

The Difference a Name Makes



Did you know that Jesus' name is not really Jesus? What is His real name? **Page 6**



TODAY'S
FRONT
PAGE

No. 1 IN NEWS AND INSPIRATION

Six New Countries Join BRICS



The BRICS countries welcomed six new members, marking their determination to work together for a more equitable and just global governance. **Page 8**

EDITORIAL

"And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb-bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed: to you it shall be for meat." - Genesis 1:29

Ganoderma a day just may keep the doctor away!



God provided everything necessary for His creation to live a full and complete life and all the food necessary to maintain healthy body function.

By Dr. Cathy Sabota, Horticulture Specialist

During the past 50 years, Asian countries have conducted an abundance of research on the medicinal value of several edible mushrooms. Their claims include reduction of blood pressure and cholesterol, enhancement of the immune system, cancer therapy, antiviral and anti-inflammatory properties, treatment of anaphylactic shock (a sudden severe and potentially fatal allergic reaction in someone sensitive to a particular substance, marked by a drop in blood pressure, itching, swelling, and difficulty in breathing), anti-HIV properties, increase of oxygen utilization, and antioxidant properties (Chen and Miles, 1996).

Ganoderma lucidum (aka Reishi) is just one of the cultivated mushroom species that have been analyzed for medicinal value. In the U.S. the phyto-

(EDITORIAL — Continued on page 17)



The Bride of Antichrist Prepared for the Wedding

Following in the Way of Cain

The devil has always wanted for himself what our Lord Jesus has planned for His own. The devil has always wanted to be like the Most High God. Our Lord Jesus has a Bride and the devil will have his own in the form of the coming One World Religious system. God's bride is mentioned in Revelation 21:9:

"And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the Lamb's wife."

The bride of Antichrist is called Mystery Babylon the Great, The Mother of Harlots in Revelation 17. *"And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sits upon many waters:*

(BRIDE — Continued on page 9)

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TODAY'S
FRONT PAGE

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THE GOOD NEWS:

GOD LOVES YOU! The Bible says, "God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but shall have eternal life"

1. The problem is ... All of us have done, said or thought things that are wrong. This is called sin, and our sins have separated us from God. The Bible says "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." God is perfect and holy, and our sins separate us from God forever. The Bible says "The wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:23)

2. The good news is ... about 2,000 years ago, God sent His only Son Jesus Christ to die as payment for our sins. Jesus rose from the dead and now lives in heaven with God His Father. He offers us the gift of eternal life -- of living forever with Him in heaven if we accept Him as our Lord and Savior. Jesus said "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except by Me." (John 14:6)

3. If you want to ask Christ to forgive your sins and be your Savior, and know for sure that you will go to Heaven, you can pray this prayer right now.

"Lord Jesus, I believe you are the Son of God. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins. Please forgive my sins and give me the gift of eternal life. I ask you into my life and heart to be my Lord and Savior. Help me to TRUST you and make you Lord of my life! Show me how to follow You each and every day. In Jesus name I pray, Amen."

If you prayed this prayer, the Bible (God's Word), tells us that when you pass away or when Jesus returns again, you will be saved and spend eternity with Jesus Christ! If you prayed this prayer, call and let us know.

918-279-1136



Today, the Bible & You

"For the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ."



Dr. John Barela

"And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses."

—Mark 11:25–26

Beloved Fellow Co-heir in Christ,

Every day we praise our great God and Savior Jesus Christ for each of you who has joined us to serve Him. We are told in Acts 15:14 that God at FIRST did visit the nations (that's you and me) to take out of them a people for His name. How wonderful is that! To think that God called you and me to publish His gospel among all nations (Mark 13:10) and that someday we will together fulfill the passage in Revelation 5:8-9, "*They (you and me) fell down before the Lamb . . and they sang a new song, saying, Thou art worthy . . for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people and nation.*"

We appreciate you so very much and remember you in our prayers always. Prayer is a wonderful privilege. We can pray anytime or anywhere. Daniel prayed in a cave filled with hungry lions. The apostle Paul prayed when he was in a dungeon in chains. Peter prayed on the surface of the water. And Jonah prayed under the water. So wherever we are, we can pray.

Everything about our Lord Jesus and the work of faith He has chosen to do through us is so marvelous. When it comes to accomplishing what God has chosen to do through us, including our great salvation, no one keeps their eyes on the prize better than our Lord Jesus. God says that as our Savior came closer to his sacrifice on the Cross, "... *He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem*" (Luke 9:51). This work of faith of *Today the Bible and You* has as its only purpose - *to hold forth the Word of Life*, as our Lord Jesus declares in John 14:6, "*I am the way the truth and the life, no man comes unto the Father but by me.*" Organizations, like *Today the Bible and You*, that teach the Word of God need to be steadfast now more than ever as false teaching within most mainline denominations denies any and everything that is Christ-centric and Bible-centric. This relentless attack has taken an extraordinary toll. No one would have ever imagined this only a few years ago. It is as our God wrote that people would call evil good and good evil. That is precisely what we are witnessing more and more every day.

Our Lord Jesus specifically taught His disciples to pray, "...*deliver us from evil.*"

In the United States, we have enjoyed a relatively peaceful existence, but it seems that the Gates of Hell were opened that were predicted for the latter times of this dispensation, and the citizens of this country (and all of humanity for that matter) are being assaulted on every side by the oppressive forces of evil from the spiritual realm. It has gotten so bad that even secular individuals are publicly proclaiming that we are under attack

(Pastor's Letter — Continued on page 3)

Pastor’s Letter

(Continued from page 2)

from evil spiritual forces. God warned us about this in **2 Thessalonians 2:1-4**:

“Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, ² That you be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. ³ **Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;** ⁴ **Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.**”

Despite all the evil we are surrounded with, God wants to assure us that he is in TOTAL control. The evil is allowed because this is part of God’s judgment upon the masses for rejecting the Word of God. Every major religious denomination that at one time embraced Christ as the only way to heaven and the Holy Scriptures, today has turned away. This has led to what we read in **1 Thessalonians 2:9-12**:

“Even him, whose coming is *after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders*, ¹⁰ And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; *because they received not the love of the truth*, that they might be saved. ¹¹ And *for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:* ¹² *That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.*”

This is the reason we see the masses believing every lie that comes from the Father of Liars, the Devil. Yet, in all of this, God’s prophetic plan is being fulfilled just as he predicted that it would. This is what causes us to rejoice. *Why?* Because our God is reigning even in the midst of evil, and He works all things after the counsel of his own will. (Eph. 1:11)

One fellow servant who is also looking for God’s soon appearing for us recently sent me this joyful note. He is eighty-four (84) years old.

Howdy John,

"O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker." So as soon as I read this, I got down on my knees and prayed to Jesus. It was not easy getting down,

but worse being slow and painful getting back up. I don't get it, I can climb 50 flights of stairs at almost a sprint, continually doing 10 floors in less than 3: minutes, easy to do a 25-mile bike ride, but then have so much pain and trouble just getting up off the floor. For a few moments there, I felt like I was 84 years old. I really hope that there are woodsy bike trails in heaven. It looks like I will be happy with stairs that climb upwards for 1,500 miles. I'm not going to whack that climb out in a day, that's for sure. I just want to be 84 years old and perform like I did back when I was 69 and kayaked the Grand Canyon. Swimming through half of the rapids was actually fun, just have to remember to keep your feet pointed down-stream so you can fend off the rocks. And always have a good grip on your paddle. Aloha, and God Bless from the heart.

*The ancient Tutu Keneke,
Seattle, Washington area.*



Tutu Keneke kayaking back when he was 69 years old on slack water on a calm part of the Colorado River.

Another dear saint of God wrote:

“Dear Brother John, Please use this gift where it is needed the most. God blessed me and I want to help His ministry It always gives a good feeling to know that we can reach souls for Jesus. How much our Lord has blessed us in America. It’s hard to think of these poor souls in other countries in false religions. I just pray many will come to Jesus. How He loves us – no one else loves us sinners like Jesus. The only one who can bring America and the world to repentance is Jesus. He is the righteous judge – the only One. I look for Him daily, hourly, or when He comes. We love you in Jesus. God bless and care for each of you. Yours in Christ Jesus.”

We thank God for the letters we receive and for those who pray for and support this work of faith.

THE MACEDONIAN CALL CONTINUES IN PERU:

An Overflow From Our Last Mission Trip at the 14,500 Feet High Andes Mountains

We are making plans from the invitations received at our Pastor’s Conference in the Andes Mountains in August 2023. They invited us to prepare a similar conference in four other places, but we are only able to prepare for TWO at this time: **Arequipa**, is a city of about 1,300,000 people in the southern part of Peru, surrounded by volcanoes. The other invitation was to **Cusco**, where the famous Machu Picchu is located. Cusco is a city of about 450,000 people.

We hope to take at least 100 John MacArthur Study Bibles to each location to present as a gift to the pastors who attend. Each Bible costs \$30 USD.



Pray for me. I have been asked to share Bible lessons VIA ZOOM with 3 groups in Uganda – and also with several groups in Peru.

This is a tremendous opportunity and we cannot do it without YOU and your support through prayers and donations. The need is great, but together, we can make a world of difference to those living in these remote areas without access to sound biblical teaching.

Thank you for your compassionate support and for playing a vital role in investing in the lives of so many. *Every gift makes a difference.*

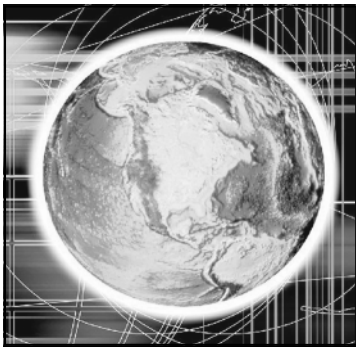
You can readily see how God is using your gifts in many parts of the world to bring forth the Word of Life. Thank you in the name of our Lord Jesus.

\$ _____ MANIPUR, INDIA: Please use this gift to help Dongza and his team purchase RICE and FOOD and supplies for the tens of thousands of displaced Christians who are victims of ethnic cleansing, having their churches burnt to the ground, many killed. Please pray for the health of Dongza’s family.

\$ _____ PERU: Please use this gift toward the expenses of supplying STUDY BIBLES for the Pastors in these many unreached places high in the Andes mountains and other places. It will also help supply the great need for Bibles - Christian music - song books - teaching materials for children and youth - and additional Bible study materials.

(PASTOR’S LETTER — Continued on page 18)

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WORLD WATCH NEWS SCAN

‘How to Destroy U.S. Cities Playbook’ Border Policy : Dem NYC Councilman,

Biden is following a script on how to destroy American cities, fulfilling this part of the plan.

