

EndTime Issues...

CHRISTIAN RESOURCE – MINISTERS, TEACHERS, BIBLE STUDENTS

December 2005

Vol. 8, No. 6

*A Publication of the
Christian Heritage Foundation, CS
Member ASI*



What It's All About!

Editorial - p. 3

Contents

EDITORIAL: CHRISTMAS SYMBOLS	3
KEY ARTICLE: WARREN'S P.E.A.C.E. PLANS AND UN GOALS (PARTS 1 & 2 OF 4)	6
PROPHECY UNFOLDS: THE SEVEN TRUMPETS OF REVELATION – THE SOUND AND THE SEA	21
THE SEVEN TRUMPETS OF REVELATION – STRANGE NAME FOR A STAR	24
THE GARDEN PATCH: IRRIGATION	26
FOCUS ON THE SABBATH	30
TEACHING MATERIALS AVAILABLE FROM THE CHRISTIAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION, CS	31

EndTime Issues... Magazine

4256-B Mockingbird Lane
Banning, California 92220-1123 USA
Phone: 951-922-1638
E-mail: christianheritagefo@earthlink.net
Web: www.endtimeissues.com

Franklin S. Fowler Jr., M.D. – Editor
Jeanne C. Fowler – Layout Editor
Brent Beardsley – Internet Administration
David E. Stottlemyer – Contributing Editor

EndTime Issues... is published monthly through the Internet by the Christian Heritage Foundation, a corporation sole registered in Nevada July 26, 2001. *EndTime Issues...* is produced as a lay ministry to Christians with focused interest on the times in which we are living. This ministry is Seventh-day Adventist supportive. Support comes from donations made to the Christian Heritage Foundation, CS. We invite you to copy articles and the magazine to share with others.

Manuscripts are welcomed for consideration. They should relate to end-time events that have recently been occurred to a clearer view of prophetic truth or have a deep spiritual concern, be simply written and well documented with a focused interest to Christians. Length should be limited to 10 double-spaced pages. The ongoing appeal: "Issues of concern to the last generation."

Letters to the editor: We welcome your letters of encouragement, deepening insight on relevant topics and plain feedback relative to *EndTime Issues...* Please keep your communiques brief. Your letters will be the property of Christian Heritage Foundation. Personal answers normally cannot be made. Selected letters may be published in subsequent issues of *EndTime Issues...*

Supporting This Work

As the demands for the services of this ministry increase, so does the need for support. This work started with great *sacrifice* and *faith*. It continues under those same banners.

We solicit your gifts in prayers and funds. As our financial base broadens, your gifts help open doors for a greater number to hear and see these special truths.

Donations (tax deductible) can be made by check or money order to the *Christian Heritage Foundation*, 4256-B Mockingbird Lane, Banning, California 92220-1123 USA. Visa and Master Charge is accepted (Phone: 951-922-1638).

Christmas Symbols

The Christmas season has come once again. It is filled with a plethora of symbols, activities and customs that often blur why this is a Christian holiday. Originally, it had its roots in the date that ended a Roman festival week called Saturnalia. That day honored the rebirth of the sun god Apollo.

Though having true pagan origins, the centuries have nearly obliterated those ancient mythical traditions. The Christianized version has weathered time, and the Christocentric theme nestled in a manger is what Christmas has ideally come to be all about.

This holiday, however, is being secularized. In recent years anti-Christian activists have even pummeled the nativity message. As Revisionism brought Christian “meaning” to many pagan symbols, today political activists are rapidly removing Christian symbols from public display. Many wonderful Christian images remain attached to this holiday, though often seen as secular.

Can one glean important Christian truths out of this season’s complex icons, festivities and symbols? If one wants to. Some reject this holiday because of its origins, others because Jesus was born earlier in the fall. But for most Christians it exists today because of Jesus’ advent. That can open the door to visit the meaning of many rich Christian traditions. Many symbols used at Christmas even point to *why* Jesus came to earth – appealing to the great theme of redemption. These, in turn, shine new light on His pending second advent. Let’s see what we can discover spiritually from a few of the icons of Christmas.

THE STAR

The star of Bethlehem was a sign that the promised Messiah had come. It symbolized *fulfillment* of God’s promise.

The early Babylonians, Egyptians, Chinese and Jews all had stars important to their religious experience. The Christmas tree star reminds us of the heavenly body that guided those pagan biblical scholars from the “east” to find Jesus. It was their ultimate light and guide.

