect the Church to still be around on earth by the time this comes into practice. We would have been caught-up to be with out Lord, Jesus. The vessel is still boarding for those who will want not to miss the Rapture.

**Bye bye Privacy:** It has now been revealed (The London Independent, Jan 29) that almost every modern form of communication, from satellites to the internet, is being intercepted by a multi-billion pound global surveillance operation dominated by the US and Britain. According to a report written for the European Parliament by researcher Duncan Campbell, more than 120 satellite-based systems are working simultaneously to collect intelligence, at an operational cost of between 15 to 20 billion euros every year..**The document also argues that a previously unknown international organization called –"Ilets" has "put in place contentious plans to require manufacturers and operators of new communications systems to build in monitoring capacity for use by national-security or law-enforcement organizations**

In a related event, The London Telegraph (January 24) has reported that Mobile telephones that can identify their precise location are being developed by the Swedish firm Ericsson. One of the services is called iPulse and tells users the location of all the mobile phone users listed in their address book, showing the country, city or district. Eventually the service will be able to pinpoint where people are down to 100 yards. Fredrik Fornstad, an Ericsson spokesman, said:"It will know where you were and where you are".

**Further related to this** is the current (increasingly popular) "voyeuristic programs" on TV in Europe where people agree to live under continuous camera scrutiny for about 100 days, with their every "move or murmur" being broadcast live on TV and worldwide on the Internet (Time, Feb 21). With prizes ranging up to \$ ½ million, many are beginning to think the 'game' is certainly worthwhile. Clearly the main purpose of it all is to prepare the masses to accept living under such 'Big Brother' conditions. Already the streets of the advanced countries are filled with various cameras under various guises such as monitoring crime or traffic. In Britain, cameras are to be found in "elevators, parking lots, phone booths, and even some public toilets"! (Newsweek Feb 28). We can expect current serious cyber-terrorism to bring in versions of this development home to every nation in the world very soon. All this will be necessary to implement a One World Government agenda.

### **Hello Nigeria, Here comes Mondex Smartcard** (Guardian, May 2)

Many readers will recall our article on Mondex smart cards (vol 2 No 3). Mondex is the apparent global leader in smart cards tech, and it is based on (bio-implantable) microchip and satellite technology. The system already operates in over 75 countries and can be loaded with 5 different currencies at the same time. This card is being brought into Nigeria by an indigeneous IT firm - Khombined Technology Limited. As we suggested in our earlier article (vol 2 No 3), any existing/ competing card system in Nigeria will probably be collapsed and merged with Mondex when its time comes. A clear advantage of Mondex over others, such as the ValuCard for example, is that it enables transactions between individuals without the need for "banks or other third parties", made possible, apparently, only by satellite technology.

We re-iterate yet again our stand on chip-based technologies. While it clearly shows the imminence of the government of the anti-christ (and an even more imminent rapture, we believe), the only time involvement with the technology will become an 'irreversible death sentence' will be when the bio-chip currently on the card is transferred directly unto the human body (for more security, versatility, etc). The mind of any individual so chip-fitted can be likened to a PC hooked to the internet, and can be easily accessed by the controllers of the technology. Not only will your minutest thoughts or emotional feelings be monitored (see Vol 2 no 6), they can even be controlled. Your preparation today is your resolution never to become dependent on (i.e. addicted to) these emerging technologies. In simple Biblical term: **Love Not The World**.

### **III.**

#### **Privacy And Global Surveillance**

One inescapable consequence of the chip technology in which all database on an individual from various hundreds of sources can now be put on a chip is that 'privacy' will soon become a thing of the past. And this is quite consistent with the New Age Movement's teaching that individuals should 'open up' and fuse with the so-called 'cosmic consciousness'. In reality, people only open up to demonic influences under so called 'spiritual guides'. This basic philosophy is the common thread running through such ideas as Communism, Hinduism, Transcendental Meditation, perversions such as group sex, Drug addiction, etc. In Christianity, we open up to one another as we first open up to the Lord Jesus Christ. Our bond is spiritual and not soulish. Again in Christianity, the individual matters a lot, unlike in the New Age

movement where the individual is dispensable and of no value at all.

In a future issue, by the grace of the Lord, we will address how the current trends in national IDs, together with the use of implantable bio-chips in animals will culminate in the mark of the beast. Apart from facilitating electronic commerce, the implanted mark of the beast will be a kind of facility where all mankind will be 'open' to one another and be part of a common "cosmic consciousness". It will be an attempt to keep mankind together akin to the Tower of Babel project. It is a direct resistance to the Kingdom of God. It is satanic.

**(Vol 2 No 3, April – May, 1999)**

#### **Satellite Surveillance System arrives Nigeria**

The FG has procured surveillance equipment for the 6000 km of oil installations in the Niger Delta area. "Prime beneficiaries of the multi-billion naira worth of infra-red satellite equipment include Lagos, Port Harcourt, Eket and Warri" Of course, the need for such equipment is clearly understood in the Nigerian context where vandalism of oil installations threatens to shut down the entire country. However, in the same vein it is also quite clear that such satellite equipment can of course monitor more than only oil installations. (please refer to our article Bye Bye Privacy)

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

### **IV.**

#### **Human Cloning, Countdown to the Final Hour**

Many Christians and non-Christians were jostled to the realities of our current world (even if only momentarily) when Richard Seed announced that he was determined to produce human clones within 18 months (i.e. by next June). Even before Prof. Seed's announcements in the USA, a Swiss-based religious cult had launched a company on the Internet, Valicut Ventures Ltd., offering cloning and insurclone services to interested people.

An article in TELL (Feb 1998) describes the process of cloning: "First the nucleus containing the genetic material is removed from the adult cell of a male or female and transferred along with an unfertilised egg which has been denucleated onto a petridish, gentle electrical pulses are introduced in the dish causing a fusion between the egg and nucleus. Cell division commences and an embryo develops. The embryo is (then) transplanted into the uterus of a surrogate (mother) who carries it to term". The novelty of this process is that the baby has been produced from genetic materials taken from just a single parent.

So why would anyone want to go through this complex and hazard-laden process which the team leader of the first reported cloning of a mammal Ian Wilmut has agreed was crazy? (Dr Wilmut, reports will say, "created" the sheep Dolly in Feb. 1997). Proponents are quick to come out with their usual answers. Apart from "scientific liberty", they mention the availability of replacement parts for humans in lieu of the current practice of seeking donor organs which may invariably not match; they mention the possibilities that cloning would offer to the barren; as well as the possibilities of preserving some acclaimed "geniuses" or other peculiar personalities.

In reality however, none of these contain much, if any, substance. Why aren't terrorist organizations allowed their own "scientific liberty" to acquire or play with nuclear weapons? And as for perfect replacement organs, would the sources for these be 'created' (cloned) overnight when the emergency arises – or will there be a storage for them where they will be fed and catered for till their hearts or kidneys would be needed – if ever, at some time in the future! Considering the considerable medical hazards cloned beings will be facing – including increased susceptibility to cancer – the barren will certainly be better off trying the other tested options already available. These include IVF, adoption, or good old waiting upon the Lord. In a similar vein, looking unto cloning for preserving some personalities will mean discountenancing the well-known influence of environments and circumstances in the formation of geniuses or character.

The only uniqueness in cloning is a desperate effort to produce an offspring from just a single parent. The real interests of the pro-cloning party are therefore only thinly veiled. Perhaps overriding is the desire to play God, to show that God is not relevant and that God's established orders such as marriage, are ridiculed and presented as irrelevant. This has been the age-long agenda of secular humanism since the Tower of Babel. Certainly, the Gay-Lesbian movements are following the developments with more than casual interests. Even before cloning, there are incontrovertible reports of so-called "breeders" in many cults whose main function is to breed humans for use in satanic human sacrifices. These would find "clones" quite useful especially as the issue of the humanity of these clones would be subject to serious public debate. So, as armies are filled with clones, it is inevitable that humanity itself could lose its meaning. All these are direct possibilities that cloning will unleash if Richard Steed and people like him have their way by early next year. The countdown continues

Now, it is doubtful if anyone can stem the tide of all these events. Current science and tech., in our opinion, are all programmed to lead to

self-destruction of the human race. Even without cloning, what do we make of reports such as that of an embryo that had been kept frozen and forgotten by the parents, being “thawed” and developed into a healthy baby boy 7 years later in a fertility clinic in California? (CNN 17/2/98).

It is left to the individual Christian to be aware of these developments which to us are clear indications of the nature of the times we are in. Let's face the fact: things are going to change, very drastically, very soon. Certainly sooner than later! Only a sound faith in Jesus Christ can see ANYONE through. As the Bible puts it, “who can overcome the world but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?” 1 John 5:5.

**(Vol 1 No 2, March – April, 1998)**

**Cloning:** As we suggested in our last edition, the cloning train may be unstoppable, simply because it is only one of the marks of the end times. Even in the US (apparent leaders of the anti-cloning campaign), the bill to ban human cloning was shelved in the Senate (11/2/98) due to differences over what constitutes a form of human life that merits legal protection. Opponents of the bill, including numerous groups in the scientific community, say it goes too far in restricting vital research. (Source CNN 12/2/98) **(Vol 1 No 3, May - June, 1998)**

#### **Cloning Update:**

Two years exactly after the cloning of Dolly, the British sheep, Japanese researchers have cloned calves from cells from an adult cow. Also in Honolulu, Hawaii, it has been reported that methods once considered ‘impossible’ have been used in cloning mice. (CNN 23/7/98)

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**(Vol 1 No 5 September –October, 1998)**

**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. **(Vol 3 No 3, May – June, 2000)**

### **Human clones arrive**

Dr Jacob Staunz of Massachusetts, USA, has announced (Sept 1), that he has succeeded in producing the first human being artificially and entirely from a single individual, 30 year old financial planner, Martha Jerum. Dr Staunz claimed that the baby was cloned last year Sept 1 (counting from fertilization or 'birth?'). Describing the well-known procedure, he stated that he took the DNA from one of Miss Jerum's skin cells, implanted it into one of her eggs, placed it in an artificial womb and treated it for 9 months with synthetic hormones similar to those secreted by the glands of pregnant women.... and presto, a baby girl identical to Miss Jerum in every detail and particular. Explained the controversial doctor: "We had been successful at cloning frogs, reptiles, even sheep but still, the scientific community at large doubted we could clone humans and we proved them wrong". What Dr Staunz did not talk about is what next would happen now that the Pandora box has been pried open!

Miss Jerum was selected from 72 applicants. Why did she do it? "I'm too busy with my career to consider marriage much less to cope with the stress of pregnancy and yet I always wanted to produce an offspring. {Cloning frees me from} the responsibility of carrying, nursing and caring for a baby". This development should convince any doubting Thomas that cloning is not being developed to help 'infertile couples'.

[This news item is based on article submitted by Mr YemiAkanni, a Part 3 medical student at OAU and sourced from a VOA report. In his original title, Mr Akanni equated cloning of a human with the creation of one and was particularly excited to discuss whether the cloned offspring does possess a soul or not].