■ (Breitbart News, 08/04/2023) - "Listen to Democrat New York City Councilman Robert Holden as he reveals the stark truth. Holden said, "I want a secure border, but, unfortunately, under President Biden, it's an open border. And, again, it's, how many are we going to take before it's over here? This is Joe Biden's how to destroy U.S. cities playbook — it looks like — in one term."

It is interesting how this corresponds with the Illuminati Plan to destroy all American cities: "Take control of the world ... to reduce ... the world to a safe level by a process of benevolent slavery and genocide ... The only alternative left to the world's ruling elite was to increase the death rate ... Dr. Aurelio Peccei of the Club of Rome ... advocated that a plague be introduced that would have the same effect as the Black Death of history." (Bill Cooper, "Behold A Pale Horse", p. 49, 167)

Portland, Oregon: Democrat-Run City Nailed With Awful Report

■ (Patriot Journal, 08/04/2023) -- "Many Americans, sick and tired of woke Democrats, have been fleeing blue cities and states. Some Democrat-run states have lost so many residents, they actually lost seats in Congress!"

"Some neighborhoods (like those in Los Angeles) are quickly becoming ghost towns. Homelessness, drug addiction, unchecked crime, and illegal immigration are driving Americans away. And they are taking their

tax dollars and businesses with them. Perhaps the most woke city in America is Portland, OR. So many Americans have fled this sinkhole, that the county is in deep trouble."

Liberal city's nightmare continues to spiral out of control

(TheWesternJournal.com) Residents and businesses in Portland, Oregon, are increasingly selling out and moving to greener pastures as the Democrat-led city continues to spiral downward due to rising crime, an out-of-control homeless population and economic malaise.

Portland is in such bad shape that business owners have been closing up shop and selling at a loss just to get out of the place, according to one business owner who spoke to Fox News. "We have people all around us that are making the decision to turn around and leave," said Jim Rice, owner of Portland's The Fields Bar & Grill. "They're selling their places literally at a loss just to be able to get out of Portland. They've lost faith in the local government," he said. Rice also said crime is forcing a lot of business owners to quit the city. "Our business has been burglarized five times in the last year," Rice told Fox. "U.S. Outdoor, which is only maybe about six blocks from us, they have been burglarized 17 times. They finally had to close their doors because they just could not afford being burglarized as many times as they are." Rice added that a fellow merchant closed because his insurance could not cover his losses from repeated burglaries.

"Total crime has spiked nearly 25% according to the Portland Police Department. Motor vehicle theft has increased by 51%, burglary by 19% and robbery by 42%," the news outlet said.

No wonder people want to get out.

Another now-former resident of

Portland, Jeff Reynolds, told Fox that the homeless problem has made Portland unlivable. Reynolds noted that there was a public park down the street from where he lived for 30 years that became a hellscape filled with homeless people, drug users and criminals.

These leftist-infested cities have no one but themselves to blame. Criminals don't simply decide to go on rampages unless they feel certain that there'll be no consequences for their actions. And in many cases, these big-city governments are making sure that the conditions are ripe for lawbreakers and increasingly bad for business owners and average, everyday citizens.

Globalist Climate Organization's Goal to Ban Meat, Dairy and Private Vehicles in 14 US Cities by 2030

■(Gatewaypundit.Com, 08/23/2023) -- An exclusive report revealed that the global ringmasters and their Democrat allies are embarking on an expedited Marxist scheme to ensure you will have no choice but to enjoy bugs and public transportation in less than a decade.

The Federalist on Saturday dropped this explosive story. 14 prominent American cities are part of a far-left climate organization headed by billionaire globalist "Mini" Mike Bloomberg that aims to abolish private vehicle ownership and wean their constituents off meat and dairy by 2030. That is just SEVEN years away from now. The *Federalist* astutely *notes* that fully adopting these measures will lead to the deaths of innocent people. Mankind cannot survive on insects and vegetables alone. Here are the key parts of that report:

14 major American cities are part of a globalist climate organization known as the "C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group," which has an "ambitious target" by the year 2030 of:

- 0 kg [of] meat consumption
- 0 kg [of] dairy consumption
- 3 new clothing items per person per year
- 0 private vehicles owned and
- 1 short-haul return flight (less than 1500 km) every 3 years per person

C40's dystopian goals can be found in its "The Future of Urban Consumption in a 1.5°C World" report, which was published in 2019 and reportedly reemphasized in 2023. The organization is headed and largely funded by Democrat billionaire Michael Bloomberg. Nearly 100 cities across the world make up the organization, and its American members include **Austin, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York City, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, San Francisco, Washington, D.C., and Seattle.**

The target of eliminating meat, dairy, and private vehicles by 2030 is "based on a future vision of resource-efficient production and extensive changes in consumer choices," the report notes something its authors clearly hope to bring about. If these were not their goals, they would not have labeled them "ambitious targets."

Israeli desalination, wastewater treatment becomes global model for water scarcity

Chief engineer of Eilat's water and sewage utility says all of the city's wastewater is treated, and 'transferred, to the last drop, to farmers,' who use it to water crops

■ (TimesofIsrael, 08/10/2023) -- (MENAHEM KAHANA / AFP) — In the scorching summer heat, an Israeli farmer tends to a dripline taking a mix of ground and recycled water to palm trees — an approach honed for decades in the arid country and now drawing wide interest abroad. At the plantation in a desert near Eilat, the mineral-rich water passes through a plastic tube, nourishing the dates high above.

"All of Eilat's sewage is treated," said Arik Ashkenazi, chief engineer of Ein Netafim, Eilat's water and sewage utility, during a tour of the facility that sees wastewater cleared of solids and biological hazards. "The treated wastewater is transferred, to the last drop, to farmers" who mix it with groundwater and use it on the trees, he said. Eliat is hemmed in between the desert and Red Sea, isolated from the rest of Israel with no natural freshwater. Its drinking water is a combination of

(WORLD WATCH — Continued on page 7)



QUESTION: Many preachers have preached on the subject, *The Wages of Sin is Death*, and I know that people through the ages have paid a huge price for denying the God of Heaven, their Creator. Does God make it clear in the Bible that to deny God, there is a terrible price to pay?

ANSWER: The Bible is filled with stories of those who suffered greatly in standing in opposition to the grace of God. Yes, we are told in 1 John 4:8 that “God is love.” But God has also written the opposite side of the coin. It is written in Hebrews 10:31, “*It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*”

In the book, *Is It Real When It Doesn't Work?* authored by Doug Murren and Barb Shurin, an intriguing antidote is shared. It comes from the remarkable life of Alfred Nobel, the eminent Swedish chemist of the late 19th century, it created the well-known Nobel Peace Prize.

Nobel was astonished to read his obituary in the local newspaper. The newspaper had made a grievous mistake by attributing the obituary to Alfred instead of his brother who had passed away. The obituary said that Nobel, the mastermind behind the invention of dynamite, had thereby facilitated the means for an unprecedented number of casualties in warfare. Moreover, it highlighted Nobel's immense wealth.

The newspaper's error and the remarks it had made about him struck Nobel hard, prompting him to take inventory of his life. He started to think about being remembered for something more than his enormous contribution to weaponry and the accumulation of riches. Feeling a decided determination, he created and launched the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize. This esteemed accolade was established to honor individuals from around the world who dedicated themselves to the advancement of peace through their extraordinary scientific breakthroughs and literary works.

Driven by his newfound purpose, Nobel once wisely said, “Every man ought to have the chance to correct his epitaph midstream and write a new one.”

God provides us with a sobering description of those who turn their face against the God of

Heaven in Revelation 16. The Bible reveals to the believer that there are two treasures God has promised to them: One in “*laying up treasure*” in Heaven and the other is the “*Inheritance God has planned for believers here on earth.*” (1 Peter 3:9, “*. . . knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should INHERIT a blessing.*”)

Revelation 16:1 says a voice is heard from the heaven ordering seven bowls of God's wrath to be poured out on humanity who are still living on earth. This is a futuristic view of the end of The Tribulation period, and unlike Alfred Nobel, who had a chance to correct the trajectory of his life, no one at this juncture in world history will be able to do so. This is what the Bible says about the first bowl of God's wrath:

“Then I heard a mighty voice from the Temple say to the seven angels, ‘Go your ways and pour out on the earth the seven bowls containing God's wrath.’”

“And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth, and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.” (Revelation 16:1, 2).

This judgment will come upon those on earth who rejected our Lord Jesus and received the mark of the beast.



God has revealed His love and holiness throughout the Bible. The books of Exodus, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel, have statements associated with the pouring out of God's anger and fury. In Exodus 7:4-5, what God says to Moses is indicative of his intention to plague the people of Egypt because of their treatment of God's chosen people. The text reads:

“But Pharaoh shall not hearken unto you, that I may lay my hand upon Egypt, and bring forth mine armies, and my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great judgments, ⁵ And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch forth mine hand upon Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them.” (Exodus 7:4, 5).

This passage clarifies that the plagues that came upon Egypt were acts of God's judgment and a demonstration of His mighty power, which is associated with the pouring out of his wrath. God's love and patience are revealed in that God gave them 430 years to repent of their sins.

God's judgments in Revelation 16 that will come during the Great Tribulation are without equal. Revelation 16 says the first angel unleashed his vessel's contents upon the Earth, and a cascade of divine affliction flowed. What resulted was an enormous affliction, vile and repugnant, which fell upon everyone who was marked with the emblem of the Antichrist, and all who had paid homage to his graven image.

The sores described in the text are literally ulcerated sores, malignant and very painful. The “Bubonic Plague,” also called the “Black Death,” emerged during the mid-14th century, with initial outbreaks in China and Central Asia. It then spread along trade routes, reaching Europe in 1347. The plague rapidly became an unparalleled catastrophe as it wreaked havoc across the continent.

The plague acquired its name due to buboes, which were swollen and excruciatingly painful lymph nodes typically found in the groin, armpit, and neck regions. These agonizing swellings rapidly progressed from small lumps to large, purple-black-colored sores filled with pus and blood. The sickness would often lead to tissue necrosis, resulting in the formation of ulcers and malignant sores. The torment of these boils, along with a high fever, headaches, chills, and exhaustion were horrific to witness.

The Bubonic Plague caused unprecedented devastation, wiping out approximately 30-60% of Europe's population during its peak years from 1347 to 1351. Entire communities were decimated, with corpses piling up in the streets due to the overwhelming number of deaths.