Jesus called Himself the “Bright and Morning Star” (Revelation 22:16). He even promises to give the Morning Star to those who overcome (Revelation 2:26-28). That means eternal fellowship with Him.

Balaam prophesied: “I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel” (Numbers 24:17). The Christmas star draws our attention to Jesus, the “light of the world” (John 8:12, 9:5). It assures us that another promise will soon be filled – His second advent. The message of the star helps us to prepare to meet Him.

THE COLOR RED

This is the predominant Christmas color, which symbolizes the blood Jesus shed for us. When His blood poured from that body, He gave His life to make it possible for us to have eternal life.

The richness of the color of red, its vivid deep and intense hue represents the greatest sacrifice ever made in the universe. God’s eternal gift to mankind – Jesus – forever linked Him to humanity. Red reminds us of that amazing bond.

THE GREEN COLOR

This is the second color of Christmas as seen in the tree. It is a background for the red. The evergreen tree remains that color all year, inviting us to think of eternal life He offers to all because of His spilt blood.

During the Roman festival of Santurnalia trees were decorated with candles. Later, the Germans had a wooden-shaped pyramid structure decorated with evergreen boughs. That "tree" was the focal point of their celebration. It was decorated behind closed doors and presented on Christmas eve to the family. That symbolized the moment when everything came alive at the birth of Jesus. In America the enduring tree represents His eternal gift of life to mankind. The gifts under the tree are tokens of His gift to us.

The needles point heavenward, representing to many the prayers of each individual.

THE BELL

Picture the Shepherd leaving the ninety and nine in search of that one lost sheep. The bell symbolizes the cry of all lost sinners. The Shepherd finds the missing "one" by its sound. The plaintiff peal calls the Rescuer to its side.

Over time churches added bells in a tower structure (~400 A.D.) to call people together to the place of worship. It now seasonally represents a time of peace and unity when all are called together.

This season reminds us of another bell scene. In ancient Israel Aaron the High Priest was to wear golden bells alternating with various hued pomegranates on the hem of his garment. As he moved into the Most Holy Place the sound of the bells was an element of security "that he may not die" (Exodus 28:31-35, 39:26). They announced to the waiting congregation that their cleansing and purification was safely moving forward.

The saints will hear similar bells on the garment of Jesus, our High Priest, at the time of their final deliverance. When we hear the bells, we know our Deliverer is about to come.

"Then I saw the four Angels cease to hold the four winds. And I saw famine, pestilence and

sword, nation rose against nation, and the whole world was in confusion. Then we cried to God for deliverance day and night till we began to hear the bells on Jesus' garment. And I saw Jesus rise up in the Holiest, and as he came out we heard the tinkling of bells, and knew our High Priest was coming out. Then we heard the voice of God which shook the heavens and earth, and gave the 144,000 the day and hour of Jesus' coming. Then the saints were free, united and full of the glory of God, for he had turned their captivity. And I saw a flaming cloud come where Jesus stood and he laid off his priestly garment and put on his kingly robe, took his place on the cloud which carried him to the east where it first appeared to the saints on earth, a small black cloud, which was the sign of the Son of Man."¹

CANDLES

Used in the past on trees and now replaced by strings of lights, they draw upon the light from that ancient Bethlehem star; they represent the Savior – the "light of the world," which brings us cheer and hope.

THE POINSETTIA

This plant is native to Mexico. It was named after America's first ambassador to Mexico, Joel Pointsett. The Mexicans thought the red top leaves looked like the star of Bethlehem. Thus, it became the traditional Christmas flower.

THE HOLLY LEAF

The Romans gave gifts of holly to their friends during Saturnalia as "good luck" charms and protection against evil.

This evergreen leaf later represented immortality to Christians. The thorns of each leaf symbolize the crown of thorns worn by our Savior, and the red berries, the blood shed by Jesus to bring life to us.

THE BOW

Often put on top of a tree, but usually part of gift wrappings, the bow ties us all together in bonds of good will towards each other. That is the message of love and unity that Jesus brings

to everyone. The advent is especially represented by a red bow when a holy union occurs through the blood of the Lamb.

THE CANE

This typifies the Shepherd's crook on his staff, which helps to bring back the strayed sheep into the fold. The first people to hear of Christ's birth were shepherds watching their flocks at night (Luke 2:8-20).