**(Vol 3 No 6, November – December, 2000)**

**Sex Selection:** before now, we had test-tube babies, surrogacy, egg and sperm donation, and lately, cloning. Today, the latest wave is being made in the area of sex-selection. It has been reported that a fertility centre can now offer couples an 85% chance of having a girl (MEDICINE, Sept 21). When man begins to tinker with a given natural ratio, we should all hold our breathe and see where it all leads to. Is the value/potentials of a baby really dependent on its sex? Even for a Christian?

**(Vol 1 No 6, November – December, 1998)**

## V.

### **Prayer and Modern Medicine**

According to a 1995 study reported in the *Church Around the World*, patients who said they gained comfort from religion and faith were found to be more than three times as likely to survive [heart surgery] as those who had no personal faith. The study further indicated that merely going to Church didn't make a difference, and in the words of one of the doctors who conducted the study, "the patient has to get something out of Church"

Now, an independent recent study has even further confirmed this finding and showed that the results has nothing to do with cheap 'psychology' or 'positive thinking'. In the project, called Mantra, Dr Mitchell Krucoff and Nurse-practitioner Suzanne Crater of the Duke Medical Centre set out to determine, among other things, whether prayer might influence the medical outcomes of patients in Krucoff's cath lab at Durham VA hospital. The outcomes of those prayed over were 50% to 100% better. Krucoff described the results as "intriguing". Full details are published in the *Time*, Oct 12, 1998.

### **Human Organ theft racket rocks the US.**

We recently received a mail from a reader of *Church Arise!*. It 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, 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 note 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 99<sup>th</sup> Street Alachua, Florida. Phone: (904)32615, Fax: (904) 462-2148.

Nigerian readers may recollect a time when the male genitals were reportedly being stolen off men, by people employing "black arts". The story of a man who gouged out the eyes of a lady in Oshodi, Lagos for a token fee, also made headline news not too long ago. Now the story is, even in those civilized cities of the world, there are 'civilized' ways of perpetrating the same evil! Christians, watch and pray. 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 pray!

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).

**(Vol 2 No 1, January – February, 1999)**

## **VI.**

### **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 improved 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.

**(Vol 2 No 1, January – February, 1999)**

### **Genetic Engineering and the New Age:**

One of the most promising tools capable of turning the world around is Genetic Engineering. Advances already made in the field are on their own sufficient to permanently change life on earth beyond anything we can recognize today – and certainly, as the moral climate of the world goes further deeper into the abyss, we can expect these WILL be put to use.

We can not at this time present a detailed discussion on Genetic Engineering as we promised in the last edition due to space constraints. Issues to be discussed include applications in agriculture where, for decades now, genetically improved stocks have been widely put to use. However, “super-sweet” oranges without the inconveniencing seeds (no need to spew anything out) may be wonderful to eat; but their very seedless nature is the ultimate disaster! A direct assault on God's order that plants bear their seeds in themselves (Gen 1:11-12), these emasculated plant species guarantees that at the chosen time, the entire population will depend on the One World government for food. Officially, the plants are being emasculated as a sort of copyright protection, and is technically known as the Plant Breeders' Right. Some Nigerians may sniff at this idea which might seem remote for now. But we ask, how many will dare plant their maize field from their last year's harvest? Most of us now run to one agency or the other to obtain the new improved, disease-resistant high-yield species – which cannot be re-planted! When exotic genetically-engineered species are made available, most “reasonable” will have no option to rally round it and hope the technology doesn't backfire on mankind.

The same issue occurs in animal science; but the major implication here has since moved to the unregulatable efforts to transfer results on

animal species to man. The eugenics dream of designing the perfect man has been at the back of many a social problem in the history of mankind, including the nazi holocaust. Lately, AID, cloning etc, have brought these issues home, and we now are grappling with the problem of defining what man is! With genetic engineering it is now becoming possible to design the baby of your choice – delivered to your specification. The issue was clearly spelt out by Bruce Anderson in his book **Let us Make Man**. He said, “In the end, the discussion comes down to a clash of beliefs, a confrontation facing each individual and couple. Nearly all of us want children, and everyone desires them to be healthy. The crucial decision for this generation is how far we are willing to go in order to reach these goals” (pg 112)

The ultimate issue is, who is to decide the best factors? Even for fairly “straightforward” cases, we cannot be too sure. For instance who can say for sure that a world of Einsteins will be a better one than the present? Remember, the robbers, rapists, etc will also be geniuses!

Because of the relatively ease by which experiments in genetic engineering can be designed and carried out (relative to those in nuclear engineering, for instance), it is clear that Genetic Engineering aided by the Internet, more than anything else, is going to determine the face of the world in

the very very near future. Today, there are restraints put in place by religious and moralist groups. But it is clear this is not going to last much longer! It would soon become “manifestly unreasonable” to make religious arguments against a technology that promises to wipe away all human problems and launch mankind into a new age. (Pls refer again to our Editorial).

The naked truth facing us (if we want to see it), is that Man has reached the zenith of his modern day Tower of Babylon. The present world-order cannot support the present knowledge-level much longer. We have reached the end-point of the path to soulish-development which Adam chose for us in the Garden. What is next, the Aquarian age being promised by the New Age movement, or the Kingdom of God long prophesied by the Prophets? We do not have much longer to wait - one way or the other, a new world order is inevitable. A final word, please – don't ever buy the deception that both are the same. They are diametrically opposite one to another!

**(Vol 2 No 2, March – April, 1999)**

**Man at the verge of being able to re-design Creation.:** With the production of the world's first synthetic DNA, the blueprint for life (as reported by The Australian, 24<sup>th</sup> Jan), it is now possible for humans to re-design whole species, including themselves, probably within the next 2 years. According to the report, "The DNA was created at the University of Texas, where researchers have mapped out the exact way it will be configured to create the world's first "man-made" creature. The researchers are planning to create a series of designer bugs, with super-efficient mechanisms for infecting target tissues, such as cancer tumors, and then killing them. Some would infect the human gut to produce vitamin C. Critics, however, have warned that the scientists risk unleashing a microbe master race with increased powers to infect humans and wildlife. (see our story on HIV/Aids on page 2.) Literally speaking, Life can no longer remain the same on earth. [Original Source: Mike Gayda news search engine.]

**(Vol 3 No 2, March – April, 2000)**

#### **Cloning Update**

##### **Human Genome Mapping 97% Complete**

The same evening the URI charter was being signed to formally launch United Religions (26<sup>th</sup> June), a joint announcement was made in London and Washington DC that scientists from 16 centers around the globe had virtually completed (97%) the mapping of the human genome - the genetic makeup of the human body. This achievement of humanity is at least as significant as man's splitting the atom, or the landing on the moon.

The potential benefits are huge: drugs tailor-made for individuals, predictive testing (of much value in counselling), improved understanding of disease along with possibility of correcting defective genes for example in most cancer, heart diseases, sickle cell anaemia, etc. However while considerable further research must still be done to get the benefits of the now opened "Book of Life", virtually no further research is needed to begin to use it to discriminate against people who are "potentially liable" to develop some disease. Many people fear that a pandora box has been opened and all the problems associated with "eugenics", (a strong influence on Hitler, for example) are again all possibilities. – see our book of the month, Let's make Man, for more insight

**(Vol 3 No 4, July – August, 2000)**

## VII.

*The Internet* —Finally, ushering in the New Age

Turn the world into a global village. This concept, once considered a myth is fast becoming a reality. First, we have jets, high speed trains and other modes of modern travel, considerably bridging the physical distance, while modern radio communication (e.g cable TV) ensures news go round the “village” even faster than traditional town-criers could have done. The final hurdle in this globalization plan is turning interactions (commerce, debate, knowledge acquisition and dissemination, etc) worldwide, into a village setting. Through the Internet, this dream is now, not only technologically realized, but also available at a price cheap enough to ensure routine use, thus affecting lifestyle, culture, etc. The global village is definitely here.

The recent witnessing of the birth of baby Sean by a global audience via the Internet once again vividly demonstrates this fact, and once again, **Bible critics are left with the task of concocting new explanations for the increasingly proven accuracy of the Bible. Clearly, Biblical predictions of world-wide audience to certain upcoming events (such as Rev 11:9-12) have moved from the realm of fables to reality.**

The Internet has its background in the quest for a means of rugged communication system that can withstand the most massive of earthquakes and nuclear attacks, initiated by the US military way back in the early 70s. It uses the special TCP/IP protocol for communication from one host to another via the web. As for any web, the more the nodes (i.e. participants) involved, the stronger, better and more efficient it works. Hence frantic efforts are being made, especially by new-age advocates, to ensure that all nations are connected up. Generous grants are usually available for indigent nations to achieve Internet connectivity even while their basic humanitarian and societal needs are overlooked. The efforts are bringing results, and according to MIT's Nicholas Negroponte, “by the year 2000, there will be a billion people on the Internet”

Now the Internet has both its good and bad sides. Though the redoubtable home of all sorts of unimaginable perversion, some good points (and a good number of them too) still exist. Apart from the obvious value of the Internet in the fields of commerce, education, health etc, several Christian and other caring agencies have now gone “On-line” making their services more easily accessible and affordable. Yet, there can be little doubt that once the Church is raptured, the Internet will be set to provide

the backbone of the ultimate technology the anti-Christ will use for his coming short but terrible reign. The several objectives of the New-Age movement of a World government, World religion, etc require facilities such as the Internet for actualization. According to the Global 2000 plan (please see Final Warning by Barry Smith – available at CALM Library), the date set for the actualization of the objectives of the new-age movement for the Nuovo ordine Seclutoros, is the year 2000 – less than 2 years from now.

To really have an idea of how much the Internet is currently changing (and increasingly so) the face of the world, we only need to consider the impact the introduction of the Printing Press and the computer had on the world order. Suffice to mention that the Church reformation of Martin Luther would have gone the way of several others before it, were not for the Printing Press that fanned the fire all over Europe; and that the Computer has not only widened Man's knowledge database, but provided unparalleled access to these in the manner predicted in Dan 12:4. The effect of the Internet will make the impacts of the Printing Press and the Computer look like child play. In our opinion, the Internet is the end point of the Soul-development Path (represented by the Tree of Knowledge) chosen by Adam at the expense of the Spiritual-development Path (represented by the Tree of Life).

And who really owns the Internet today? The answer the experts give will surprise you – nobody owns the Internet. Though this could be technically right, it requires only little discernment to know that there must be more to this issue. Today, two opposing forces are making bold assertions on how they will physically rule the entire world in a 'global village' setting in the very near future. It is however Satan who needs a technology like the Internet to accomplish his own goal. When the Man who will actually rule (Jesus Christ of Nazareth) comes, He would have no need of any 'Tree of Knowledge'-type technology. **Those who are genuinely born again today are already enjoying the ultimate technology manifested as divine health and provision, as well as some attributes known as the Fruit of the Spirit – love, joy, peace,.. self-control (see Gal 5:22-23).**

Our attention has recently been drawn (by a Professor child of God) to a security software introduced on the Internet some 3 years ago. The software goes by the name – please take a deep breath- SATAN (apparently short for Security Administrator Tool for Analyzing Networks) and is available free of charge. The Control panel for SATAN is shown in an article in the magazine PC World of 26/9/95, pp 265-266, and it tells a story on its own. It includes an icon of a devilish-looking figure and a suite of menu, no

doubt meant to make the concept of satanism less offensive and more acceptable. Is all this for mere fun, for nothing, or a gradual acknowledgment of the 'brains' behind the Internet?