There have been recent outbreaks of the Bubonic Plague. Fortunately, none of them became major epidemics. One such outbreak occurred in Madagascar in 2017. Over 2,400 cases were reported, with around 200 deaths, predominantly caused by the pneumonic form of the infection. Immediate actions were taken by the World Health Organization (WHO) and Madagascar's Ministry of Health to control the outbreak, including isolation of the sick, and treatment with antibiotics along with public health education campaigns. Coupled with the grace of God, these measures, kept the outbreak contained.

Yes, God does write to us in Scripture, Hebrews 10:31, “*It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*” ■

The Difference a Name Can Make

“In those days came Giovanni the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (Matthew 3:1-2)

How difficult would it be for you as an American who spoke English all of your life, to then read this verse with this strange name **Giovanni** included in it?

“In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (Matthew 3:1-2) Giovanni is the Italian name equivalent to the English John. Yet this is why most Jewish people are very confused when they read the New Testament. We read in **Luke 1:26-31**:

“And in the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, ²⁷To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, you that are highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed are you among women. ²⁹And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. ³⁰And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for you have found favor with God. ³¹And, behold, you shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus.”

“And you shall call his name...” announced the angel Gabriel, **“Jesus”**.

No, he didn't. He said “Yeshua”. But then again, Gabriel wasn't really called Gabriel either – in Hebrew it sounds a bit different: **“Gav-ree-el”**. Mighty one of the Lord. But at least Gabriel sounds a BIT like Gav-ree-el. It's at least recognizable! **How in the world did Yeshua, the actual Hebrew name for our Lord and Messiah, turn into Jesus? It sounds nothing like Yeshua!** Something like the English name John sounds nothing like the Italian name, **Giovanni**. And does it really matter what we call him?

HOW DID WE END UP CALLING YESHUA JESUS?

The name “Jesus” comes from the Greek way of expressing his name: Ἰησοῦς, which is pronounced,

“Yay-soos”. While we have an English version of the Hebrew name for Gabriel, we seem to have ended up with an English version of the Greek version of the Hebrew name for our Messiah, that doesn't even sound close anymore. It makes him all the less recognizable to his Jewish brethren. To the Jewish mind, Jesus sounds so... gentile! But when Jewish people hear his name in Hebrew, quite often the lights go on. Ah! Yeshua! The name Yeshua was known and used in Jewish history – you can find men called Yeshua in the roll calls of teams serving in the temple (1 Chronicles 24:11, 2 Chronicles 31:15, Ezra 2:2,6,36). It's a version of Joshua, and it means “salvation”. This makes much more sense to Jewish ears.

HOW JESUS IS KNOWN AND WHAT HE IS CALLED IN ISRAEL:

Sadly, for many long years among Hebrew-speaking Jewish people, Yeshua has been known as “Yeshu”, which is an acronym for a curse: “yimakh shemo ve zikhro” which means, “May his name and memory be obliterated”. So much suffering and persecution has been inflicted upon Jewish people in the name of Yeshua that his very name has become a stumbling block and offense, and now he is often considered one of the enemies of the Jewish people. During the time of the Holocaust, the German guards would sing Christmas carols while they were gathering up the Jews to put them into the gas chambers or incinerate them.

Yeshua is commonly called Yeshu in Israel, but there are some who call him Yeshua. One particularly extremist group sprayed anti-Messianic graffiti on a church, declaring that Yeshua was a monkey, actually spelled his name correctly! But sadly he is often referred to as Yeshu haNotzri, which means “curses on Jesus-the-Christian”. In Israel, he is usually seen as gentile, Christian, and ‘other’. **But Jesus wasn't a Christian – he wasn't a Christ follower – he was Christ himself! The Jewish Messiah! Jesus wasn't a Christian, Mary wasn't a Catholic, and John wasn't a Baptist: They were all Jewish!** While “Notzri” is the Hebrew word for “Christian”, it actually means one from Nazareth (Nazeret in Hebrew). It would be more accurate to say **Yeshua me Natzeret – Yeshua from Nazareth**. It's close but worlds away in Israeli perception. Christ is the Greek word for Messiah,



so **Jesus Christ really means Yeshua the Messiah**.

There was one born-again Jewish believer who remembered being in a class on the New Testament at university here in Israel which was taught by someone who did not believe in the New Testament one iota. It was simply considered an important book that has shaped Western civilization. When students asked about what “Christ” meant (was it his surname?) the professor explained that it was the Greek word for Messiah. The professor wrote on the board (in Hebrew to a class full of Israeli students):

JESUS = YESHUA - CHRIST = MESSIAH

This is not well understood in Israel, but the lights are going on as more and more people understand that Jesus Christ is not a foreign personality of a pagan religion, **but Yeshua, salvation**. More and more Jews are learning that Yeshua is the Jewish Messiah from Nazareth in Israel, the one prophesied in the Hebrew Bible. *“... And thou shall call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21).*

WHAT SHOULD WE CALL HIM THEN?

Having established his real, Hebrew name, **Yeshua** – should we cease to call him Jesus?

His mother and friends called him Yeshua rather than Jesus, but if you know him as Jesus, does He mind that? Is it incorrect to call him Jesus? Some would argue till they're blue in the face that it is critical to call him Yeshua and not Jesus, but Yeshua's coming was also God's time to take salvation to the Gentiles. It was no accident that his name was disseminated in the international language of the day: **Greek**. It was to go far and wide to every nation on earth.

God was now opening up the way for all the peoples of the earth to come to him. If you relate to him by his name Jesus, then don't let it be a burden to you to change to **Yeshua** if you don't

(NAME— Continued on page 7)

NAME

(Continued from page 6)

feel the need to. He knows his sheep, and his sheep know his voice. His name has gone out to the nations in various versions of the **Greek “Yay-soos”**, but now back in his birthplace, Israel, people are starting to discover Yeshua their Jewish Messiah.

HERE IS HOW TO SAY JESUS IN 25 DIFFERENT LANGUAGES

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. Albanian: | Jezu Krishti |
| 2. Armenian: | Hisus K’ristos |
| 3. Bosnian: | Isus Krist |
| 4. Chichewa: | Yesu Khrist |
| 5. Chinese: | Yēsū |
| 6. Dutch: | Jezus Christus |
| 7. Estonian: | Jeesuse Kristuse |
| 8. Filipino: | Hesukristo |
| 9. Galician: | Xesucristo |
| 10. Georgian: | Ileso Qriste |
| 11. Haitian: | Jezikri |
| 12. Hindi: | Yīśu Masīha |
| 13. Hmong: | Yexus Khetos |
| 14. Irish: | Íosa Críost |
| 15. Italian: | Gesù Cristo |
| 16. Malagasy: | Jesoa Kristy |
| 17. Maori: | Ihu Karaiti |
| 18. Papiamentu: | Hesu Kristu |
| 19. Romanian: | Isus Hristos |
| 20. Russian: | Isus Khristos |
| 21. Somali: | Ciise Masiix |
| 22. Spanish: | Jesucristo |

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 23. Tajik: | Isoi Maseh |
| 24. Welsh: | Iesu Grist |
| 25. Zulu: | uJesu Kristu |

So, go ahead, boldly call on the name of Jesus. The power in his name comes not from how you pronounce it, but from the person who bears that name: our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

YESHUA WILL BE RECOGNIZED AGAIN BY HIS BROTHERS:

Just as Joseph was *unrecognizable* to his brothers dressed in foreign Egyptian garb and speaking a strange language when they came for help, our Lord Yeshua has been out among the Gentiles, bringing salvation, and now appears to be shrouded in gentile terms and culture. It has become hard for his Jewish brothers and sisters to recognize him as one of the tribe.

Let’s remember what happened to Joseph and his brothers in **Genesis 45:1-5**:

“... Joseph made himself known unto his brethren. ²And he wept aloud: and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard. ³And Joseph said unto his brethren, **I am Joseph; doth my father yet live?** And his brethren could not answer him; for they were troubled at his presence. ⁴And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt. ⁵Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: **for God did send me before you to preserve life.**”

Joseph was a foreshadowing of the Messiah Yeshua – sold for 20 silver coins as Yeshua was betrayed for 30, suffering at the hands of, and on behalf of, his brothers, and yet procuring salvation both for his family and a whole lot of other Gentiles besides. We know that there will be a time when this too, as God promises in Zechariah 12:10:

“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, **the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.**”

This has not yet happened, but when it does, there will be a lot of weeping both in horror (*What have we done?*) but also joy, as there was with Joseph and his brothers. They will embrace their Jewish brother, Yeshua, the promised Messiah, the Redeemer of all the world. And the joy of reconciliation and family reunion will be mutual, for God has profited all those years of rejection for the benefit and salvation of the whole world.

“For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.” ²⁶ **And so all Israel shall be saved:** as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: ²⁷For this is my covenant unto them when I shall take away their sins. ²⁸**As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes:** but as touching the election, they are beloved for the father’s sakes. ²⁹**For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.** ³⁰For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: ³¹Even so, have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy. ³²For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all. ³³**O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!”** (Romans 11:25-33) ■

World Watch

(Continued from page 4)

desalinated groundwater and seawater. After domestic use turns it into sewage, it is treated and then allocated to farmers, enabling the parched region to support agriculture.

While Eilat used to be the exception in Israel’s water management, it is now more of a prototype for the country and perhaps the world.

Globally, more than two billion people lack access to safe drinking water, the United Nations says, with floods and droughts triggered by climate change further exacerbating the situation. Alarming data presented by the UN’s Department of Economic and Social Affairs shows “80% of

wastewater in the world flows back into the ecosystem without being treated or reused.”

40% of workers will have to reskill in the next three years due to Ai, says IBM study

Learn how to use Ai OR you'll be replaced by someone who does.

■(Breitbart.com, 08/21/2023) -- ZDNet reports that the rapid advancement of AI technologies is transforming the way businesses operate and the skills required of their workforce. A new IBM study, which analyzed data from surveys of C-level executives and workers, indicates that busi-



ness leaders believe AI will bring about significant changes in the workforce and business operations.

Generative AI models like ChatGPT can do many technical tasks, such as writing and coding, well — so well that many people fear that the technology will replace their jobs.

The study found that executives expect 40 percent of their workforce to undergo “reskilling” in the next three years as a result of AI implementation. This translates to approximately 1.4 billion of the 3.4 billion people in the global workforce, per World Bank statistics. However, the majority of executives surveyed, 87 percent, believe that generative AI will augment job roles rather than replace them.