Those men became symbols of Jesus' care and protection. He later called Himself the Good Shepherd who gave His life for His sheep (John 10:11) and who knew His sheep (John 10:14). The staff of truth helps prevent His followers from wandering away.

The red stripes were not added to candy canes in America (a tradition started by a German choirmaster in the 1670's) until 1900. Then three small strips symbolized the stripes of Jesus, which heals us (Isaiah 53:5, I Peter 2:24). A fourth wide stripe represented the blood Jesus shed on Calvary's tree (Isaiah 53:5, Matthew 27:32-50).

Peppermint was later added to the candy to represent purging and purification, which Christ's blood does when cleansing us from sin.

FRANKINCENSE

This was one of the Magi's gifts (Matthew 2:11) to baby Jesus. Isaiah prophesied that gold and frankincense would be brought by the Gentiles to honor the heavenly king (Isaiah 60:6).

Frankincense was the purest of incense. It burns with a white smoke, representing Christ's righteousness. It was a major commodity in Christ's day. In the Roman Empire it was considered as valuable as gems or precious metals. The story of frankincense today symbolizes the respect and honor we give to Jesus who humbled Himself as a baby 2000 years ago.

MYRRH

This was another gift from the wise men (Matthew 2:11). This aromatic resin was a widely used "perfume" in Bible times. Of the many uses described in the Bible, three relate to Jesus in a special way.

1. It was a costly gift that bestowed deep respect on the recipient. This was the honor given to baby Jesus.
2. It was used to embalm the dead. Nicodemus gave a mixture of myrrh and aloes of about 100 pounds to prepare Jesus' body (John 19:39). This was 100 times the amount normally used. Another gesture of respect.
3. It was used to anoint (Exodus 30:23-32). Mary anointed Jesus' feet with Oil of Myrrh, preparing Him for His death (Luke 7:38-50) and setting Him aside as the Redeemer.

In this season the story of myrrh reminds us of Jesus' life and death – and the hope this brings to the world.

Interestingly, the church is referred to as a mountain of myrrh and frankincense (Song of Solomon 4:6-8).

THE WREATH

This illustrates the eternal circle of love that came to us through Jesus. Its greenery exudes life in the middle of winter.

SNOW

This is often associated with Christmas because in December much of the nation is blanketed with these beautiful crystals. The raiment of the transfigured Christ was noted to be as white as snow (Matthew 28:3) – as was God the Father's garment (Daniel 7:9). Snow has many meanings in Scripture. Its greatest message is "purity," "without sin" (Psalm 51:7, Isaiah 1:18); totally clean (Ezekiel 36:26).

Christmas – a holy day? No. A day to think of holy things? Yes. So many reminders of all that Jesus stands for from a baby to a king, Christmas has something for every penetrating thinker pertaining to our precious Savior!

References:

¹Harmon [White], Ellen G.; *The Day Star*, March 14, 1846.

Warren's P.E.A.C.E. Plan & UN Goals – Part 1 of 4

The Emerging Global 'Church'

by Berit Kjos*(see end of article), August 2005

"The first Reformation was about beliefs. This one needs to be about behavior.... We've had a Reformation; what we need now is a **transformation**." [1] Rick Warren

"The transition... to a culture of peace is a process of individual, collective and institutional **transformation**." [2] UNESCO Culture of Peace Programme

"Citizenship for the next century is learning to live together. The 21st Century city will be a city of social solidarity... We have to redefine the words... [and write a new] social contract." [3] Federico Mayor, former head of UNESCO.

"A sea change of transitions and transformations is birthing a whole new world," wrote Dr. Leonard Sweet, whose books are often quoted in Rick Warren's Ministry Toolbox. "God is birthing the greatest spiritual awakening in the history of the church.... Are you going to show up?" [4]

If you love truth, you may want to say no! For in his book *Soul Tsunami*, Dr. Sweet, a popular leader of the Emerging Church, tells us to flow with the currents of change and leave God's unchanging gospel behind. "Postmodern culture is a change-or-be changed world," he continues. "Reinvent yourself for the 21st century or die. Some would rather die than change." [4]

Would Rick Warren agree? Probably, since he wrote this glowing endorsement for the front cover of Sweet's book: "*Soul Tsunami* shows us why these are the greatest days for evangelism since the first century!"