Of course, Christians should feel free to use the Internet (just as we do other products of current technology – tv, cars, medicine, etc); but we must do so with discernment. Several useful articles are being written on this subject in many a Christian journal; but the final word seems to be, "Don't get bitten by the bug" – don't give the Internet any access to your **soul**.

**(Vol 1 No 4, July – August, 1998)**

### **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.

**(Vol 2 No 1, January –February, 1999)**

### **Computer War with Hackers toughens.**

The raging war between computer makers on one hand, and hackers on the other is indeed interesting watch. When hackers, at one of their general meetings recently claimed they could remotely access any computer running most current top software (including Microsoft windows), some sniffed at the claim. However the three top makers of e-mail software later reported that their products are vulnerable to security flaws that could wipe out a user's system. Though analysts were reported to have given up on the companies being able to do anything to prevent would-be hackers, (CNN 9/8/98), the recent announcement by IBM of a solution is again balancing the equation. IBM is giving up the new finding free for all its competitors in a joint battle against hackers.

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**(Vol 1 No 5, September – October, 1998)**

### **Anti-Virus Company Website Cracked by Hackers.**

Leading anti-virus and security software maker, Symantec was one major site cracked by Hackers in recent times. The long and embarrassing list of other sites cracked include US NASA and the American Stock Exchange, Nadsaq-AMEX. From last year, around 30 international banks in London have admitted serious security attacks on their networks and over 5 million pounds were reportedly paid to ransom stolen data which hackers threatened to make available to the public. Cyberterrorism (hoaxes and real) is expected to be a major complication to the coming Y2K computer problem.

**(Vol 2 No 6, November – December, 1999)**

### **Cyberterrorism Danger looms**

CNN Feb 3 reported a warning contained in a new report from the Center for Strategic and International Studies. The gloomy report indicated that cyberterrorists (terrorists on the Internet) are plotting all manner of heinous attacks capable of "destabilizing and eventually destroying targeted states and societies. Another sad reality of our times. How could anyone pretend there could be enduring peace outside of Christ Jesus?

**(Vol 2 No 2 March – April, 1999)**

**Updates:** The Cyberterrorism we mentioned in our last issue, still continues unabated all over the world. On April 26, over 240,000 personal computers were reported wrecked in Asia when the virus "Chernobyl" suddenly activated from its dormant state on computers whose memories had earlier been infected by the virus. A few days later, an even more deadly virus was sent to the Internet, coated in religious language. Activating the dummy message titled "It takes guts to say 'Jesus'" wipes out the entire hard disk, according to both AOL and IBM, 'without any remedy'. This is right after the heels of another deadly virus called "April 26" which was sent to the web on that day. After all the 'carrot' approach, the final cards the anti-christ will play to force everyone to rally round his government will be the promotion of violence and chaos, such as cyber-terrorism. Thereafter, not only will the anti-christ be literally begged to take over the system, he will be given wide powers to deal brutally with 'deviants'.

**(Vol 2 No 3, May – June, 1999)**

### **Y2K Computer Meltdown: Countdown to the Inevitable**

The fear of computer systems crashing at the turn of the century, two months from now, is causing jitters in several countries in the technologically advanced world. Systems, heavily-dependent on computers - such as banks, communications, transportation, security, etc are

susceptible to failure as non-Y2K compliant computer systems will make calculations using the year 1900 instead of the year 2000 with possible unpredictable consequences. To compound an existing terrible situation, most computer programmers surprisingly failed to recognize the year 2000 as one of the few leap years that are divisible by 100 (being also divisible by 400). Hence February 29 is another hurdle waiting ahead!

To fix the problem, not only will it be necessary to correct millions of lines of computer codes, most of them written in computer languages that are obsolete and unmastered by most of today's computer science graduates; the approximately 20 billion microchips embedded in innumerable devices ranging from Christmas cards and cameras to vital components in for example the oil industry and nuclear warheads will have to be evaluated, latest 31<sup>st</sup> December. Virtually, all computer experts and it would appear, most governments (e.g. Paraguay – International Herald Tribune, Oct 11) and organizations in the industrialised world have conceded that this is plain Mission Impossible. The estimated cost for fixing the millennial bug worldwide is in excess of \$1 trillion – greater than the total expenditure of ALL nations during world war II (adjusted to today's dollar)! (For once, Nigeria and other technologically under-developed countries might be tempted to want to rejoice in their 'backwardness'- but in a global, inter-related economy, no country can really escape ripples – positively or negative? - from other economies).

The meltdown may even occur before January 1, unrelated to computer failures, however. The polls indicate that the masses in the advanced countries are expecting problems and are trying to prepare for it. For instance as much as 25% of people in a recent poll in the US indicated they will withdraw extra cash in case of problems at the bank. Such a large withdrawal itself is sufficient to adversely perturb a delicate, near-cashless, economy where only 3% of the total currency of funds are produced on paper currency. Since the problem will occur during the deep cold winter, the inevitable crash of electricity supply is another tragedy looming on its own right. Even robbers are reportedly preparing for this day of booty when communication and security systems might just fail to work as expected!

All these are not mere conjectures. The Ottawa Citizen of July 26 reported the disruption of over 9000 PrimeLine customers telephone lines in Ontario, as Bell Canada performed a Y2K program test to ascertain its readiness for the year 2000. Last year, the National Pharmaceutical Association in the UK reported that two major pharmaceutical corporations inadvertently wiped out their entire corporate records in their Y2K

compliance tests! Meanwhile, several countries are establishing Y2K Command Centres, at considerable costs, to co-ordinate expected problems on the issue. Apart from the International Y2K Cooperation Centre set up by the United Nations and the World Bank, Japan and the United States are two nations with their own Centres. In the US, legislation protecting computer makers from possible lawsuits have also been enacted. Some people are sounding the alarm that the unprecedented but on-going training of the US army in urban warfare patterned after US cities might be aimed at using the army to quell some riots expected soon. Might this be connected to the Y2K palaver? The Mother of all Y2K problems however might have to do with the Internet which is definitely non-Y2K compliant.

But why did national governments leave the problem too late? To educate yourself on issues pertaining to the Y2K crisis, the incredible complicity of the World Government and Cashless society advocates in the crisis, and how you may prepare yourself for this inevitable event barely two months away, endeavour to read the book 'The Millennium Meltdown' by highly respected author, Grant Jeffrey on the subject. (Available at our Library). Very many useful references and websites are cited.

**(Vol 2 No 6, November – December, 1999)**

**Postscript:** Well, the Y2K problem is now history. Though a number of Y2k problems were indeed reported, especially in the advanced countries, none of the apocalyptic predictions came to pass. This is due, on one hand, to the massive investment of money and men in the Y2K centres launched by various governments and the UN in the final weeks leading to Y2K to prevent the real catastrophes; and on the other hand to the fact that the crisis was also certainly hyped. See 'Wearing Out the Saints' for another perspective on this.

### **US fears for Nigeria's lack of Y2K preparedness**

Nigeria was one of the 5 oil producing nations cited in a report by a special US Senate panel whose non-readiness for Y2K might have a major negative impact on the US economy. (Reuters Sept 23) One thing is sure though, most Nigerians are not losing sleep over the threats of electricity cuts, failure of major utilities such as water supply, prolonged closure of banks, lack of petroleum products, etc – we've seen it all before!. See the irony of globalization.

**(Vol 2 No 6, November – December, 1999)**

**IX.**

**Has the speed of Light been broken?** For a review of several claims by eminent scientists to have achieved this once-unimaginable feat, check pg 29, Guardian June 8.

**(Vol 3 No 4 July – August, 2000)**

### **113 die in 1<sup>st</sup> ever Concorde Crash**

The 31 year old myth of the Concorde as the safest plane on earth was shattered in Paris in July as plane AF 4590 on charter flight to the United States from Paris crashed soon after take-off. All 100 passengers and 9 crew members were killed. 4 others were killed in the hotel the plane crashed into. The only sure safety is of the Lord.

**(Vol 3 No 5, September – October, 2000)**

### **Secular Organization warns on Doomsday**

With the series of nuclear explosions recently conducted by India and Pakistan, the Doomsday Clock has been set at 11:51 pm from the previous (1995) 11:46 pm. By the calculations of the secular organization that keeps the symbolic Doomsday Clock, 12.00 midnight corresponds to the end of modern civilization in a nuclear holocaust

**(Vol 1 No 4, July – August, 1998)**

### **The Great Showdown – Evolution Versus Creation**

The theory of evolution is only a theory. There are empirical points both in support and against it. Why then insist on teaching it as fact, and exclusively too? This was the reasoning of the Legislative House at Kansas State in the United States, when it ruled that points for and against evolution theory be taught in public schools in the State. The evolutionists responded with great fury! Why are people so desperate to allow no contrary view to evolution despite gaping inconsistencies? Indeed why would supposed scientists go as far as faking results just to support evolution (the pictures used to support natural selection in most biology textbooks have been found to be faked!).

The reason is to be found in the spiritual. When the clock strikes midnight to usher in the Y2K, New Agers will not be debating whether it is a new millenium or not (neither will they bother to apply the compromise terminology of 'Millennial Year'). To them, the Aquarian Age will be rolling in. The Zodiac, believed to change every 2,000 years or so, is expected to roll away the constellation of the fish, marking the end of Pisces (the age of the fish, supposedly representing the Christian Age); and usher in the Aquarius Age, representing as they say, the age of the fulfilled man (secular

humanism). The great pillar holding up this central New Age belief is Evolution. No evolution, no hope for the New Ager!

Whereas very few people can honestly wish to attempt to defend Evolution as a scientific concept, a vast number defend it largely because they have a religious-like faith in it. Many New Agers (and several eminent scientists belong to this group) simply have had extensive interactions with beings who parade themselves as 'highly evolved humans' and cannot but believe in the evolution theory. These beings, which Christians will easily recognize to be nothing but demons, are having a field day in their interactions with man today. Literally, we are back to the 'days of Noah' when so-called 'sons of God' became so-thoroughly involved with human society (Genesis 6).

Why are evolutionary scientists so jittery of having the scientific evidences against their pet theory taught in schools as is done for other theories? The 'facts' for evolution are indeed so thin, one needs much more faith to believe in evolution than to believe in Creation. Any serious dispassionate look at Evolution theory will quickly unmasked the New Age movement of its false scientific mask and reveal it as nothing but the devil's **religion**. A few key points in this regard are extracted from the article by **Joe Crews** of **Amazing Facts**, How Evolution flunked the Science Test (see [www.amazingfacts.org/catalog/pb/bk-efs.html](http://www.amazingfacts.org/catalog/pb/bk-efs.html) for details).

**Spontaneous Generation.** The first question is, always, if all existing living beings, including humans, evolved from lower life forms, where did the first one-celled animal (monad) come from? The evolutionist's answer might shock you: all life forms (that includes yourself, dear reader), evolved from non-living things! This concept, known as spontaneous generation is taken from the now discredited (by Louis Pasteur, 1846) notion that organisms found in putrid organic matter (e.g. maggots) arose spontaneously from it. Dr George Wald, Nobel Prize Winner of Harvard University and notable evolutionist came s close to reality as any evolutionist could dare to. Said Dr Wald, "One has only to contemplate the magnitude of this task to **concede** that the spontaneous generation of a living organism is **impossible**. Yet, here we are – as a result, **I believe**, of spontaneous generation." (Scientific American, August, 1954 – emphasis added by us). Here the respected evolutionist is saying that what he will have to reluctantly concede as impossible in the light of scientific evidences, he still chooses to believe as the reality. This kind of faith would make most Christians blush!