(Continued on page 16)

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE

BRICS countries welcomed Six New Members from Three Different Continents in Late August

‘More than 40 nations interested in joining BRICS’

JOHANNESBURG (www.biblenewsprophecy.net | James Martenet | July 26, 2023): The BRICS countries welcomed six new members from three different continents on Thursday, marking a historical milestone that underscored the solidarity of BRICS and developing countries and their determination to work together for a better future, officials and experts said. They stated that the expansion of the BRICS, as a new starting point for multilateral cooperation, will play a positive role in **more equitable and just global governance**.

The BRICS countries have decided to invite six countries – Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates – to become new members of the grouping, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa said on Thursday. It will be the first expansion since 2010 and the new candidates will be admitted as members on January 1, 2024, according to media reports. With the expansion of the BRICS topping the agenda of the three-day 15th BRICS summit in Johannesburg, BRICS countries have reached a consensus on guiding principles, standards, criteria and procedures of the grouping’s expansion process, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa told a briefing on Thursday.

Chinese President Xi Jinping said at the briefing that the BRICS expansion is historic and a new starting point for BRICS cooperation. It demonstrates the determination of the BRICS countries to unite and cooperate with other developing countries, meets the expectations of the international community, and serves the common interests of emerging markets and developing countries.

The expansion will also inject fresh vitality into the BRICS cooperation mechanism, and further strengthen the forces for world peace and development, Xi said, noting that as long as the BRICS countries pull together, a lot can be achieved in BRICS cooperation, and a promising future awaits the BRICS countries.

More than 40 countries have expressed interested in joining the BRICS group of nations. Anil Sooklal and officials from the department of foreign affairs were addressing journalists in the main commercial city of Johannesburg. The

question of how far and fast to expand the club – centred around Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa – is top of the agenda at the summit of nations seeking to offset to the perceived hegemony of the U.S.-led West in global affairs.

Aside from the 22 countries that had formally asked to join, Sooklal said there was “an equal number of countries that have informally expressed interest in becoming BRICS members ... (including) all the major global south countries”.

The nations that make up the BRICS — Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa — reportedly plan to introduce a joint currency backed by gold when they meet for their summit on Aug 22-24 in Johannesburg.

The BRICS venture underscores an effort to “de-dollarize” amid concerns over Washington’s ability to “weaponize” the greenback through economic sanctions.

“BRICS is set to introduce a new currency backed by gold, in contrast to the credit-backed US dollar, with the decision coming a month ahead of the bloc’s summit in Johannesburg,” Russia’s RT.com posted on Twitter on July 8. “With the growing initiative, more and more countries are lining up to join the group.”

More than 40 countries, including Algeria, Argentina, Egypt, Mexico, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, have expressed interest in joining BRICS.

“Many other countries have applied to join BRICS. De-dollarization is accelerating,” finance community Wall Street Silver tweeted to 921,000 followers on July 7.

“The freezing of Russia’s currency reserves (the equivalent of almost \$600 billion is currently at stake) has set off alarm bells in many non-Western countries,” wrote economist Thorsten Polleit on the website of the Mises Institute, a libertarian economics think tank in Alabama, on Monday. “It has reminded a number of them that holding US dollars comes with a political risk.”

A new BRICS gold-linked currency was be announced at the BRICS Leader’s Summit conference in Durban, South Africa (the BRICS are Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) The fact is the global desire to move away from the dollar as a medium of exchange for international trade in goods and services has gone from a discussion



point to a novelty to a looming reality in a remarkably short period of time.

The new BRICS currency has the potential to displace the U.S. dollar as the leading payment currency and reserve currency from a standing start in just a few years. It won’t happen overnight, but it could happen much faster than many realize.

Time’s up for King Dollar. There will not be a new gold standard. This plays to the strengths of BRICS members Russia and China, who are the two largest gold producers in the world and are ranked sixth and seventh respectively among the 100 nations with gold reserves. Major steps are being taken to push aside the dominance of the USA dollar.

Jim Rickards stated that “This play for global reserve currency status by the BRICS will affect world trade, direct foreign investment and investor portfolios in dramatic and unforeseen ways.” Jim Rickards did not discuss the role of Europe to bypass the USA dollar –but that was part of why the euro was developed in the first place. And Europe will help topple the dollar—it will not just be the alliance of the BRICS nations. So, let’s say that from his perspective, what will happen with Europe in all of this is “unforeseen.” But biblically, we know much of what will happen.

And yes, gold looks to be involved for Europe (cf. Daniel 11:38,43) and others (cf. Revelation 18).

Furthermore, USA sanctions policies and debt (which Joe Biden and others continue to increase –watch also the video: **And the Debt Goes On** at www.youtube.com/watch?v=QyvCfxS2Ag4) will have costs greater than those that most pundits understand (cf. Habakkuk 2:6-8).

The BRICS nations have long wanted to topple the dominance of the US dollar. Now they are moving more towards a critical mass that could be one of several tipping points against the US dollar’s use as the primary reserve currency of the world. ■

BRIDE

(Continued from page 1)

²With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. ³So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. ⁴And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: ⁵And upon her forehead was a name written, Mystery, Babylon The Great, The Mother Of Harlots And Abominations Of The Earth. ⁶And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.” (Revelation 17:1-6)

The "bride" of the Antichrist, then, is not a literal city, but a "System," a religious and apostate "System." As the Church, the Bride of Christ is composed of born-again followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, so "Mystery, Babylon the Great," the bride of Antichrist, will be composed of the followers of all False Religions headed up by the False Prophet who will be the head of the One World Religious system. Many believe this individual will be the Pope of Rome. We have witnessed extravagant worldwide attempts for more than thirty years to establish the One World Religion and give their allegiance to the One World ruler.

There are three major themes in Bible prophecy: the One World Government, the One World Economic System, and the One World Church. The One World Church will be made up of those who have gone in the way of Cain. What does that mean? It simply means that they believe their way is better than God’s way. Most of organized Christianity has gone in the way of Cain, as most reject the Holy Scriptures as the sole rule of faith and conduct, they reject the fact that the Lord Jesus Christ is the only way to Heaven, and everything the Bible stands for. That is the way of Cain, who rejected the information God provided both Abel and Cain in the type of offering God asked of them.

Cain simply did not believe God when He tells us in Hebrews 11:6, “*But without faith, it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*” How do we receive faith? God again tells us in Romans 10:17, “*So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*” Cain did not want to believe God when He says in Hebrews 9:22, “*... without shedding of blood there is no*

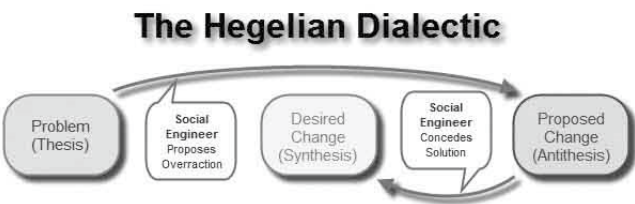
remission [forgiveness] of sin.” Cain did it his way, he did what he thought was right in his own eyes. God tells us the result of such terrible thinking in Proverbs 14:12, “*There is a way which seemeth right unto a man; but the end thereof are the ways of death.*” God tells us in Romans 1:17, “*... the just shall live by faith.*”

That is the way of Cain. And this is what the evangelical Emerging Church is all about. Groups of people who do not want to live by faith, do not want to live by the Word of God, they want to do it their way. They do not want to believe that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life and that no one can go to the Father, except by Him. They do not want to believe that God created everything by the Word of His power, but that everything just evolved to where it is today. And because people are religious, they want and must believe in something, they invent their own way, as Cain did, and will establish a One World religious system, and experience the same fate as Cain did.

HEGELIAN DIALECTICS: THE DEVIL’S WINNING TOOL

Hegelian dialectics is being used around the world as a tool to break down traditional beliefs with the objective of replacing them with something new.

Georg Wilhelm Hegel (1770-1831) was a liberal German philosopher who led the German Idealist movement, turning his back on orthodox Christianity and holding to a type of pantheism, exactly as Cain did. He did his own thing rejecting what God requires, “*the just shall live by faith,*” and denied that there is such a thing as absolute truth. He said it is “narrow” and “dogmatic” to assume that of two opposite assertions, one must be true and the other false. He rejected the Bible and proposed that man is on an evolutionary journey and that human history is the record of a process of conflict and synthesis that he referred to as the dialectical process of Spirit, believing that could be god:



What is Hegelian Philosophy?

“It was Hegel’s view that all things unfold in a continuing evolutionary process whereby each idea or quality (the THESIS) inevitably brings forth its opposite (the ANTITHESIS). From that interaction, a third state emerges in which the opposites are integrated, overcome, and fulfilled in a richer and higher SYNTHESIS. This synthesis then becomes the basis for another dialectical

process of opposition and synthesis. Hegel believed that the creative stress of opposing positions was essential for developing higher states of consciousness. In the moment of synthesis, the opposites are both preserved and transcended, negated and fulfilled” (Corinne McLaughlin and Gordon Davidson, Spiritual Politics, 1994, p. 88).

The objective of Hegelian dialectics in this sense is to replace something old with something new (e.g., capitalism with communism, traditional Bible doctrine with theological modernism, a traditional educational system based on moral absolutes with a new one based on relativism, an old age with a new).

It is not an innocent process. It is used by “change agents” and “facilitators of transformation” by using the Emerging Church as one of those agents. Hegelian dialectics is “the framework for guiding our thoughts and actions into conflicts that lead us to a predetermined solution” (Niki Raapana and Nordica Friedrich, “*What Is the Hegelian Dialectic?*” October 2005, <http://www.crossroad.to/articles2/05/ dialectic.htm>).

It employs a wide range of tactics: dialogue, compromise, consensus forming, conflict resolution, divide and conquer, deceit, redefinition of words, giving new names to objectionable things, crisis creation, or by otherwise hiding its true meaning. It requires non-judgmentalism, tolerance, acceptance, relativism.

HEGELIAN DIALECTICS IS EMPLOYED BY THE EMERGING CHURCH to break down the old church “paradigm” so that it can be replaced with the new emerging one.

HEGELIAN DIALECTICS IS EMPLOYED BY ECUMENISTS to break down the walls of separation between denominations, between liberals and evangelicals, between Protestants and Catholics, to create Christian unity, and it is used by interfaith dialoguers to tear down absolute truth and replace it.

Dr. Robert Klenck describes how Hegelian dialectics works within the ecumenical setting, and he reminds us that the ecumenical dialectics is not a mere process of chance; it is “facilitated” toward a desired end. Otherwise, the group process could result in faith in dogmatic truth and an absolute Bible, but that is not going to be allowed to happen!