Berit Kjos

What kind of evangelism does Warren envision? Would it be based on God's Word or on "good" works? Apparently, the latter. In a world that has traded Biblical absolutes for changing values and feel-good experiences, God's "divisive" truths face a rising tide of

hostility. But few will argue against helping the poor and sick. Perhaps that's why Pastor Warren keeps repeating this statement: "The first Reformation was about *belief*; this one's going to be about *behavior*." [5]

The new focus is on unity — a worldwide oneness reflected in the growing union between the East and West. Leonard Sweet's online book, *Quantum Spirituality*, sheds some revealing light on the envisioned global "church" for the 21st century. In his view, the offense of the cross has been replaced with a passion for interfaith peace and possibility thinking. To illustrate this point, Dr. Sweet quotes Thomas Merton, the popular Catholic author who popularized mysticism and died in Asia searching the depths of Tibetan Buddhism: "**We are already one**. But we imagine that we are not. And what we have to **recover** is our **original unity**." [6]

Seeking that illusive solidarity, today's success-driven church leaders are rushing into the post-modern age of flexible "truth" and relational pleasures. Unbounded by any solid anchor in God's unchanging Word, they dash forward — hand in hand with the world — toward an imagined future attainable through practices long hidden in secret societies and Eastern religions. These include meditative rituals, dialectical synthesis and systems thinking. Add service learning to the last two and you have the transformational strategies first tested by Communist tyrants, then incorporated into the UN – U.S. education system, which intentionally undermined factual, rational learning and established the postmodern ways of thinking. [7]

We need to understand this amazing worldwide revolution — and the subtle compromises caused by today's pragmatic "Christian" alliances. Therefore, the next two articles in this series will look more closely at the social manipulation behind "community service" and "lifelong learning" — two programs driven by global standards, continual assessments and remediation.

But first, let's examine Rick Warren's celebrated P.E.A.C.E. Plan and its links to the United Nations.

Like most other UN documents, its Millennium Goals sound kind and compassionate. They are designed to appeal to noble instincts and caring hearts — and they do! That's why nations, corporations, organizations and churches have joined the global campaign. Who would disagree with these eight lofty goals?

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.
2. Achieve universal primary education.
3. Promote gender equality and empower women.
4. Reduce child mortality.
5. Improve maternal health.
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability.
8. Develop a global partnership for development.[8]

Of course, there's more to this list than nice-sounding words. The motivational vision of a worldwide welfare system may have captured hearts around the world, but it actually serves the grandiose aims of socialist change agents who have little concern for human suffering. Yet, no other program has more effectively linked the evangelical church to the UN management system, which, from its birth, declared war on Biblical truth and values.[9] And no other program has more effectively drawn Christians into a process designed to

manipulate the masses, undermine traditional values, silence resisters, synthesize beliefs, trade individual thinking for collective thinking, and train global citizens to serve the "greater whole."[10]

An interview titled, "Pastor [Warren] lays out a global vision," summarizes parts of that plan:

Q: Your book is a mega-seller and there are 82,000 names on Saddleback's church rolls. What's next?

Warren: "In the 21st century we are going global and mobilizing the American church to help internationally.... President Kagame will welcome us to Rwanda for a joint project among the government, business and the church....

Q: How will Saddleback tackle these huge problems?

Warren: With our PEACE plan.... P is for plant a church or partner with an existing one in every village. We'll work with everyone who wants to help. I'll work with an atheist who wants to stop AIDS. E – equip local leaders. A – assist the poor. C – care for the sick. And E – educate the next generation....

Q: What is your greatest hope for all this?

Warren: A second Reformation. The first one was about belief. This one will be about deeds."[11]

Compare this celebrated P.E.A.C.E. Plan with the United Nation's Millennial Goals. Keep in mind that both purpose-driven churches and their strategic leadership programs require training in mind-changing processes and assessment technologies that support the UN vision for human resource development around the world.[12]

Warren's PEACE Plan	Millennium Development Goals
1. Plant churches 2. Equip servant leaders 3. Assist the poor 4. Care for the sick 5. Educate the next generation	#8. Develop a global partnership for development. (The leadership training for purpose-driven churches parallels the <u>dialectic process</u> , <u>Systems Thinking</u> and team development prescribed by various UN agencies involved in human resource development.) #8. Develop a global partnership for development. Actually "Lifelong Learning" has been the major <u>UNESCO education goal</u> since the UN agency was founded. #1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger #4. Reduce child mortality #5. Improve maternal health #6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases #2. Achieve universal primary education #3. Promote gender equality and empower women #7. Ensure environmental sustainability
<p style="text-align: center;">The implied aims of UN Millennium Goals #3 and #7 are certain to be included in each of Warren's five programs – especially in P, E, A and E.</p>	

Now, let's look more closely at each P.E.A.C.E. Plan objective:

1. Plant churches

The first point sounds good. But what will those church plants look like? Will they be clones of Saddleback Church in California — or of thousands of other churches that follow the purpose-driven model?