**Chance Life.** Leaving aside the issue of "what came first, the egg or the chicken?", an even much greater dilemma faces evolution theory as it tries

to explain how the first single-celled organism eventually 'evolved' to the present myriad of wonderful and unbelievably intricate creation. Where the Bible teaches that God made all living beings after their own kinds, (i.e. He determines the differences in them deliberately). Evolution attributes the differences in species to chance. Science has clearly shown that the structure of even a simple single cell is unbelievably intricate. The chance for a proper combination of molecules in amino acids, and then into proteins with the properties of life is entirely unrealistic. The odds have been estimated. According to American Scientist magazine (1955), "From the probability standpoint, the ordering of the present environment into a single amino acid molecule would be utterly improbable in all the time and space available for the origin of terrestrial life". Swiss mathematician Charles Eugene Guye actually computed the odds against such an occurrence at only one chance in 10 to the power 160! Why are otherwise intelligent and honorable men not only willing to back such incredible odds, but are all out to ensure no one else asks question?

**Mutations:** This is probably the most controversial aspect of the evolution versus Creation debate. While Christians believe in horizontal mutation, i.e. gradual changes in from within different species of living things, evolutionist require a vertical mutation for their pet theory to carry on. Horizontal mutation will explain the various types of cats, dogs, bulls, even races of men deriving from the one original stock made by God, but vertical mutation requires that the amoeba gradually changes to a fish, and finally to man. Eventually, man is to evolve into 'gods', hopefully according to New Agers, this Aquarian Age that is already here!. If evolutionists were right, the fossil records of animal history should reveal an utter absence of precise family boundaries. Everything should be in the process of changing into something else – with literally hundreds of millions of half-developed fish trying to become amphibious and reptiles halfway transformed into birds, and mammals looking like half-apes or half-men. The clear scientific evidence of fossil records seen is that not a single specimen in such as intermediate stage of evolution has ever been found. The "missing link", as such a specimen linking different species is called, has remained "missing" to date. Darwin himself confessed "There are two or three million species on earth. A sufficient field one might think for observation, but it must be said today that in spite of all the evidence of trained observers, not one change of the species to another is on record". Life and Letters, Vol 3 No, pg 25.

**Natural Selection or Survival of the Fittest:** This concept, according to Evolutionists, is the natural process which enables the strongest of each

generation to survive and the weaker, more poorly adjusted ones, to die out. The assumption of evolution is that since only the strongest improve even advancing into other more highly developed states on the evolutionary scale. This is the direct pillar propping up such satanic doctrines as 're-incarnation' and such satanic doctrines as 're-incarnation' and such practices as 'eugenics' – the attempt to produce superior race of men by exterminating some supposedly inferior one etc. (cf Hitler, KKK etc.).

We allow evolutionists themselves to explain the compelling evidences (if any) that is making them adopt this concept that continues to produce a great misery of fruit on earth. Sir Julian Huxley (evolutionist extra-ordinaire) computed the probability that evolutionary changes are wrought by natural selection and puts the results as "more than astronomical improbability" (Evolution in Action, p 54, 55). More precisely when he computed the likelihood of every favourable evolutionary factor being able to produce a horse, Huxley gave his results as follows:

The figure 1 with three million naughts after it, and that would take three large volumes of about 500 pages each, just to print!... No one would bet on anything so improbable happening, and yet it has happened" (ibid, pg 46). Another example of incredible blind faith!

If we extend Huxley's work to find out the astronomical improbability of a man, rather than a horse being produced, and add to that the necessity of having the right environment already at hand for the man and the horse (grass, tubers, etc), one can only conclude with Marshall and Sandra Hall:

Evolution has no claim whatsoever to being a science. It is time all this nonsense ceased. It is time to bury the corpse. It is time to shift the books to the humorous fiction section of the libraries" (The Truth – God or Evolution") pg 39,40

There are other compelling scientific evidences pointing out clearly the hand of a Creator in nature. The very important second Law of Thermodynamics for instance makes non-sense of most of evolution theory. Again, the fossil records show the sudden appearance of life in the so-called Cambrian stratum. (As one digs deep into the earth, passing one layer or stratum after the other, beyond the Cambrian stratum, all fossil records cease – leaving only blank strata!). Evolutionists have shown their great aversion to having these scientific facts contradicting their wild theories and infamous "reconstructions" become matters for discussion in educational institutions. To the Christian who attempts to find a mid-way between Creation and Evolution – what if God used Darwinism as the mechanism for creation? – we will refer to the Breakpoint article of 19<sup>th</sup> August, 1999 by

Charles Colson {breakpoint@lists.netcentral.net}. The key point in evolution theory is that changes in the species occur naturally and randomly. In Darwin's own words, if God ensured that "the right variations occurred, and no others, natural selection would be superfluous" – i.e. unnecessary, redundant. The central motives for the evolution theory are ultimately, religious. To believe in Evolution theory requires much higher faith than any other religion!

**(Vol 3 No1 January – February, 2000)**

### **World Top Astronomer denied access to lab for producing results contradicting evolution theory:**

Dr Halton Arp is reputed as one of the world's most competent astronomers. A staff astronomer at Palomar Observatory for many years and president of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific in the early 1980's. He soon began to produce incontrovertible results that negate the big-bang theory of the origin of the universe. In particular his data shows that the fundamental practice of using 'red shifts' to indicate distance in astronomy is seriously flawed. It is a significant Sign of the Times that as eminent as Dr Arp is, he soon found out that he was no longer given access to any suitable telescope in the United States for his observations. He has since relocated to Europe. "If they do these things in the green wood..." (Luke 23:31).

**(Vol 3 No 5, September – October, 2000)**

### **Evolution Theory in serious trouble**

Thank God for groups like the Institute for Creation Research (a US based group including thousands of University professors, especially in the Sciences), and others world-wide, there are now numerous painstakingly shown scientific proofs that the theory of evolution is nothing but the greatest hoax ever dreamt up; whilst virtually all data available support the fact that the earth and its inhabitants were created probably not more than some 6,000 years ago.

Confront any real evolution-believing scientist with the facts today, and the results are predictable – Deep Hatred and Violence! In fact it was this common reaction from evolutionists that compelled the beloved Christian scholar C.S. Lewis to change his mind concerning the idea of 'theistic evolution' just before he died. Lewis wrote to a personal friend: **"I wish I were younger. What inclines me now to think you may be right in regarding [evolution] as the central and radical lie in the whole**

**web of falsehood that now governs our lives is not so much your arguments against it as the fanatical and twisted attitudes of its defenders."**

Well-documented instances are too numerous to mention. For instance, a few years ago, in the United States, an evolutionist Professor went to the unimaginable extent of tearing off journal articles from journals in the Library because those articles provided compelling facts against the evolution theory. Another bluntly declared that any student who does not **believe** in evolution (not merely **know** all the details of the theory) cannot get a Ph.D in his department. Yet another earnestly advocated that scientists found not to embrace evolutionism should be frustrated out of the system. The Creation Trilogy published by the ICR lists several more unimaginable but carefully documented facts (available for free loan at our Library).

Unfortunately, what is the most powerful argument in support of evolution theory today? Paraphrased, it simply is this, "if it were not a fully established truth, the Pope would never have given it his unqualified support!" At least this is the only support we saw as we read through the special edition of the leading Evolutionists' magazine, Skeptical Inquirer in their special issue on the subject matter.

**(Vol 3 No 6 November – December, 2000)**

"The theory of evolution is the most debasing, devaluing and dehumanising supposition on the origin of Man. It probably would not have mattered if it were true...."

**Olusegun Obasanjo** in his new book, This Animal Called Man (pg 16)

**(Vol 3 No 6 November – December, 2000)**

**Nigerian Evolutionists: Self Deceivers?** Almost every Nigerian believes it is possible for some humans to change their forms into cats, snakes, vultures, etc. One such story from a Nigeria Newspaper was actually posted on the Internet recently. Our interest in the story at this time is, what does all these make of the **theory** of evolution? Can somebody living in Nigeria in times as these ever genuinely believe in the evolution theory? The fact is that believers in evolution all over the world, do so mainly to deny the existence of a Creator God, to whom we are all accountable. Several of them actually have some occult involvement, as well as belief in theories such as reincarnation. Only few people can ever belief in evolution theory on its own; most belief in it in the sense that even if they are not

able to explain it, a holy God to whom they would be accountable must not and cannot exist! As we show in this volume, (and quoting notable believers in evolution), to believe in evolution, all rationality has to be thrown into the wind and one proceeds solely by faith, an incredible baseless faith!

**(Vol 2 No 6, November – December, 1999)**

## **IX.**

### **FRA Williams testifies for Jesus**

The legendary legal luminary, Chief FRA Williams (SAN) couldn't restrain his joy as he testified to the power of Jesus in restoring the health of one of his grand daughters as reported by the Guardian 06/01/98. He had been told by the head of the medical team in a London hospital, **"We have reached the utmost of Science and it is only divine intervention that can save your daughter"**. Immediate recovery from the eight month-paralysis however followed when the young lady was touched with a handkerchief sent from Nigeria by the man of God, Bishop David Oyedepo. This is one miracle no reasonable person can possibly doubt. Praise the Lord!

**(Vol 1 No 2 March-April, 1998.)**

### **Taking 'Scientific' Advice**

Researchers at Penn. State university announced late 1996 that abortion is to blame for about 5,000 cases of breast cancer each year. However the media have consistently downplayed the report. Despite a media infatuation with behaviours or substances that might increase the risk of cancer (power lines, pesticides, *maggi-oniyo*, etc) most news outlets moved quickly to discount the latest study. The study was an analysis of 23 studies, and looked at research from around the world (from 1957) to examine possible link between induced abortion and breast cancer; and included 25,967 women with breast cancer and 34,977 women without it. The findings were that women who underwent induced abortion were 30-percent more likely to develop breast cancer. Women who miscarried their pregnancies were subject to no increased breast cancer risk. The US News and World Report explained the antagonism of this work by the press in the following words: **Science is only part of the discussion when two supercharged issues are on the table"**.

In Nigeria, at a recent meeting organized by the important Academic Guild of the O.A.U., Ile-Ife, an eminent Christian scholar-speaker admitted that most of the reports of works her group carried out for some international bodies are hardly reported once the results contradict some position those bodies traditionally represent.

All that is required for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.