“Briefly, the Hegelian dialectic process works like this: a diverse group of people (in the CGM [Church Growth Movement], this is a mixture of believers and unbelievers), gather in a facilitated meeting (with a trained facilitator/‘teacher’), using group dynamics (peer pressure), to discuss a social issue (or dialogue the Word of God), and reach a pre-determined outcome (consensus or

(BRIDE - Continued on page 14)

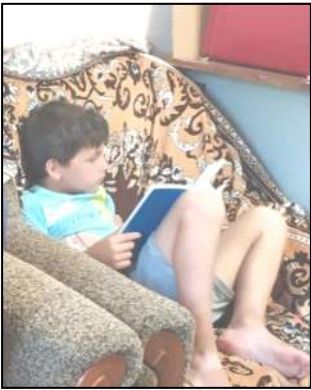
RUSSIA:

Reclaiming Lives -- Restoring Hope -- Sharing the Good News!

Alexey, our Director of Russian Missions, and his family are invaluable to the work we do in Russia. He does a fantastic job ministering to the people of Russia.



ELENA



These are some of the homeless kids being taken care of by Elena. During the past year, Elena has provided housing, food, education (both spiritual and physical). No organization sent her to care for these homeless children. She left a safe home to come to this war-torn area by a call of God to take care of abandoned children. She rented a small two room apartment and cannot take in any more kids. A serious problem has arisen as many people who fled the war are now returning and prices for the available apartments have greatly increased.

The boy above is reading a Bible story. Elena takes a lot of time to make sure the children read Bible stories and are taught about God and His love for all the children of the world.



Here, Elena is sharing a Bible story with these girls. She was teaching them that God wants to provide them with something much better than they can ever find in the world.

Many of the neighbors in the apartment building know about the good work Elena is doing and try to help her out. One of them brought her a nice fish that he caught that day for them to eat.



Elena not only rescues homeless children, but she also ministers to people (below) at the local



community center by hosting a small Bible study.

She invites people to come and read the Bible with her and then they discuss what they have read. Elena is able to help guide them through the Scriptures so they can understand God's eternal love for them and learn of His wonderful salvation and the forgiveness of their sins. Most of them had never heard these things.

The adversary is never pleased when God's people are reaching the lost in such a way. The director of the community center demanded that Elena could no longer minister to the people there unless she started paying rent, or he would not allow her to continue. Elena barely has enough funds to pay the rent at the apartment where she shelters the homeless children and certainly does not have any money to pay for any rent at the community center. Pray for this situation to be resolved.

This girl was brought to Elena by a policeman. The little girl stopped the policeman on the street and asked if he could take her to Elena, the lady who helped many of the street children with food and a place to stay. She told the policeman that her mother was an alcoholic and was rarely home to take care of her.



When she arrived, Elena realized that she had not eaten for quite a while and immediately gave her some warm soup, bread and watermelon. She ate for a long time and as soon as she finished eating, she laid down on the floor and fell asleep. Even though all of the other children in the room were very noisy, this young girl was so exhausted that she slept for 16 hours straight.

Please continue to pray for this work of faith to continue and be completed. Keep praying for God to strengthen Elena and supply all of the needs of the war-torn homeless children and the elderly people at the community center.

Elena's dream is to be able to rent a private house. The apartment she has is on the fifth floor with no elevator. The elderly are not able to climb that many floors. With a rented house, the children would be able to play outside in the yard and the elderly would have easy access also. They could and meet here and would not have to go to the community center any more. Thank you for your prayers.

Continue to pray for Elena and the provisions she needs.



YOUTH CAMP

This is the new driveway at the entrance of the youth camp by the lake. The weather has been very bad for the past year, with record breaking snowfall - and there was very little summer this year. It was a very rainy summer so it was impossible to work; the ground was so soft, no vehicles could enter.



Alexey has worked very hard these past two months clearing out many of the trees and clearing out the debris from the proposed drive way to the property. They had to accomplish most of it by hand because a tractor was not able to come in. They had to do all by wheel barrow.

The girls, above, are sisters and are the granddaughters of the neighbor at the property. He is very happy for the opportunity for young people who will enjoy coming for retreats to the lake. The two girls did a great job in helping Alexey and their grandpa.

VOVA

This is our Russian Director Alexey and his son, Vova. This summer they were able to spend quality time together all by themselves. They talked about God's Word and Alexey answered many of Vova's questions about God and the Bible. Vova is very interested in the things of God and spends a lot of time reading the Bible on his own.



It's because of YOU and your compassion and generosity that *Today, the Bible and You* is able to make such an impact here. We appreciate EVERY donation and ask you to pray for us and our ministry. God bless! ■

UGANDA -- Bob J. Perry Memorial School

Fall Term Begins with New Computer Tablets



HOW IMPORTANT IS THE BOB J PERRY SCHOOL IN UGANDA, AFRICA?

Uganda's public education system is reeling from absent teachers, poor facilities and high dropout rates.

The school follows Uganda's public education system of seven years in primary school, with children starting from the age of six.

Uganda's education crisis in numbers:

- 68% of students do not finish primary education
- 78% of new teachers failed a basic math test
- 61% failed a basic literacy test
- 29% of teachers absent during the week

Sources: Ministry of Education, 2014, Uganda National Examinations Board, 2015, Uwezo, 2015

A GOOD EDUCATION CHANGES LIVES

After a short three week break, the Fall school term began September 19, 2023

Beginning this Fall school term, teachers at the Perry School will be partnering with Bridge International and using computer tablets with pre-installed lessons to help them with their teaching. This will lessen the workload of the teacher, lower the cost of tuition, and ensure that every class covers the information required.

The tuition fees will range from \$15 to \$25 per three-month term.

When we arrived, the primary five class are in the middle of a social studies lesson; learning about forests and their use as a habitat for animals. Answers are shouted out in chorus, on the teacher's cue. The

lesson is scripted, the teacher seeming to recite every line. There is a set of signals for teacher-pupil interaction; her snap of the finger signals to a pupil to ask a question, or give an answer.

All that comes pre-installed in an e-reader, or a teacher computer. "The tablet computers simplify our work. There is no need of writing up lesson plans," says Immaculate Nagawa, an English and Social Studies teacher. "But we are closely monitored. We have preparation books which we fill in every morning. Some of the text books on the market have inaccurate information, but we don't fall victim to that because of the pre-installed content."

I ask 10-year-old Alexa Rebecca Nakato what she thinks of this mode of teaching.

"The subjects are the same as my former school. But there we used to take down a lot of notes. I find the teaching method with the computer is very simple," she says.

In 2009, Bridge International opened its first academy in Mukuru, a slum in Kenya's capital, Nairobi. The US-founded company, which aims to lower the cost of access to "quality education", now runs 405 schools in the country.

The education venture opened its first school in Uganda in 2015 and just 18 months later operates 63 primary schools with 12,000 pupils.

The Bob J Perry Memorial School is filling such a great need in the heart of Africa. The school is also partnering with other Godly ministries in reaching out to the spiritual needs of the orphans and youth.

We continue to greatly impact the community, change lives, and draw people to Christ. We are so grateful for your faithful prayers and generous giving from your heart. *No gift is too big or too small.* ■



ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE

MISSIONS

RELIGION THAT IS PURE AND UNDEFILED BEFORE GOD, THE FATHER IS THIS: TO VISIT ORPHANS AND WIDOWS IN THEIR AFFLICTION, AND TO KEEP ONESELF UNSTAINED FROM THE WORLD. JAMES ONE TWENTY SEVEN

MANIPUR, INDIA (Dongza)

Dear Christian brothers and sisters in the Christian countries! Thank you for your prayers and relief funds! The war is still going on. The Indian BJP govt don't care how much we die. They back the State in this ethnic cleansing carried out by our State govt. Our volunteers at the front line need to guard our villages and towns. The families behind need foods. When the fathers are busy guarding the villages life and dead (sic), some never come back. Then who will feed the children? That's the main problem. No help from the govt. No work. No Business. Shops are almost stop. Three days a week shops are open. Christians from other places come and help the refugees at refugee camps. But those fathers (family bread earners) who have to guard the border left the family in deep destitute! These are the plights right now! The Hindu govt don't care how many tribal Christians are dead and starving, how many churches are burnt and destroyed. Even in communist countries these many churches have not be destroyed! We give out rice bags to hundreds of those families and their joys have no bound. It is like they are finding a gold. Because for us **rice** is everything. You have rice, then you survive! You are not dead from famine.

Thank you for the relief money! Right now there is not a town or area where there is any medicine found. Whatever comes from Imphal has been destroyed by the Meitei on the way. But we live in hope because our God is the living and powerful God and we keep fighting like Ukrainians do! God in visible ways protecting our volunteers. E.g. dark clouds, armies in white cloths, bomb shell not explode, 5 bullets in the body but alive, bullets in the body but not through the bones etc. etc. These are real testimonies from the war zones. Fasting, prayers and prayers rallies are held every day, ever where! Pray that our unity be not destroyed and for our leaders! Once again, thank you for relief funds!

The State Police commandos came to finish up Moreh town but hundreds of our brave Kuki-Zo women block the road with prayers [above]. Its been 3 nights and 3 days now. Meals are brought to them and they eat at the middle of the road. The Meitei with the state forces are attacking from all border sides! Only prayer protects us! Please pray for us!

With love and deepest gratitude,
Dongza and the Door of Hope Team



Please Pray for my sons Levi and Phinehas: My dear brothers and sisters This in an urgent prayer request! Levi has been ill for over 2 weeks now. His skin is all red and swelling and itching. Previous Dr said it is allergic (reaction) and treated him but nothing improved. We took him to another Dr yesterday and he said its drug reaction (wrong medication). He told us after 5 days if not improved we will admit him to the hospital. His missed the class for over 10 days now. Please pray for his healing, fast recovery and medical bills too! I am writing this at 4.29 AM after prayer. Because he scratches time to time that makes me not able to sleep and so worry about him. Also the baby, Phinehas just starting to have temperature and cough. Please pray for him too. On the other hand, the wars in Lamka gets worst and worst! The last 2 days Meitei people with the help of Govt. Commandos killed 4 of our volunteers again. They plan to capture and take our town Lamka at any cost! Thank you and hope God will do little miracle and make this crisis His Glory! Dongza

PERU:

We thank God for establishing an ever growing work of faith in the Land of the Incas and Andes Mountains. We never dreamed this work would grown as big as it has over the years. It has taken us all across the different regions of Peru.

This past summer the Lord led us high up in the Andes Mountains to a remote regional school where hundreds of native people attended in very cold weather. They never looked at their watches and would stay as late as the Bible teachers were willing to teach. *Amazing.*

They invited us to prepare a similar conference in four other places, but we are only able to prepare for TWO at this time: **Arequipa**, is a city of about 1,300,000 people in the southern part of Peru, surrounded by volcanoes. The other invitation was to **Cusco**, where the famous Machu Picchu is located. Cusco is a city of about 450,000 people.