Not exactly. Today's change agents will carefully adapt their transformational strategies to each new cultural setting. But at the heart of this global revolution we see the same key elements: Total Quality Management, psycho-social leadership training, promotion of a positive (compromised) gospel and a permissive (feel-good, non-judging) God, continual high-tech assessments and remediation, and the dialectic process operating through facilitated small groups.

The mission field is the entire world. As Pastor Warren says,

"Billions of people suffer each day from problems so big no government can solve them.... 'The only thing big enough to solve the problems of spiritual emptiness, selfish leadership, poverty, disease, and ignorance is the network of millions of churches all around the world....

"The Scripture shows us that Jesus shared the Good News, trained leaders, helped the poor, cared for the sick, and taught the children... 'Our P.E.A.C.E. Plan will do the five things Jesus did while he was here on earth.'" [13]

But Pastor Warren's comparison with Jesus couldn't be more misleading. Jesus never used the psycho-social strategies or the manipulative management systems that drive today's social and spiritual transformation!

Warren's initial thrust is into Africa, where the P.E.A.C.E. Plan will fit well. It already has a foothold in Rwanda, where the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi minority shocked the world. But according to *Time Magazine*, its president Paul Kagame had not been friendly to Biblical Christianity:

"Kagame has repeatedly stated his disdain for religious organizations. Thus a buzz went up in Kigali's Amahoro Stadium last month when Kagame allowed Rick Warren... to throw an arm over his shoulders and 'pray for the President.'... Kagame has committed his government to cooperation in a five-to-seven-year self-sufficiency project staffed by Rwandan volunteers but initiated, advised and at least partly funded by Warren's network of 'purpose-driven churches.' Warren talks of turning Rwanda into 'the first purpose-driven nation.'" [14]

Do you wonder why a somewhat anti-Christian African president would enter into such an agreement? Kagame answered that question when he spoke at Saddleback Church in April:

"...they also told us about the vision of the PEACE plan.... It is a vision with a big goal, which is to confront the world's major problems; but it is practical and simple in strategy because it is built on using average people rather than just the elite. Rick and I agree that **each partner – the church, the government and businesses** have a role to play and we are better together and more effective when we cooperate." [15]

"More effective" in what way? In planting Biblical churches — or in "Capacity Building" and "developing" people who think collectively and fit the UN vision? Will cooperation with "government and businesses" actually help establish Christ-centered churches with faithful "born again" Christians who — by God's grace — love and follow His Word? Or will it spread compromise and deception? Will it please God or man?

Will it fulfill what Warren presents as God's five main purposes for the Church? Or might those purposes all be redefined under the banner of church growth, church health, and success-driven service through church/world alliances? [16] Partnerships face problems when one partner controls the money or political power. The controlling member will be in a position to set the rules and define the terms, forcing the other member(s) to submit or leave.

Actually, Rick Warren's five purposes have already been compromised. "Warren presents some basic teaching regarding God's purpose to glorify Himself and what man should do in relation to God," wrote Richard Bennett in an article titled "The Purpose Driven Life: Demeaning the Very

Nature of God." "The fact that none of these purposes is presented in a biblically accurate way makes Warren's work all the more dangerous to the true understanding of Who God is and His Gospel in Christ." [17]

Consider Warren's five main purposes from a Biblical perspective:

Worship: Postmodern worship forms are designed to stir happy feelings and human excitement, not worship inspired by the Holy Spirit. They point to a positive and permissive God who — like our human team members — will cheer our self-centered nature and excuse our unholy ways. Such celebrations clash with genuine expressions of a Spirit-filled heart that freely praises our wonderful holy God without emotion-raising, man-centered programs.

Fellowship: Purpose-driven "fellowship" tends to follow today's dialectical guidelines. These push group members toward unbiblical tolerance, feeling-based rather than fact-based "sharing," and silence with regard to Biblical absolutes. In contrast, Biblical fellowship happens when we come together with common delight in His Word, His will and His ways — loving and encouraging each other with His Word and by His Spirit.