**(Vol 1 No 4, July – August 1998)**

**Clarification:** In the last edition, under the article “Taking Scientific Advice”, we wrote that an eminent scholar at the Obafemi Awolowo University admitted that some of their research findings are not published once it contradicted the positions traditionally represented by the sponsoring International Agencies. We need to clarify that it is those Agencies that keep those research findings in the cooler and not the individual researchers. And the message intended is that we need to be wary how we swallow so-called new research findings, especially when they attack traditional Bible-based values. **(Vol 1 No 5 Sept – Oct, 1998)**

## **X.**

### **Midnight Hour Sign**

Commenting on Mat 25:5-6, respected Bible teacher Gordon Lindsay, in his booklet “Signs of the soon coming of Christ” noted that the Lord has represented Himself (in the Parable of the Virgins) as returning at the Midnight Hour, prophetically speaking. Lindsay then went on to describe one of the strangest coincidences of historic timing that ever occurred at the close of World War I (The unprecedented globalized war itself was one of the signs Jesus said would mark the end-times period).

The coincidence was that, though nobody planned it that way or even gave the slightest thought to it, “world war I ended at eleven o'clock on the morning of November 11, 1918, which was:

The Eleventh Hour

Of the Eleventh Day

Of the Eleventh Month....

Here is Lindsay's conclusion: What did all this mean? Was it not God's clock striking the hour, thus indicating that the world had entered the eleventh hour of its history, and that the midnight hour when Jesus would come was not far off? What do you think, reader?

**(Vol 1 No 5, November – December, 1998)**

## Chapter 8: Heart Matters

*If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.*

**John 13:17**

*And the world is passing away, and the lust of it;  
but he who does the will of God abides forever.*

**1 John 2:17**

*The good news of Jesus is so good, that, regardless of what the other news is – no matter how tragic, hopeless, painful, it cannot diminish the good news of the news of Jesus and of our lives because of Him”*

**Pastor Karl Barden**, *Living Faith Fellowship, Pullman Wa. USA*

I.

**BELIEVER IN DEED (1 John 3:18)**

On this journey we begin at birth  
This fleeting moment that we spend on earth  
No second chance to live it all again  
It must be now or never  
To cherish each endeavour  
What will they say that I have left behind?  
A faithful heritage for all to find  
What will they see?  
I want my legacy to be

**Refrain:** He was a believer indeed

He had a heart of a different breed  
He made his mark and he lived by his creed  
A true believer  
A believer in deed

Am I living everything I say?  
Am I pointing others to the Way?  
Will I leave this world a better place?  
Will Jesus say He knew me?  
Is Jesus living through me?  
Did I maintain my authenticity?  
A man of honour and integrity?  
Remembering me..  
I hope that they will truly see

Refrain

At the end of my days I know I'm gonna say  
I wouldn't live my life any other way  
I'll look to my posterity, to carry on for me  
And pray that they will see

Refrain

**Bob Hartman**.in Wake-Up Call Album by PETRA (Vol 1 No 3)

## II.

### PLAYING IT SAFE IS JUST PLAYING

No doubts about it, religion is up. But so are values unremittingly opposed to the truth of Christianity...

That is the great paradox today: sin abound in the midst of unprecedented religiosity. If there are so many of us [Christians], why are we not affecting our world?

We compartmentalize our faith, treating it like a section of the newspaper. It is sandwiched in our schedules, between relatives and running one of many activities competing for our attention.

Not that we aren't serious about it. We spend time in prayer, worship, and weekly Bible studies. But, of course, we are serious about our jobs, fitness, and families as well.

British writer Harry Blamires addresses this dilemma in *The Christian Mind*. The typical believer, he says, works side by side with a secularist, prays sincerely about his work, but never talks candidly with his colleagues about what motivates his plans and policies - because he is in a secular environment. When it comes to his spiritual life, he feels comfortable evaluating that in a Biblical context.

The result is an artificial dichotomy between the sacred and the secular. On the one hand are "Christian" topics like spiritual growth or discipleship; we think christianly about such things. On the other hand is the world at large - which we evaluate in secular terms.

This spiritual schizophrenia results in believers bouncing back and forth between their secular and Christian mentalities as the conversation changes from the stock market to sanctification.

Such categorizing would be logical if Christianity were nothing more than a moral code or a set of profound teachings. It would then be just another of life's disciplines...

But Christianity asserts itself as the central fact of human history. The God who created man invaded the world through the person of Jesus Christ, died, was resurrected, ascended, and lives today, sovereign over all.

If this claim is valid - if Christianity is historically true (and, of course, it is) - then it is not simply a file drawer in our crowded lives. It is the central truth from which all behaviour, relationships, and philosophy must flow.

**Charles Colson** Culled from *The God of Stones and Spiders - Letters to a Church in Exile*.

Hodder & Stoughton, 1990, pg. 152-155

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### III.

#### DEVELOPING A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

“Change the world!” This is the rallying cry around the world. The early Church was known for its world-changing gospel. These first-century Christians were rightly accused of “turning the world upside down” (Acts 17:6). Their preaching affected all of life (Acts 20:27). Today’s Church is again believing the world can be changed. Christians are no longer content to see the world transformed into a nightmare by those who deny Jesus Christ and His Word.

The belief that the world can be changed has been adopted and perverted by communism, militant Islam, and secular humanism. Karl Marx, for example, concluded his *Communist Manifesto* with the words, “You have a world to win.” Of course, theirs is a world without Christ, a movement without any chance of success (see Psalm 2 and Proverbs 8:36).

Christians must be obedient to the mandate God has given to extend His kingdom to every sphere of life, to every corner of the globe (Gen. 1:26-28; Matt. 28:18-20). Communism, militant Islam, and secular humanism have had their day. The world can be changed through the preaching of the gospel and the application of Scripture to every area of life. The time is now! Christians around the world are beginning to realize that Jesus is indeed Lord of heaven *and* earth.

Unfortunately, many Christians are still locked into the conviction that all the Bible speaks to is a very narrow slice of life. Of course, all Christians believe that the bible has some very specific things to say about prayer, Bible reading, worship and evangelism. **But many Christians are not convinced that the Bible has some very definite things to say about civil government, the judicial system, economics, indebtedness, the punishment of criminals, foreign affairs, care for the poor, journalism, science, medicine, business, education, taxation, inflation, property, terrorism, war, peace negotiations, military defense, ethical issues like abortion and homosexuality, environmental concerns, inheritance, investments, building safety, banking, child discipline, marriage, contracts, and many other world view issues.**

A lack of comprehensive Biblical worldview has left Christians open to a blind-side attack from humanists who have developed a comprehensive secular worldview. Non-Christians have no problem secularizing law, economics, ethics, etc. The sad thing is that many Christians believe that the steady secularization of every area of life is inevitable and that Christians should not involve themselves in the “Christianization” of every

area of life. We, therefore, have witnessed the steady decline of the family, politics, education, and law.

If the Christian looks only at present happenings he loses his hope of becoming a cultural influence, since he perceives the statement, “evil men and imposters will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived” (2 Tim. 3:13) as something permanent. But we also must remember the previous words of Paul: “But they will not make further progress; for their folly will be obvious to all” (v.9). In the short-term, it appears that the ungodly will prevail. Christians, however, must begin to think longer-term; while the ungodly burn themselves out, the godly steadily influence their world: “You, however, *continue* in the things you have learned and become convinced of” (v. 14). In time, the effects of dominion will be seen: “And let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary” (Gal. 6:9).

**Gary Demar** – culled from an article in Judgment in the Gate, Crossway books. Ed Richie Martin.

#### IV.

#### A MARTYR’S DIARY

***Martyrs, throughout the ages, are ordinary folks like you and I. It’s all a question of denying or confessing Christ Jesus, when we are on the spot. Really, every moment, we all make our decisions one way or other! The account below is an extract from the diary of a 4<sup>th</sup> century young lady, Perpetua, who decided to maintain her witness for the Lord Jesus Christ – up to the point of death, being torn to pieces by wild beasts. Remember, it is a true-life story.***

“While we were still under arrest my father out of love for me was trying to persuade me and shake my resolution. ‘Father,’ said I, ‘do you see this vase here, for example, or water pot or whatever?’

‘Yes, I do’, said he.

And I told him: ‘Could it be called by any other name than what it is?’ And he said: ‘No.’

‘Well, so too I cannot be called anything other than what I am, a Christian.’

At this my father was so angered by the word 'Christian' that he moved towards me as though he would pluck my eyes out. But he left it at that and departed, vanquished along with his diabolical arguments.

During these few days, I was baptized, and I was inspired by the Spirit not to ask for any other favour after the water but simply the perseverance of the flesh. A few days later we were lodged in the prison; and I was terrified, as I had never before been in such a dark hole. What a difficult time it was! With the crowd the heat was stifling; then there was the extortion of the soldiers; and to crown all, I was tortured with worry for my baby there.

These were the trials I had to endure for many days. Then I got permission for my baby to stay with me in prison. At once I recovered my health, relieved as I was of my worry and anxiety over the child. My prison had suddenly become a palace, so that I wanted to be there rather than anywhere else.

One day while we were eating breakfast we were suddenly hurried off for a hearing. We arrived at the forum, and straight away the story went about the neighbourhood near the forum and a huge crowd gathered. We walked up the prisoner's dock. All the others when questioned admitted their guilt. Then, when it came my turn, my father appeared with my son, dragged me from the step, and said: 'Perform the sacrifice – have pity on your baby!'

Hilarianus the governor, who had received his judicial powers as the successor of the late proconsul Minucius Timinianus, said to me: 'Have pity on your father's grey head; have pity on your infant son. Offer the sacrifice for the welfare of the emperors.'

'I will not,' I retorted.

'Are you a Christian?' said Hilarianus.

And I said: 'Yes, I am.'

Then Hilarianus passed sentence on all of us: we were condemned to the beasts, and we returned to prison in high spirits.

Editor's Note: The sacrifice alluded to above was a pinch of incense offered to the Emperor. Genuine Christians found this offensive to their faith.

Other so called Christians however either hired people to offer the sacrifice for them or procure fake certificates of compliance. Though they 'gained' their lives (for a while), they lost the unique opportunity to witness for, and represent Christ Jesus. These same situations go on even till today!

As a result of the martyrdom of Perpetua and her friends at Cathage it was reported that the prison governor was converted. We'll see these folks in heaven some day. Amen.

## V.

### CASUAL CHRISTIANITY?

There is a feeling among some Christians that you can have a casual commitment to the Lord. The problem with this is that there's no such thing as a casual commitment. It's a contradiction of terms. To have a commitment is to say, "I promise to do something. I'm committed to it." To be casual is to say, "I can take it or leave it." So how can you have a casual commitment? You can't! As Christians, it is vital that we understand this distinction. Either we are endeavoring to live in a Christlike manner and are committed to Him, or we are not. It's that simple.

How can we know if we are truly committed to the Lord? Our lives will show it. A true commitment to the Lord will directly affect our actions and attitudes. Do you claim to be a Christian? Would those around you agree? They're watching your life carefully. They know that to be a Christian is to be Christlike. They know whether you're a Christian or not, and so do you.

Just what is a Christian? First of all, a Christian is a person who recognized that he was a sinner, came to God in repentance, and found salvation. Once we are reconciled to God, we learn that we must be holy, for in Scripture it says, "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; because it is written, be ye holy; for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:15,16). The experience of sanctification, a second work of grace in the heart brings true holiness into our lives.

Do you wonder how one really separates himself from the world? We ask the Lord to help us draw closer to Him. And the closer we draw to Him the further away from the world we become. It's just that simple. Draw closer to God and you will be separate from the world. Draw closer to the world, and you separate yourself from God.