Many pastors are wanting to attend and we are praying that God will once again provide many John MacArthur Study Bibles to those who attend. We are able to purchase them at half the retail price, which is \$30 USD.

Continue to pray for God's provision and health for these trips that have proven to be a huge blessing to all who attend. Thank you for your prayers.

From Pastor Wildoro:

Greetings, my brother John,

It is with the favor of God that we continue in our village of Picota in the Upper Amazon River Region of Peru. We are moving forward by the grace of God. Always forward to the work our eternal God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob has prepared for us. Our Savior continues to guide us day by day, together with His people here in Peru and in the United States.

We have so many programs before us that God has brought



Pastor Wildoro



(MISSIONS — Continued on page 13)

MISSIONS

(Continued from page 12)

to life. Since God provided us with the radio station in Peru, our life has become more busy every year. With the TV outreach on two cable channels and with the new ONLINE RADIO THAT REACHES ALL OF PERU AND THE WORLD, our life is now very busy.

As you know brother John, this is how we received the invitation to the 14,500 feet Andes Mountain top pastors conference. They had been listening to our Radio Outreach for more than a year and they invited me to some of their group meetings. Then the big conference in August that was such a blessing.

Now as you know, they invite us to **three more cities** to do the same. God blessed the people so much.



We still work with our congregation here in Picota and are grateful for the hand and blessing of God who feeds His people everywhere we go. We will again move to training meetings in many places of Peru where people listen to our ONLINE RADIO and invite us to teach them more in person. We will go soon to the Posa Rio Santiago in the ALTO AMAZONAS (the High Amazon). God willing, this will be in the next month. Soon after that pastors want us for training sessions in Arequipa and Cuzco in the following months.

As our blessed Jesus provides, we will continue to present them with Study Bibles and other

materials. Continue to pray with us and for us to follow His leading to the many invitations we receive.

In the love of Jesus,
Pastor Wildoro Mendoza

INDIA: ROSE OF SHARON CHRISTIAN HOME AND SCHOOLS

Dear Pastor John, Greetings! We are all well here in Rose of Sharon Christian School and home are doing very well. All the students and teachers are doing very well too. They have just finish their monthly test. There have been a lot of improvement in every areas in these children.

Last month we had a school board meeting regarding some important issue for the development of the school and the ministries. One of the main discussion of the day was regarding the need for a new building for the chapel/multipurpose use of the ministries. Since we didn't have the money to start building such big building, we decided to sell a portion of our land so that we can start doing something for the project.

Two weeks ago we got about \$5000 by selling our land. After a long discussion and prayers about what to do first with the money, we have decided to buy a sound system which we really need even before we even have the building for many purposes. So last week we bought a Yamaha power mixer, 16 channel [sound equipment] and most of the necessary things that is needed with this system, which cost us about \$4000. Everyone, especially the students are so excited about it. The students have started to practice songs because we told them that we will try raising funds to construct a chapel by organizing fundraising gospel concert during the month of December inside the school compound. It is hard to tell how helpful this plan as to what it will be, but we believe that it will help at least some. Please remember us in your prayers for this project. The estimated cost of the building that is still needed is \$11,000. About 1,000 students should be able to be inside the building. We are also preparing to go to the villages in our area for outreach programs with the students at the earliest possible time that we can.

I would like to request of you some godly gospel music sound tracts for us to use during the fundraising programs. Because that will sound much better than the music quality we have now.



Also, with the new sound system, we will be able to have wonderful music program. Thank you, Pastor John and all the friends of *Today the Bible and You* who have been such a wonderful blessing to us and our children and families here in Nagaland, India. God bless all of you.

Rejoice Kamei, Jenny, Ruth, Judy and Levi
Headmaster, Rose of Sharon Christian Home and School

MEXICO

God's work of faith continues to grow in Mexico. The small retreat area where addicts can be rehabilitated has been growing steadily this summer.



This is Esteban who grew up in the area. He and his friend took me on a five state mission trip in Mexico where the Word of God was received enthusiastically.

This area is where many of the cartels have their home offices and God has been pleased to use this work of faith as a bright light in the midst of great darkness. While I was there, we met some of the drug addicts who were receiving help through this rehabilitation program. They were reading the Bible and learning to apply their newly found faith in Christ to help them reach and maintain sobriety.



We thank God for His eternal gift of grace that is reaching out to a world that is in desperate need of hope and freedom. (Romans 8:2).

Please continue to pray for the great spiritual needs of the people in Mexico. ■

We cannot meet the needs of our missions projects without your prayers and support. Please pray about becoming a monthly supporter and please keep all of our missions projects and workers in your prayers.

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BRIDE

(Continued from page 9)

compromise). When the Word of God is dialogued between believers and unbelievers, and consensus is reached-- agreement that all are comfortable with--then the message of the Word of God has been watered down, and the participants have been conditioned to accept (and even celebrate) their compromise. This becomes the starting point for the next meeting. The fear of alienation from the group is the pressure that prevents an individual from standing firm for the truth of the Word of God.

“A traditional thinker, when proven wrong with factual information (i.e., Biblical moral absolutes) yields to the facts, and admits that he/she is wrong, and then aligns him/herself to those facts. Because Biblical moral absolutes do not change, traditional thinkers who align themselves to those unchanging absolutes are labeled as ‘resistant to change.’

“On the other hand, transformational thinkers, when proven wrong with factual information, have been conditioned to process that information differently. They automatically question it and dialogue it within themselves; their (deceitful) hearts rebel against it, and then they begin to justify (to themselves and others) why it is that they no longer have to attend to the facts. The natural result of the dialectic process is the searing of the conscience (1 Timothy 4:1-2). These people are then able to justify to themselves why they are no longer bound to Biblical moral absolutes. ...

“The rebellion is subtle at first--simply moving away from the traditional way of ‘doing’ church; later, the ordaining of female ‘pastors’; and eventually it gets to the point of ordaining lesbian ‘pastors.’ Barriers to change must be broken down, and eventually, for the sake of peace and unity, interdenominational barriers and interreligious barriers will be broken down, paving the way for a worldwide ecumenical movement--a one-world church. ...

“A recent example of this paradigm shift in processing factual information was when the ‘Rev.’ Richard Mouw, the President of the Fuller Seminary in Pasadena, California (a strong promoter of the church growth movement), was quoted in the San Gabriel Valley Tribune on January 22, 2000: ‘Mouw said he supports rights and benefits for committed same-sex domestic partners, but believes the sacrament of marriage should be confined to heterosexual couples in the Judeo-Christian tradition.’ When leaders of this movement are making statements like this, then

we can be sure that the movement is not from God, and is headed in the opposite direction of God’s will. Mr. Mouw already is thinking in the transformational mode. He is able to justify (to himself) a teaching that is contrary to the Word of God” (“What’s Wrong with the 21st Century Church,” August 8, 2000, <http://www.crossroad.to/News/Church/Klenck1.html>).

Consider how Robert Schuller’s January 2008 Rethink Conference employed Hegelian dialectics to further his New Age objectives of syncretizing religion and creating a new type of Christianity and ultimately a new world through the power of human potential.

The conference was “A CONVERGENCE of some of the most influential Christian and global thinkers” (Rethink Conference announcement, Oct. 15, 2007). These great thinkers were also described as “respected icons in media, politics, faith, science, business and technology.” The important fact is that they represented contradictory ideas, and their contradictory ideas were to be the stepping stones to something new. They included evangelicals such as Lee Strobel and Rick Warren’s wife, Kay, Emerging Church leaders Erwin McManus and Dan Kimball, Evangelicals and Catholics Together proponent Charles Colson, media mogul and pornography purveyor Rupert Murdoch, and agnostic Larry King.

PROBLEM. REACTION. SOLUTION. <i>Hegelian Dialectic</i>		
AGENDA: <i>One World Religion</i>		
Thesis (Problem)	Anti-thesis (Reaction)	
<i>The world is unjust and corrupt, average person is powerless</i>	<i>God must be cruel and unjust to allow this corruption</i>	
Solution (Synthesis)		
<i>Offer a new way to live in "harmony" and abandon old traditional belief structures to achieve "peace" through the use of blending science and feelings with all religious doctrines.</i>		

The Berean church revealed they weren’t hung up on a relationships or trying to please other people, they wanted to please God. They wanted to obey the Word of God. When the Apostle Paul was teaching them, they would check out the Word of God to see if what he was saying was true to God’s Word. Try that with ministers today and they’ll get bent out of shape because you’re not supposed to question their ‘I think and I feel.’

What happens to someone who professes to be a believer and even seems to be a believer, turns away from the Lord Jesus, or even falls away completely?

God does not leave this for us to GUESS about. He shows us clearly in the Bible. It is not something new, it began with Cain and Abel and continues to this day. There are probably more people attending a so-called Christian church today who are not true believers in Jesus Christ. The same was true when the disciples were following the Lord Jesus when He was ministering on this earth. Jesus had accumulated many disciples during the first part of His public ministry, then something happened. Jesus told some of His disciples in John 6:64, “*But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.*”⁶⁵ *And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.*”⁶⁶ *From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.*” How sad. It is difficult to believe that people who were actually with Jesus would abandon Him. Were these people Christians? The Bible tells us in 1 John 2:19, “*They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.*”

**Why does this happen?
Why would a person suddenly abandon the faith and deny even the existence of Jesus Christ?**

What is the biblical definition of an apostate? An apostate is someone who was once fully active with full knowledge of the faith and then turns against it. God provides us with several examples in the Bible. It is important to always look to God’s Word for answers. Two very prominent New Testament examples are Judas and Demas. Judas was about as high in the ranking as you can get, he was one of the 12 apostles. Demas served the Lord with the apostle Paul until he forsook him, as we are told in 2 Timothy 4:10, “For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica...” “How does someone invest that much of their lives in the gospel and seem so positive about it and then turn away?

Our Lord Jesus addressed this question when He spoke of Judas, “One of you is a devil.” Jesus’ diagnosis of Judas was not that he was a believer who lost his way, it was that way from the beginning. And the other thing He said is this, He said, “I have lost none of you except that son of perdition that the Scripture might be fulfilled.” Judas never lost his salvation because he never had it to lose. Our Lord Jesus NEVER loses any!

Jesus was not surprised by Judas’ actions. He knew beforehand that there was a traitor among

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(Continued from page 14)

the Twelve because that was predicted in the Old Testament. There are a number of prophecies that are fulfilled directly by Judas. Our Lord Jesus never speaks of him as a believer. He is a son of perdition which is to say he is by nature headed for damnation. He is a devil. So whatever was going on - on the outside, nothing was going on - on the inside. What we have to understand about apostates is they were NEVER once saved and turned against that. It is that they never were saved. They are by nature a son of perdition.

The Bible provides us with answers to these questions. Our Lord Jesus again tells us in Matthew 13:24 where He said, “. . . *The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: ²⁵ But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat . . .*”

The thing is, you won’t be able to tell them apart. You and I can’t, even at our best, know who really is a Christian. We can say that person has given evidence of being a Christian, but we may not be able to say that person is not a Christian, even though they look like one. That is part of understanding apostasy.

Our Lord Jesus continues to advise us in Matthew 7:21-23, “*Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.*”

Who is Charles Templeton?

Chuck Templeton ministered with Youth For Christ and also ministered with Billy Graham. He was once a prominent and successful evangelist, who slid into unbelief and ultimately rejected Christianity. In 1996, the book *Farewell to God* was published for all the world to see where the author, Charles Templeton, claimed: ‘I oppose the Christian Church because, for all the good it sometimes does, it presumes to speak in the name of God and to propound and advocate beliefs that are outdated, demonstrably untrue, and often, in their various manifestations, deleterious to individuals and to society.’



He was a Canadian from Toronto who exploded onto the American scene in the 1940s. Templeton rose to prominence, even surpassing another dynamic young preacher, Billy Graham.

Templeton, Billy Graham, and a few others regularly spoke to thousands, winning many to Christ both in America and Europe. In Evansville, Indiana, the total attendance over the two-week campaign was 91,000 out of a population of 128,000. Church attendance went up 17%.

On one occasion he told Billy Graham, ‘But, Billy, it’s simply not possible any longer to believe, for instance, the biblical account of creation. The world wasn’t created over a period of days a few thousand years ago; it has evolved over millions of years. It’s not a matter of speculation; it’s demonstrable fact.’ Templeton warned Graham that it was ‘intellectual suicide’ to not question the Bible and to go on preaching God’s Word as authoritative.

After graduating from Princeton, Templeton accepted a position with the National Council of Churches, conducting preaching missions across the United States and Canada. However, he faced increasing health problems, specifically frequent chest pains. He visited a specialist in Pennsylvania who encouraged him, after finding nothing wrong with his heart, to clear up the conflict in his life — namely the doubts he harbored about the authority of the Bible from which he so fervently preached to thousands each night.

This reminds me of another who suffered illness because of a great conflict in his life regarding teaching that undermined God’s Word. Charles Darwin, who started out in training to be an Anglican minister, ended up rejecting Christianity the more he believed in evolution. It has been said that inner conflict, because of knowing that evolution would wipe the idea of God from the minds of millions, contributed greatly to Darwin’s psychosomatic illness.

With ‘science’ pulling Templeton one way and the Bible seemingly pulling him in an altogether different direction. Finally, the doubts about everything he stood for became too great and he decided to leave the ministry. He gave two notable observations on these ‘reasons’ for rejecting the Christian faith are:

1. Most of these supposed ‘facts of science’, and the questions concerning Genesis, are issues that have been around for a long time, and are questions that are still asked by many today. It’s obvious that much of the Church has not adequately addressed these issues. This means there are many more ‘Templetons’ out there at various stages on the slippery slide of unbelief, because the Church is not doing what it should have done for Templeton — ‘... be ready always to give an answer to everyone who asks you a reason of the hope in you, with meekness and fear’ (1 Peter 3:15).

It’s also interesting to note that the book entitled *Answers in Genesis* has answers to all of these

matters in its (recently updated) version. Answers are readily available — if only the Church would accept them and disseminate the information to their congregations.

2. Templeton, like Charles Darwin, had a big problem understanding how one could reconcile an earth full of death, disease, and suffering with the God of the Bible. One wonders whether Templeton would ever have written his Farewell to God, had the Church in his day rejected the billions of years, shown the fallible nature of the dating methods, and taught clearly that there could be no death, disease and bloodshed before sin. What a difference there might have been in his life if he had understood that the world he was observing was not the world as God originally made it, but one which was now suffering the effects of sin, the Curse and the Flood.

Templeton died on 7 June 2001 aged 85, and sadly had suffered from Alzheimer’s towards the end. Templeton (unlike many Christian leaders in the Church today) is consistent. He recognizes that if you can’t trust the Bible in areas of science (geology, biology, astronomy, etc.), then you can’t trust it in areas of morality and salvation either. As Jesus said: ‘*If I have told you earthly things, and you believe not, how shall you believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?*’ (John 3:12). As more and more people in the compromising emerging churches become consistent in how they approach the Bible, having accepted man’s teachings concerning millions of years, more will end up one day like Charles Templeton, who concludes:

‘I believe that there is no supreme being with human attributes — no God in the biblical sense — but that all life is the result of timeless evolutionary forces ... over millions of years.’

‘I believe that, in common with all living creatures, we die and cease to exist as an entity.’

Before Templeton died, he ignored the answers evangelicals had already provided to many of the other ‘problems’ with the Christian faith. One must wonder whether he truly wanted answers. What a contrast this is to the truth all people need to hear and believe:

It’s a Judas syndrome and it’s gone on all through history. This is part of the satanic strategy of sowing tares in the church. I think where Satan wants to do his most deadly work, where he wants to do his most corruption is not outside the church but inside the church. Don’t ever be surprised that the church is full of people who turn out to be non-Christians. We hope that they finally get saved, but these are the ones who start what is called the Emerging Church. People who do not believe in the Bible. People who merely want to be known as evangelical, but not with the Biblical emphasis, following the way of Cain. ■

WORLD WATCH

(Continued from page 7)

Communism Threatens America

Brazilian President da Silva Pushes to Weaken the Dollar and Create Single Currency with China and BRICS Countries

■(Gatewaypundit.com, 08/22/2023) --The socialist president of Brazil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, has advocated the creation of a common currency between his country and China. The socialist's idea is to undermine the use of the American dollar and promote the use of the Chinese currency, the yuan, or establish a common currency for BRICS member countries. Lula da Silva addressed the issue on Tuesday, during a live interview in South Africa. He is in the country to participate in a BRICS summit.

Lula's initiative is seen as a challenge to the United States, although the Brazilian government denies any intention to weaken the American economy.

For Lula da Silva, the United States is making "political use" of the dollar. He is therefore trying to attack the American currency in order to strengthen Chinese communism.

Disturbing Trend: Maternal Death Rates Have Soared 50% in America Since Vaccine Rollout

■(Vigilantnews.com, =9/23/2023) -- "The CDC separately has told us 65% of women who delivered a baby in the United States took a shot either before the pregnancy or during the pregnancy." A "terrible report" by the National Center for Health Statistics, published on the CDC website, came out in the spring of this year, reported world-renowned cardiologist Dr. Peter McCullough.

What that report shows is that maternal death rates are increasing in America — and fast.

The WHO defines maternal death as "the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and the site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management, but not from accidental or incidental causes." In plain English, that means the death of a pregnant woman from non-accidental causes within 42 days following or during pregnancy.

"The maternal mortality rate for 2021 was 32.9 deaths per 100,000 live births, compared with a rate of 23.8 in 2020 and 20.1 in 2019," according

to the National Center for Health Statistics.

That's a 38.2% increase compared to 2020 and a 63.7% increase from 2019. Overall, a 50% increase in maternal mortality — very troubling numbers.



Most maternal deaths – which happen during pregnancy, labor or within 42 days of birth, per the CDC – are preventable. The United States' maternal death rate continues to be higher than other wealthy, developed countries, and the new data shows a roughly 50% increase in overall rates in 2021 from 2019, the year before the start of the pandemic. ■

Will the State Get Your Property?

If you die without a will and don't have any family, your property will "escheat" into the state's coffers.

What legacy you will leave with the resources God has given you?

Many Christians want what the Lord Jesus has given them to continue furthering the work of God after they are called home. In their will, many choose to carefully share what God has given them with their family, but also to be generous with continuous service to God's work of faith. They decide to leave a bequest in their will to *Today the Bible and You*. This is something that can easily be done, taking simple language and incorporating it into their will. They are delighted to be able to continue to pour into ministries like *Today the Bible and You*, because they see the impact in reaching out through various ministries around the world..

If you feel God is leading you to support us in this outreach, a charitable bequest is one of the easiest and most flexible ways that you can leave a gift to further God's kingdom that will leave a lasting impact. A charitable bequest, put simply, is a gift you give to a charity through your last will and testament.

The benefits of a bequest include the following:

- Receive an estate tax charitable deduction
- Reduce the burden of taxes on your family
- Leave a lasting legacy to *Today, the Bible & You*

You can include language in your will or trust specifying a gift to be made to family, friends, or *Today, the Bible & You* as part of your estate plan. Learn more about making charitable bequests to *Today the Bible & You* by calling **918-279-1136**.



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- GANODERMA - 90 CAPSULES - \$65**
Ganoderma is the extract of Ganoderma Lucidum, revered as the "Miraculous King of Herbs." Scientifically proven worldwide as Nature's most potent health booster and overall conditioner. It is associated with longevity, youthfulness, vitality and virility.
- GANODERMA SPORES - 90 CAPS - \$96**
With our patented shell-breaking technology, we are able to harness the benefits of this plant's incredible spores at the pinnacle of their potency. As a result, these spores are richer in naturally beneficial compounds — such as polysaccharides, triterpenes, and selenium — than regular Ganoderma lucidum.
- MYCELLIUM — 90 CAPSULES — \$65**
Harvested from an 18-day-old Ganoderma lucidum mushroom, it's brimming with antioxidants and natural compounds which stimulate immune function and increases blood circulation to the body, especially to the brain. Suitable for children and adults.

See page 19 for order form

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 1)

pharmaceutical value of these mushrooms has only recently been recognized and clinical trials have been established to determine the medicinal characteristics of these mushrooms (Kimmons, 2003; Underwood, 2003).

Today's mushroom is Ganoderma lucidum (Reishi)

Ganoderma lucidum (aka Reishi) is documented to have medicinal value but its extract is considered a nutraceutical or a food. The medicinally effective component of mushrooms may vary depending upon what is to be treated. The actual level of these components in a measured volume of mushroom may also vary depending on how the mushroom was grown and the extraction process. It is important to know what dose works best for an ailment if it is intended to alleviate certain sickness. Because the toxic, lethal and effective dosages are yet to be determined, the usual dosage given is generally based on personal experience with patients suffering from different illnesses.