As we draw close to God, we become stronger. Paul tells us in Ephesians 6:10-11 to, "be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." **When we talk about the need for armor as a defense against an enemy who wants to kill us spiritually, that doesn't sound casual, does it? There's nothing casual about it. This is an eternal matter. It's a battle!** We have to be committed that we are going to go through, no matter what comes. And if we will show that determination, the Lord will do His part. But if we think we can make a casual commitment and still make it to Heaven, we're kidding ourselves. A casual commitment is no commitment at all. And it will show in our lives.

We must remember that the Lord is coming soon. And whether we go by way of the grave or by the Rapture, we must give diligence to make

sure our commitment to God is genuine. We must make sure our lives back up our words. We must be faithful, in the big things and the little things. Someone wrote, "Big moments seldom come in our lives. Great deeds are rare. Our character is determined by the sum total effect of all the small things that come upon us during our lives. Life is mostly chores, and the one who conducts himself faithfully when he thinks no one else is observing is the one whose life will total something worthwhile. Let us be faithful then, in small responsibilities, let us seize the small opportunities. If we take care of the little things in life, the great things will take care of themselves.

Culled from an article in The Light of Hope vol 83, No 4 The Light of Hope is a publication of the Apostolic Faith International Headquarters, 6615 SE 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Portland OR 97206, USA.

Vol 1 No 4 July-August, 1998

## **VI.**

### **KINGDOM PEOPLE AND SOUL-WINNING**

Earlier in my life, I had considered any reticence about aggressive witnessing to be a reflection of a person's basic unspirituality. I came to see that, while fear may sometimes obstruct a believer's witness, the hindrance was more likely to be ignorance.

When a believer understands clearly fact and force of the Kingdom life within him, I discovered, he becomes free to minister with confidence on those opportunities the Holy Spirit brings to him in his everyday life.

Without disparaging planned soul-winning conversations, suffice it to say that Kingdom people need more than a set of words to speak they need to understand who they are, what the Church is to be, and how they can be exactly that. They need to move into each day as common folk, available to the Holy Spirit's direction and enablement.

This is no case against planning or programs. It is simply a fact that at least as much "just happened", through people who were available to the Holy Spirit, as happened on purpose. Yet we ought not to consider those things that "just happened" as random. They reflect the purposed program by which Christ works in His Church when He finds people who understand and are enabled to work in the Kingdom.

Then, as people of the Kingdom, we need not be pretentious. Few things concern me more about some circles of Spirit-filled believers than their overriding concern to seem very spiritual. It bothers me when people adopt artificial or unnatural behaviour in the name of spirituality.

- The organ-like intonation of spiritual terminology;

- The glassy-eyed look of supposed sincerity;
- The Mona Lisa smile of “all-knowingness”;
- The exclusionary laughter of the “in group”;
- The sudden burst of trumpeted “tongues” shattering the beauty of a worship time;
- The need to be known as one who has attained a great status in the Kingdom;
- The sweaty competition of out-testifying the last champion.

The type and tone of supposedly “spiritual” behavior troubles me. And I’m bothered by this for better reasons than mere personal distaste. It disturbs and hurts me because I think people who do these things lack security and the healthy sense of identity and sensibility that Jesus wants for each of us.

Bringing the Kingdom of God to people was for Jesus Christ, and is for His Church today, neither a casual nor a passively informal activity. But neither does it need to be flavored by the pushiness, desperation, artificiality, or pompousness that bespeaks more an effort born of insecurity or self-righteousness than a ministry flowing naturally from a sensed debt of love.

**Jack W. Hayford.** Culled from his booklet “People of the Kingdom”

## VII.

### STOP LIVING LIKE AN ATHEIST!

A Gallup poll taken in 1993 indicates that only about 4 percent of the world’s population are atheists. It appears that God is quite popular!

But in reality, far more than 4 percent of the people in the world behave as if there is no God. They don’t deny His existence with their lips, but they do in their hearts and lives. They are like the fools described in Psalm 14 who deliberately ignore God because they do not want to turn from their self-centred ways of living and obey Him instead.

This denial of God occurs today even among those who acknowledge the miraculous survival and growth of the Church in countries where there has been terrible persecution. But instead of recognizing this as a strong reason to take God seriously, they reject the Gospel and live by the values of the world.

The best way to avoid acting like an atheist is to practice godliness. We who know Christ must cultivate a deep gratitude to the Lord for His salvation and exemplify purity, honesty, and confidence in His goodness. As practicing Christians, we are to be salt and light in our world (Matt 5:13-16).

A major reason many Christians fail to function in this way is the fear of the future. Can I afford to lay all my eggs in one basket? This especially becomes an issue, since God has chosen to reveal the future not in one whole picture, but rather, piecemeal. But there is the crux of the matter. Christian faith is trusting God completely, and taking Him at His Words. It is either we choose to believe in Him (and it will show in our actions), or we choose not to. No half-measures are allowed. Partial belief is unbelief. And in this issue of Christianity, everything is "from faith to faith" (Rom. 1:17). As someone has observed, "He who carries a lantern on a dark road at night sees only one step ahead. When he takes that step, the lamp moves forward and another step is made plain. He finally reaches his destination in safety without once walking in darkness. All the way is lighted, but only a single step at a time. This is the method of God's guidance".

As the child of God refuses to worry about tomorrow and trusts Him for today, he finds by the light of God's Word, the grace and guidance for every situation in life. Even as a lantern illuminates each new step on a dark road at night, so the lamp of Scripture provides light on our pathway (Ps 119:105).

When we put all our hopes in Him, and banish all double-mindedness, we stop living as atheists. Rather, we find supernatural enablement to function as true salt of the earth, making others thirst for the Water of Life.

(Culled from articles by **R.W. De Haan** and **H.V. Lugt** in Our Daily Bread, July 27 and August 17, 1994. Radio Bible Class

## VIII.

### APATHY

There can be little doubt that the prevalent mood of today is *apathy*. 'Why bother? Who cares? Don't get involved!' These are the slogans of the modern world. Kitty Genovese, aged twenty-eight, was trailed by a man in Kew Gardens, New York, in March 1964. He attacked and killed her. At least forty people heard her scream and shout for help, and many of them must have seen her die. Yet no one came to her rescue or even called for the police. 'I didn't want to get involved' explained one of the eye-witnesses.

Today, many still are afraid to get involved. They are too indifferent to obey the clear commandments of Him whom they call Lord!

I once heard Brother Andrew speak of a time when he was sitting with another Christian in a bus in Vietnam. They saw a man carrying a

basket walking in front of the bus. It was during the time of intensive fighting and constant Vietcong guerrilla attacks.

'Watch out!' said the Christian. 'In that basket there might well be a bomb!'

'Why are you so afraid?' asked Brother Andrew.

'That man may be a Vietcong who will throw himself and the basket at the bus,' came the reply. 'He doesn't mind if he dies. I do!'

Brother Andrew commented on this incident, 'That sums up the ineffectiveness of so much of the Church today!' How many Christians are willing to lay down their lives for Jesus Christ?

With the greatest urgency we need to recapture the spirit of Paul who wrote, 'I look upon everything as loss compared with the overwhelming gain of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord', or of David Livingstone who said, 'I place no value on anything, except in its relation to the Kingdom of God'.

David Watson. Selected from portions of his book, I Believe in Evangelism. (Hodder and Stoughton), 1976.

#### **LOOKING UP TO JESUS**

**As** the world system becomes more and more sophisticated; with sin multiplying and the love of many waxing cold, what are your own preparations? Only those who are looking up to the coming Jesus will not be so carried away by the world as to exchange their birthright for a mess of pottage. Jesus declared in John 14:1-6 that He has gone to prepare a place for us. He expects all of us to battle against the world system as we look up to His coming.

Everything in the world can be categorised into three groups: the Lust of the Eyes, the Lust of the Flesh, and the Pride of Life. These are the three pillars, a trinity, upon which the World System hangs. The System spends so much money on aesthetics at the expense of functionality. It cries and seeks for more comfort and convenience for the flesh. Everybody in the world is also striving to become something so as to satisfy the pride of life. So much (money and time) is invested to satisfy this evil trinity.

The Bible (1 John 2:15-17) however says that the world passeth away and the lust thereof ... Know it that there is nothing permanent about the world system. I see the World System like a very big caravan with a driver. The driver is the prince of this world, the devil. Unbeknown to many, this driver is steadily on his way to the bottomless pit. He is particularly now desperate that many more passengers should come on board. there are many "Agberos" with various selling pitches on the wayside, urging people to enter the caravan. Anytime a person comes to ask the question : "where are you

taking me?", the driver slows down and gives the person some sophisticated treatment. He says "no problem, relax" and rocks you up and down until you become unconscious of your journey to eternity. The caravan then gets going again.

Solomon discovered this trinity of the world but then it was too late for him to jump out of the caravan. God will help you succeed in your business, but let me tell you that there is no permanence in business, because it is in the world and it is of the world. There is technological advancement in the world, but the one behind it will not allow it to serve Jesus, but his own purpose. The prince of this world has taken cinema to the living room and bedrooms in form of Video and TV with shows of pornography etc, so as to serve his own purpose. Know that the world passeth away; one day we will wake up to see that everything the world system has put together is no more. Everything would have melted. (Please read II Peter 3:1-end). Verses 3 and 4 enjoin us to beware of scoffers. When you talk about the coming of Jesus these days, they say "Don't frighten us, don't terrify us. This was what our fathers said, but yet He has not come." Many of these scoffers are even on the pulpit!

**The principles of the Kingdom of God are highly offensive to the principles of the World System and you cannot be a Kingdom-minded Christian and be at peace with the World System** Mathew 24:32-42 reveals that the hour of His coming is a top secret but He gave some signs of His coming (vs 28). As in the time of Noah, everything about the World System now is reserved for fire. Everything you are doing now is reserved for fire. Are you building a house now? Thank God, build your house and live there. But know that this also shall melt. All your plans of many years shall also melt. **If you are not feeling very comfortable with this message, my prayer is that you may never feel comfortable in a world that may collapse on you any moment!**

"Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and Godliness?" (2 Pet. 3:11). Strive to be holy all round – in business, contract, family affairs ... in everything. If you are looking for that which is eternal and permanent, if you are planning to be part of that glorious company in the General Assembly of the Church of the Living God, then **make every effort** to be found before Him spotless, blameless and at peace with him" (II Pet. 3:14, NIV). The moment to make yourself spotless is now. The next moment may be too late. May the Lord help you in Jesus' name. Amen.

Gbile Akanni (Based on his oral message at the 1999 West African Convention of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International. Nov 24-27, 1999 at the TBS, Lagos.

**(Vol 3 No 1, January – February 2000.)**

## IX.

### NOTHING AS IMPORTANT AS OUR LOVE FOR HIM

A few years ago an article in *The Wall Street Journal* jolted me. The Gallup Poll had projected, on the basis of new surveys, that there were probably more than fifty million American adults who were born-again Christians. That announcement, however, was not what rocked me.