In a recent study by Teow Sun Soo at the MARA Institute of Technology in Malaysia, Reishi was used in small clinical (12 to 48 human subjects per trial) trials to determine its effectiveness against various ailments. Each capsule contains 500 mg of Reishi (Ganoderma) extract. The following discussion includes recommendations made by Soo as a result of his research (Soo, 2004):

Reishi has been shown to be effective in alleviating migraine headaches. It is believed that oxygen shortage in the brain (hypoxia) is at the core of the pathogenesis of a migraine attack. Once a certain threshold of oxygen deprivation is reached, the migraine attack bursts out. **Usual dose is 3 capsules, 3 times a day, before meals.**

As an anti-inflammatory agent, the extract is effective in substantially alleviating the problems and pain related to rheumatism or osteoarthritis and gout. The patients should see significant effects within a week. The dosage is 3 capsules, 3 times daily, before meals.

Reishi has been found effective in reducing asthma attacks. Recommended dosage begins with 1 capsule 3 times daily for five days, increasing to 2 capsules 3 times a day for 1 week and then to 3 capsules, 3 times daily. Patient MUST start with a low dose as a higher dose may initially trigger an asthma attack.

The extract is effective in regaining stamina and energy or debility due to prolonged illness especially for cancer patients after undergoing radio and/or hemotherapy. They are able to eat

and sleep better. **The dosage is 2 capsules 3 times daily.**

The extract is effective in clearing up a large variety of skin allergic conditions either due to food or airborne allergens. The dosage prescribed is 3 capsules, 3 times daily.

Ganoderma extract has been found to be useful in detoxifying the kidney and improving its overall function. Patients receiving hemodialysis should find that the duration and frequency of the treatment could be reduced. The usual dosage is 3 or 4 capsules 3 times daily depending on the severity of the condition for as long as required.

The extract has been found to be effective as a hypocholesterolemic agent. The usual dosage is 4 capsules, 3 times daily. Patients should see results within a month.

The extract has been shown to be effective in relieving or eliminating constipation problems. The recommended dosage is 3 capsules, 3 times daily. The patients should see results within 1-2 weeks.

Reishi has been found to be effective in reducing hemorrhoids depending on the severity of the case. Patients should see results with 30 days. Usual dose is 3 or 4 capsules, 3 times daily depending on severity of condition.

Ganoderma extract has been found effective in addressing a variety of cardiovascular problems. **It improves the circulatory system with increased oxygen.** It also eliminates the conditions of angina pectoris and palpitation. The recommended dosage is 1 capsule 3 times daily for five days, increasing to 2 capsules, 3 times daily for one week and then to 3 capsules 3 times daily. Patients should start with only 1 capsule per dose as a higher dose might initially increase the blood pressure of the patient.

Ganoderma is useful for stress. The usual dosage is 2 capsules, 3 times daily reducing to 1 capsule, 3 times daily for maintenance.

The experiences in fighting cancer, Ganoderma extract has been **shown to be effective in regressing tumors. The results depend on the type of cancer and the severity of the condition.** It is recommended that it be used in combination with the prescribed therapy. The Ganoderma extract can be highly effective in substantially reducing or eliminating the side effects of radio and chemotherapies if it is taken preceding, together and after the treatments. It can prevent side effects like hair loss, nausea, vomiting, sore throat, loss of appetite and insomnia. Recommended dosage is 6 capsules, 3 times daily as long as required.

Patients with impaired immunity have found Ganoderma beneficial in boosting or

modulating their immune system. The usual dosage is 4 capsules, 3 times daily. Patients could expect to see results in 1 to 2 months. Patients taking the extract for the first time can be subject to temporary symptoms, which are reflective of the effectiveness of the nutraceutical in cleansing the body systems. These may include sleepiness, abnormal sweating, thirstiness, loose stool, frequent urination, bloating and possibly some rashes.

Testimonies from Ganoderma Users

Kristen B. — I have been using Ganoderma products for over a year. Before I started using Ganoderma, I had stomach pains that I would have around 4 or 5pm. No Doctor knew what the cause was. I found that since consuming the Ganoderma products - including the wonderful Capsules, **I don't have stomach pains anymore!** I never thought it might be acid problems from my morning coffee, because I was having pain in the afternoon. I had my PH tested a short while ago I tested 6 - water is 7!! Also, before Ganoderma, I had what I thought was a good sleep, but now I have an **INCREDIBLY deep, relaxing sleep.**

Sandy P. — I was suffering from **extreme joint pain** (I could barely lift my arms) and **chronic fatigue**. I would come home from work and get on the couch and not be able to move...my kids quite often had to fend for dinner themselves. My friend suggested I drink the Ganoderma coffee...I usually only drank one cup of regular coffee a day because I would get the jitters and burning stomach if I had any more. I switched to 1 cup of the Ganoderma healthy coffee, I did like it and noticed my energy level went up a bit. I still had the joint pain. Then my friend suggested that I start taking the capsules...I started with 1 spore cap a day and noticed a difference in both my energy level and the joint pain. My shoulders were much better. I now drink 1-3 cups of coffee and tea a day because I love the taste and I take all the capsules because it makes me feel great...I have all the energy in the world now (I am working out again) and **NO more joint pain**. Another difference I have noticed since being on the Ganoderma products is that I **don't have any 'plumbing' issues** anymore. *What a relief that is!* ■

To get your products
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PASTOR’S LETTER

(Continued from page 3)

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Biblical Illiteracy Setting the Stage for World's Deception by the Antichrist

ChristianPost.com | August 08, 2023 | Prominent pastor and author Michael Youssef has warned that many churches today are failing to teach the whole Gospel or equip Christians with biblical knowledge, setting the stage for the world to be deceived by the Antichrist.

In an interview with *The Christian Post*, the 74-year-old pastor of the Church of the Apostles in Atlanta, Georgia, homed in on the increasing biblical illiteracy prevalent among professing Christians, something he sees as the “great problem with the Church in America.”

“Biblical illiteracy is rampant, and people are going to fall for deception, for false teachings, for anything, because they’re not grounded in the Word of God,” he said.

The pastor highlighted some of the popular heresies he sees in both Evangelical and mainline churches today. In an effort to be “seeker friendly,” for example, many churches advocate distancing from the Old Testament or suggest that some of its teachings, such as views on homosexuality, are outdated. “This is what is preached from major pulpits: homosexuality was wrong in the Old Testament because it was associated with pagan worship, but not in the New Testament,” he said.

“That is not true, because the Bible says, ‘He made them man and woman, and He made them to fit in every way and then made them to marry for life,’ and so forth. They throw the whole creation event out of the window. Or, they say, ‘The God of the Old Testament is a God of

vengeance, but the God of the New Testament — which is the old first-century heresy — is the God of love. That is absolutely false.

“Yet, many young preachers are now saying, ‘Let’s get unhitched from the Old Testament.’ But the Old Testament is the very foundation upon which the New Testament builds. The Old Testament says Jesus is coming; the New Testament says He’s here. The two are one; we cannot separate them.” These shifts in teachings, Youssef warned, are setting the stage for the world to be deceived by the Antichrist due to a lack of discernment.

“The world is really being prepared for the Antichrist,” he said. “But when the Antichrist comes and deceives the world, we have no discernment because we do not know the words of Jesus.” He referenced Jesus’ teachings in Matthew 24 and 25 to identify signs of the End Times and the Antichrist. He described the Antichrist as a “man of peace; a smart, slick politician who’s going to make everybody feel good about him. And then halfway through the seven years, of course, he’s going to turn and begin to persecute believers,” Youssef said. Some signs of the End Times, like wars, earthquakes and apostasy, have “always been around,” he added. But as the End Times draw near, these “labor pains” will intensify and occur more frequently.

“Our Lord made it very clear that His disciples need to understand that,” he said. “For us, we’re seeing these things are happening so fast as this baby is about to arrive. While some people panic and worry and don’t know what to do, we say, ‘Glory to God. Lift up your head, because the day of your redemption is drawing nigh.’ We know that the baby is getting close to being born now because that is the image that the Lord Jesus Himself gave us.”

Youssef is among a growing number of Evangelical pastors sounding the alarm over the lack of biblical knowledge among believers and the devastating ramifications for the Church.

According to the State of the Bible 2022 report released by the Barna Group and the American Bible Society, only 39% of Americans say they read the Bible multiple times per year or more. Currently, only 10% of Americans report daily Bible reading, a 4% decrease since before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Biblical scholar and pastor Voddie Baucham recently told CP that because many churches today lack a Gospel-centered foundation, they are ill-prepared for the challenges of the post-Christian era.

“In this post-Christian era, . . . it’s not enough to just not hold firmly to the truths of the Gospel and to not hold firmly to those things that the culture finds offensive. Any identification now with Christianity, which is seen as the sort of ultimate hegemonic boogeyman in modern, Neo Marxist culture, is offensive. So, a lot of people are caught off guard because of compromises they made a long time ago that looked like they were paying off.

Baucham stressed the need for churches to stand firm on biblical truths without compromise, even in the face of cultural pressure and vilification.

“We need to prepare ourselves for the opposition, not only the opposition coming, but for the opposition that’s already here,” he said. “We need to know what we believe and why we believe it. We need to be prepared to give an answer to those who ask us for the reason for the hope that is in us. We need to be prepared to speak to this post-Christian culture. Finally, we need to be prepared to accept the consequences of doing so, which can be unpleasant.” ■

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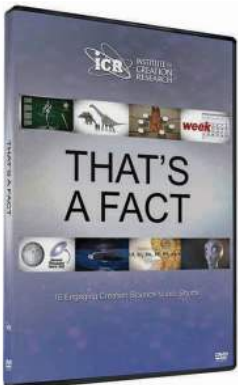
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By C. Ernest Tatham

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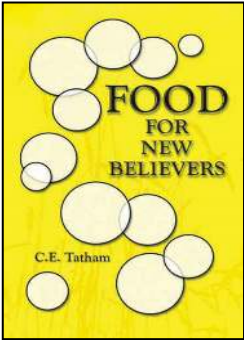
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This book, *Food for New Believers* by Mr. C.E. Tatham points out some of the truths which the new believer must know. Mr. Tatham fed the children of God for many years. The twelve chapter headings are as follows:

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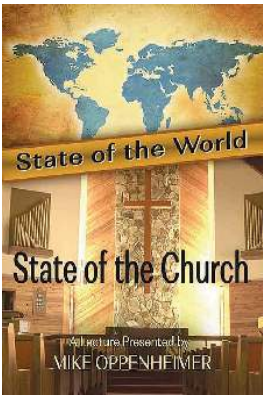
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18 pages

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