In a front-page feature that followed up the announcement of the survey results themselves, which were generally considered rather startling, the *Journal* delved into the issue of the impact on society that the born-again believers were having. The theme of the resulting story was, in effect, a question: "Where are all of these born-again Christians?" And then, more to the point, "Where is their influence in American Life?" I found those questions extremely sobering, and ... I hung my head in sorrow as I read that article and thought of how relatively little evangelical Christians were doing, relative to their numbers, to be "salt" and "light" in our society (Matt. 5:13,14).

But there is good news, too, for increasingly those who love Christ and do their best to live by Biblical values are in the field doing battle for [Christian] values— and making a difference! From the White House to the grass roots, from the issues of abortion and pornography to more basic concerns like the strengthening of Christian family life, those who call themselves "born again" are making a difference. I do not believe that *The Wall Street Journal*, or anyone else, would think of asking today, "Where are they? What difference are they making?"

And yet, despite all of the increased passion for righteousness and all of the activity, which I welcome, I have a concern. My concern is that in the rush of our activism and issue-consciousness, we will grow cold in what should be our first priority: our "first love" for Jesus Himself. Why is that so very important after all? It is so vital because the Scriptures tell us that without that "first love," we have nothing to offer God or man. Without it, everything else is rubbish or, as the Bible calls it, "wood, hay, and stubble."

In my capacity as president of Campus Crusade for Christ, it is necessary for me to travel each year to numerous countries on every continent. As I travel, I frequently speak to members of our staff of different nationalities, as well as to other groups of Christians, and quite often I use those opportunities to call to their attention this very subject, the danger of losing our first love for the Lord. I do that because it seems to me that there is literally no message that is more relevant to the church at this moment in history.

The consequences of losing our first love for Him are tragic to consider. Paul feared that he would be guilty of that. I can understand his fear, and share it. Frankly, maintaining my first love is my number one priority. It overshadows everything else in my prayers and in my thinking, for if we lose our first love, everything goes downhill. Immorality, lying, stealing, cheating, and other unethical behavior – all of these things can be expected to follow. I see that happen wherever I go. I have even seen it among some of our former staff members, and I have seen it in the lives of many Christian leaders. That is the reason I run this race of life with reverential fear. We are, at best, unworthy servants. But the sin of losing our first love is at the heart of every other problem. Are you moving in that direction?

Malcolm Muggeridge illustrates how this sort of process can occur by describing the response of frogs placed in a pan of water. If you put the frogs in boiling water, they will jump out instantly, Muggeridge said. But put them in a pan of warm water, and they will relax. If the heat is then turned up slowly, they will continue to be lulled by it, and, by the time they realize that the water has been brought to a boil, it will be too late for them to leap out!

There is no better illustration of this principle that I know of than the body of Christ in the Western world. All of us are vulnerable. The church has to a very serious extent been deceived by the Enemy into believing that the material things of this world have real importance. In the final analysis, they are, of course, not truly important at all. But we are so easily lulled, and so often captured by materialism's siren song. Satan is so clever in the way he plays on our vulnerabilities. He makes those little material temptations look so attractive and so innocent. But in the end they can cost us in the freshness and power of our first love for Christ.

**Bill Bright** – culled from the book *Judgment in the Gate*, edited by **Richie Martin** (1986).

## X.

### WE HAVE THIS MOMENT

I am reminded on an old "Family Circus" cartoon which shows one of the children asking his parents, "When will tomorrow get here? Every day when I wake up it's today!" As that little cartoon illustrates, today is all we really have.

In Hebrews 13:8 we find a verse that relates to the past, present, and future. It says, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday [the past], and today [the present], and forever [the future]." We can understand the meaning of "yesterday." We can grasp the concept of "today." But forever? How long is forever? My mind cannot comprehend it, but God is the God of yesterday, today and forever. Times change. People change. Situations change. But the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of Daniel, Peter, and Paul, never changes. The same God who worked for them will work in your life today. He wants to be the God of your past. He wants to be the God of your today. He wants to be the God of your tomorrow.

All of your life until this very moment is made up of past experiences. It is done; it is in the past. Let me tell you one thing about your past: it is unchangeable. You cannot undo it. Some people live in the past. They carry a load of guilt day after day. Your past needs to be cleared up. If there is something hurting you, put it under the Blood of Jesus. Draw a line and determine that it is past and done. Give it to the Lord, and you will experience the sweetness of the Spirit of God moving freely in your life (read Phil 3:13,14).

What about your future? Maybe you are wondering what life will hold for you. Will it be college, marriage, a career? If you are older, you may be thinking about retirement. Most of us have plans, hopes, and dreams for what lies ahead. At the same time, many people today are concerned about the future, particularly now that we are moving toward the year 2000. We hear a lot of speculation about what the "next millennium" will bring. We look around and see so many things that could concern us: the threat of war, the unstable world economy, and ecological disasters looming on the horizon.

**What so many seem to forget is that Jesus is coming. That is what the future holds!**

"What shall it profit a man, if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mk 8:36). Your future – your eternal future – may depend entirely upon your action today. Now, this moment, is the present. What will you do with now? "Now" is a category of time that you can take advantage of today. You cannot alter the past, but now is a moment of

opportunity for you. Each of us has this moment, but we have no promise of anything beyond it.

Maybe you have been waiting for a special little prompt and have been saying, "I need to draw closer to the Lord" or "I need to deal with this issue or problem in my life." This is your moment. This can be the day God answers your prayer. This can be the day you say, "My future is bright. My eternal future is settled through Jesus Christ." What are you going to do with today? Will you seek the Lord while He may be found?

Culled from an article in HigherWay vol. 91, No 3. Higher Way is a publication of the Apostolic Faith International Headquarters, 6615 SE 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Portland OR 97206, USA.

## **XI.**

### **LUKEWARMNESS ABOUT CHRIST'S RETURN**

Mere acquaintance with correct doctrine is a poor substitute for Christ, and familiarity with New Testament eschatology will never take the place of a love-inflamed desire to look on His face.

If the tender yearning is gone from the advent hope today there must be a reason for it; and I think I know what it is, or what they are, for there are a number of them. One is simply that popular fundamentalist theology has emphasized the utility of the cross rather than the beauty of the One who died on it. The saved man's relation to Christ has been made contractual instead of personal. The "work" of Christ has been stressed until it has eclipsed the person of Christ. Redemption is seen as an across-the-counter transaction which we "accept," and the whole thing lacks emotional content. We must love someone very much to stay awake and long for his coming, and that may explain the absence of power in the advent hope even among those who still believe in it.

Another reason for the absence of real yearning for Christ's return is that Christians are so comfortable in this world that they have little desire to leave it. For those leaders who set the pace of religion and determine its content and quality, Christianity has become of late remarkably lucrative. The streets of gold do not have too great an appeal for those who find it so easy to pile up gold and silver in the service of the Lord here on earth. We all want to reserve the hope of heaven as a kind of insurance against the day of death, but as long as we are healthy and comfortable, why change a familiar good for something about which we actually know very little? So reasons the carnal mind, and so subtly that we are scarcely aware of it.

Again, in these times religion has become jolly good fun right here in this present world, and what's the hurry about heaven anyway? Christianity, contrary to what some had thought, is another and higher form of entertainment. Christ has done all the suffering. He has shed all the tears and carried all the crosses; we have but to enjoy the benefits of His heartbreak in the form of religious pleasures modeled after the world but carried on in the name of Jesus. So say the same people who claim to believe in Christ's second coming.

History reveals that times of suffering for the Church have also been times of looking upward. Tribulation has always sobered God's people and encouraged them to look for and yearn after the return of their Lord. Our present preoccupation with this world may be a warning of bitter days to come. God will wean us from the earth some way – the easy way if possible, the hard way if necessary. It is up to us.

**A.W. Tozer.** From an article in his book, **Born After Midnight**

## **XII.**

### **THE CHOICE IS YOURS**

We are now witnessing the final stages of Satan's lawless endeavor. Having lost his high position in Heaven, this fallen angel has remained determined to enslave humanity and receive its worship. At stake is his ego – and our souls. Who will be Satan's chosen vessel to rule the world? How, and when, will he come to power? And what will happen to those who question his authority?

It is possible that once the new civilization is in place, the earthly instruments used to build it will be supplanted by one more powerful. If so, could the "lawless one" be a satanic entity posing as an extraterrestrial being? Could this be why he is referred to as the "beast" in Revelation?

There are many possible scenarios of how the Antichrist and his hierarchy will come to power. With terrorism on the increase, Middle East tensions mounting, and international financial markets in chaos, it is not difficult to imagine how one or more of these situations could be manipulated to usher in the new world order. The year 2000 computer crisis (Y2K) will only contribute to global instability.

**If the world is thought to be on the brink of disaster, humanity could be convinced to embrace a new set of ideals to replace the old. Given the right circumstances, people might be willing to surrender some or all of their freedoms in exchange for a system promising peace and security. Terrorized and fearful of the future,**

**they might be prepared to accept an international government and a new world religion.**

Whether the “global civilization” is actually birthed in the year 2000 – as many occultists would like – remains to be seen. But if current world trends continue, major changes can be expected in the months and years ahead. Regardless of what takes place, one thing is certain: Nothing will happen until God allows it. Ultimately God is in control, and He is still working through knowledgeable, obedient Christians to oppose Satan's efforts. Since true Christians will not, and cannot, embrace the pagan teachings presented by the New Age, there can be no “complete” acceptance of the new world religion and its system of global government as long as Christians are alive and refuse to compromise.

New Agers understand this very well. While they are heralding the prospect of “global peace,” the worldwide persecution of Christians is on the increase and will continue to grow as the new occult order approaches. Jesus said, *“A time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he is offering a service to God. They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me. I have told you this, so that when the time comes you will remember that I warned you”* (John 16:2b-4a, NIV).

In the days ahead, God's people should expect to pay a price for their loyalty to Christ. Some, as Jesus said, will be put to death. Even now, more than a quarter of a million Christians are martyred annually. But there is hope. Even though Christians may endure difficulties in this world and experience persecution for a time, those who remain faithful will receive a great reward. Being in the Lord's presence forever will far outweigh any of this life's pain.

For those who choose to conform, the new world order will seem attractive – at first. The promise of global peace and prosperity will be most alluring. However, once individuals have embraced this seductive world system, they will be in Satan's grasp. The door to spiritual freedom will close, and there will be no escape. They will have to suffer the consequences of their decision forever.

Urging us to make the right choice, Jesus said: *“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it”* (Matthew 7:13,14, NIV).

God's perfect will is for all to enter through the narrow gate. But the ultimate choice regarding your spiritual destiny remains in your hands. You must decide whether or not you will follow Jesus Christ as your Lord.

**Gary H. Kah** - in his new book, *the New world Religion*.

### XIII.

#### AN APOSTOLIC ADVICE FOR LAST DAYS LIVING

You should never forget that in the last days mockers will undoubtedly come – men whose only guide in life is what they want for themselves – and they will say, “What has happened to His promised Coming? Since the first Christians fell asleep, everything remains exactly as it was since the beginning of creation!” They are deliberately shutting their eyes to a fact that they know very well, that there were, by God’s command, heavens in the old days and an earth formed out of the water and surrounded by water. It was by water that the world of those days was deluged and destroyed, but the present heavens and earth are, also by God’s command, being carefully kept and maintained for the fire of the Day of Judgment and the destruction of wicked men.

But you should never lose sight of this fact, dear friends, that time is not the same with the Lord as it is with us – to Him a day may be a thousand years, and a thousand years only a day. **It is not that He is dilatory about keeping His Promise as some men seem to think; the fact is that He is very patient towards you. He has no wish that any man should be destroyed: He wishes that all men should come to repent.** Yet it remains true that the Day of the Lord will come as suddenly and unexpectedly as a thief. In that Day the heavens will disappear in a terrific tearing blast, the very elements will disintegrate in heat and the earth and all that is in it will be burnt up to nothing.

In view of the fact that all these things are to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be? Surely men of good and holy character, who live expecting and earnestly longing for the coming of the Day of God. True, this Day will mean that the heavens will disappear in fire and the elements disintegrate in fearful heat, but our hopes are set not on these but on the new heavens and the new Earth which He has promised us, and in which nothing but good shall live.

Because, my dear friends, you have a hope like this before you, I urge you to make certain that such a Day would find you at peace with God and man, clean and blameless in His sight. Meanwhile, consider that God’s patience is meant to be man’s salvation, as our dear brother Paul pointed out in his letter to you, written out of the wisdom God gave him. In that letter, as indeed in all his letters, he referred to these matters. There are, of course, some things in his letters which are difficult to understand, and which, unhappily, ill-informed and unbalanced people distort (as they do the other scriptures), and bring disaster on their own heads.

**But you, my friends whom I love, are forewarned, and should therefore be *very careful* not to be carried away by the errors of wicked men and so lose your proper foothold. On the contrary, you should grow in grace and in your knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ** – to Him be glory now and until the dawning of the Day of Eternity!

**Peter Jonas** (Foremost Apostle of our Lord Jesus Christ. In a letter written ~66AD – 2 Peter Chapter 3:2-18, JB Phillips version).

#### **XIV.**

#### **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](http://www.theway.billygraham.org) in May 1999)

## **XV.**

### **THE KING'S BUSINESS**

Our God is the King of kings. Whenever you are doing business that belongs to someone who is very important, you do not do it anyhow. God has a business for us, that is why when we became born again we were not taken to Heaven immediately. Because of the possibility of backsliding, God could have taken us home immediately we became born again. However, there is work for us to be done. Our major job is to win other souls to Himself. The way we testify and go about our Christian life will draw other people to God. Someone brought you to Christ and God wants you to bring others to Him.

You have to do the business of the King in a certain manner for it to be acceptable. We will list here 7 ways in which we can do the work of God.

1. **You must do the work.** James 1.22 says you must not be hearers only but be doers of the work. In other words, you have a choice either to

do the work or not to do the work. God expects you to do His work. I will do God's business.

2. **You must do God's work well.** In Matthew 25:21 we are told that when God wants to greet those who have done His job, He normally says, **"Well done, good and faithful servant."** You must not do God's work shoddily.

3. **You must do God's work lawfully.** You must do it thoroughly. Some people claim that they can do the work of God with any method. I have heard of men of God who use charms to bring people into their churches, claiming that there is nothing wrong in it as long as their objective is winning souls. How can you stand on the devil's charm and preach Jesus Christ? **Light and darkness do not go together.** In 2 Timothy 2:5, the Bible says anyone that is going to be crowned will not be crowned until we can prove that the person is tried lawfully. In other words, before God can reward you for any business that you have done for Him, He would check whether you did it according to His plans. As far as God is concerned, you cannot say that the end justifies the means. You cannot go and steal and say you will pay your tithes out of it. God is not interested in blood money.

4. **You must do God's work urgently.** You must do the work of God the moment He says He wants it done. John 9:4 says: **"I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work."** Witnessing must be done instantly.

5. **The work of God must be done heartily.** Ecc. 9:10 admonishes us that whatsoever our hands find to do, we must do it with all our might. For example, when you praise God, praise Him with all your heart. Witness with all your heart.

6. **Do the work of God cheerfully.** God has no interest in those who do His work, grumbling. 2 Cor. 9:7 says God loves a cheerful giver. If you cannot do the work of God cheerfully, do not bother to do it at all so that you will not be wasting your time.

7. **You must do the work of God as an act of love.** Do whatever you are doing for God because you love Him. It is only if you do this that the reward will endure.

**Pastor Enoch A. Adeboye** (Taken from his book David volume 2)

#### **XIV.**

## THE POWERS OF THE AGE TO COME

What does the writer to the Hebrews mean when he says of Christians that they have 'tasted...the powers of the age to come' (Heb 6.5)? We would all readily agree that there is a splendid future age to which we look forward. In it the kingdom that is now 'in the midst' of us in terms of the mighty acts of the Spirit of God (Matt. 12.28) will then become universally visible and unchallenged. The kingdom of the world will have become the kingdom of our God and of His Christ (Rev. 11.15). But what, we may wonder, are these 'powers' that now we only taste but cannot as yet feast upon? Clearly they are to be received and enjoyed, for the word 'taste' implies not merely a doctrine to be thought about and analysed, but something subjectively experienced and made our own. These powers are the preliminaries of a feast of which there is much more to follow but of which we already eat just a little.

We could list a number of such things to which Scripture looks forward. There is a salvation to be revealed in the last time (1 Pet. 1.5). There is a fresh aspect of eternal life in the age to come (Luke 18.30). There is a rest remaining to the people of God (Heb.4.9). There will be the raising and renewal of our mortal bodies (Rom. 8.23; 1 Cor. 15.14). There will be a day when everything that stumbles men will be removed (Jer.31.9; Isa.57.14; 62.10). There will be a time when all shall know the Lord from the least to the greatest (Jer. 31.34; Heb. 8.11) and indeed when the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea (Isa. 11.9, Hab. 2.14). Of all these things we have now a real foretaste in Christ, but we do not yet see them in completeness.

**More directly related to our present study are the following considerations. God's eternal purpose is bound up with man. 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness,' He said, 'and let them have dominion.'. God intended man to wield power, to reign and rule, and control other created things.**

What man was to do on earth for God, and failed to do, our Lord Jesus has accomplished. He 'tasted death for everything' (as the original Greek implies – not just 'for every man'). That is to say, it was not for man's redemption alone that He died but for that of the whole creation, and, going back further, for the recovery of the Father's purpose in the complete oversetting of the Satanic world order.

Thus it comes about that today the Church has a definite responsibility before God to register the victory of Christ in the devil's

territory. If there is to be a testimony to the principalities and powers, if the impact of Christ's sovereignty through His Cross is to be registered in the spiritual realm, it can only be as the judicial foothold in our hearts of the 'pretender' in the race is met and, by the same Cross, removed and repudiated.

The Gospel of salvation is necessary and vital in order to meet man's need. But if as God's servants we are only labouring for others we are missing God's first aim in creation, which was to supply not merely man's need but His own. If today we are going to meet God's need we must go a step further and deal with Satan himself. We must steal back from him his power, evict him from his territory, spoil him of his goods and set free his captives – for God. The question is not merely, Of what account are we in the winning of souls? Rather is it, Of what account are we in the realm of principalities and powers? And for that there is a price to pay.

The price of this witness to the principalities and powers is an utterness of allegiance to God that is unqualified. The demand is very high. Are you and I here on earth, utterly committed, utterly given to God Himself? And because this is so, are we tasting even now the powers of that future glorious age? Are we reclaiming territory from the prince of this world for the One whose alone it rightly is?

**Watchman Nee**, culled from his book, Love not the World.

## **XVII.**

### **WE ARE ABOUT TO GO HOME**

The rapture of the true Church will take place in a moment; suddenly; without a moment warning; in a twinkling of an eye, Jesus will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God. The graves will burst open, and dead saints will fly out of them, and we which are alive physically and spiritually will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. The Church here described is the true Church, the small invisible Church within the large visible general churches.

The visible, nominal, sinful backslidden, apostate church is the majority church. It is thronged by godless, world-seeking people without the barest appetite for anything righteous and holy. They will not share in Christ's promised glorious rapture of the saints. Their part is in the Great Tribulation. They shall suffer God's judgment.

But, if you are a Christian already, and you are expecting the coming of Christ, then on you lies a great responsibility: a responsibility greater than can be possibly imagined: a responsibility greater, consequentially, than can be done by anyone else, no matter their calling. It is the responsibility of rescuing the perishing; of preaching the gospel; of saving the lost. This is your responsibility. Thus you cannot be like other pastors or preachers of the many visible churches and denominations who do not even know that the last days are here. **They do not know that the Rapture is about to take place. They care less that we are at the very brink of time. They must not be your standard for judging the programme of God.**

Given that your heart's cry to God is for His mercy and shield from the universal calamity to come, what should you do?

**1. Be sure you have a definite experience of salvation, not publicity salvation which many profess with "a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof" (II Tim. 3:5).**

**2. "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh" (Gal 5:16)**

**3. Obtain and maintain a pure heart. "And every man that hath this hope in him (the hope of the rapture) purifieth himself, even as he (Christ) is pure" (1 Jhn 3:3)**

**4. Resist every insinuation, pressure or tendency to compromise your knowledge of the righteous standard of God's word (Jude 3).**

**5. "Endure hardness (trials, persecution), as a good soldier of Jesus Christ" (II Tim. 2:3).**

**6. "Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth." Always "looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and of our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Col. 3:2, Tit 2:13)**

Your constant expectation holds your gaze steady on the skies; for who knows, it might be tonight when the blackness of the night shall blaze forth with the light of His coming; who knows, the trump of God might sound in the day, when the world, numbed by the din of its damnable preoccupations the trump of God shall not hear. No careless moment should dim your eyes from seeing His appearing or deafen your ears from hearing the trumpet sound. Watch for the skybound movement. Rid yourself of every sin. We are about to go home.

**Pastor W.F. Kumuyi** (culled from his book, The Believer in the Last Days, 1995.)

**In Press:**

**HOW IS THE GOLD BECOME DIM!**  
**(Evolution of Doctrines, Norms and Practices in the**  
**Cherubim and Seraphim Society)**  
**by J.O. Ojo**

This work examines and compares the Cherubim and Seraphim Society today and when it was first formed in 1925. It notes the vast differences in practices, norms, beliefs and doctrines; and attempts to trace the evolution of these. In the beginning, the Society was conceived as a charismatic evangelistic group, a quickening influence, well integrated into the various denominations then in existence. However, after only four years of its existence, schisms reared its head and since then the Society has assumed its infamous "fissiparous" nature. Not long after the first schisms, the various factions gradually decided to change their mission and focus by changing from mere evangelical societies into full-time Churches. And few of the major actors seemed to recognize the implications of this. These major events occurring between 1929 and 1936 are critical to the evolution of the C&S Society into what it is today.

Writing with over 30 years of experience (till 1995) in the C&S Society, with nearly half of these in leadership position (including founding and co-founding several congregations), Dr Joshua O. Ojo made use of incontrovertible hard evidences to provide a critical examination of the phenomenon of the C&S Society and its development. Documents cited to back these mostly unbelievable findings include newspaper reports, and several private letters and documents retrieved from the National Archive. The findings will not only help genuine and honest members of the C&S Society to have a better appreciation of their organization; it should also provide a timely warning to several up-coming Christian churches and organizations on pit-falls to avoid in order not to have their gold turn dim. The title is taken from Lamentations 4:1a.

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