Discipleship: The new church management systems call for training in submission and loyalty to "the group" and the new social ethics — not to God and His Word. It requires participation in collective thinking and "service learning" and fun team building activities. It shuns God's narrow ways and divisive truths, and twists God's call for Biblical oneness into an invitation to join the world on its highway to corruption.

Ministry: The shape and structure of purpose-driven ministries are increasingly defined by new management gurus, personality assessments, community surveys, and group appeal, **not by Biblical teaching** nor God's *actual* purposes. But the Bible shows us that our main focus should be on building up believers by preaching and teaching His Word, and by exhorting and serving one another. We are called to live and work together by His Spirit — not by group thinking and politically

correct tolerance. In the true Church, all the members **know** and **follow** Jesus Christ, the King of all! He is *not* a reinvented god acceptable to the world, but the holy, almighty God who revealed Himself through the Scriptures.

Evangelism: Today's soft, non-offensive gospel focuses on God's supposed *passionate* love for people who are *naturally lovable*, not on His loving mercy for depraved sinners. (See Ephesians 2:1-4) When "Christian" change agents train the masses to "think outside the box" of God's unchanging Word, they are spreading a false gospel and blinding people to the only truth that can set us free.

The assumption that "the ends justify the means" has already blinded a critical mass of "Christian" leaders. Many don't realize that the promised "end" is merely an illusion. Trained to accept a compromised gospel, they spread it to a world that wants to share in God's blessings without conviction of sin or genuine repentance. The non-Christian masses are more than willing to join a movement where the gospel is purged of its offensive parts without Biblical conversion.

This radical reformation becomes all the more concerning when church leaders like Rick Warren link hands with Bono, Ellen DeGeneres, and other UN supporters in their evangelistic crusade and war on poverty. Since these noble aims fit right into the United Nation's efforts to "develop" nations, train human resources, build social capital, and establish its global management system, we cannot ignore its basic philosophy.

What's more, today's soft, social "gospel" conforms easily to UNESCO's guidelines for religion in the new world order. Remember Pastor Warren's words, "The first [Reformation] was about beliefs. This one will be about deeds." [11]

It all makes sense. The true gospel offends people. It reminds us that we are fallen creatures in bondage to sin apart from God. That's why God's Word warns us that "we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. To the one we are the aroma of death leading to death, and to the other the aroma of life leading to life" (2 Corinthians 2:14). It reminds us not to expect popularity in the world when we are true to His Word! Instead

we are called to follow His narrow, difficult road, no matter what the cost:

"If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.... If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you... because they do not know Him who sent Me." John 15:18-21.

In contrast, humanitarian deeds will win the world's applause. So will a whitewashed gospel, cleansed of offensive truth, and focused on man's worth rather than God's righteousness. This new gospel fits the vision of UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) as summarized in its Declaration on the Role of Religion in the Promotion of a Culture of Peace. Notice that it uses the evils committed by false or "cultural Christianity" to justify its criticisms of genuine Christianity and to press all religions into accepting its guidelines for global service in its new world order:

1. ...We are all interdependent and share an inescapable responsibility for the well-being of the entire world.

2. We face a crisis which could bring about the suicide of the human species or bring us a new awakening and a new hope. We know that religion... has an indispensable role to play....

6. Religions have... led to division, hatred, and war. Religious people have too often betrayed the high ideals they themselves have preached.

8. Peace entails that we understand that we are all interdependent.... collectively responsible for the common good.

11. We must... cultivate a spirituality which manifests itself in action...

13. We commit ourselves to ... assure a truly humane education for all. We emphasize education for peace, freedom, and human rights, and religious education to promote openness and tolerance.

19. Our communities of faith have a responsibility to encourage conduct imbued with wisdom,

compassion, sharing, charity, solidarity, and love; inspiring one and all to choose the path of freedom and responsibility. Religions must be a source of helpful energy.

20. ... We should distinguish fanaticism from religious zeal.

21. We will favor peace by countering the tendencies of individuals and communities to assume or even to teach that they are inherently superior to others ...

22. We will promote dialogue and harmony between and within religions ... respecting the search for truth and wisdom that is outside....

23. ...We call upon the different religious and cultural traditions to join hands... and to cooperate with us.”[18]

Whether consciously or simply out of success-oriented pragmatism, the purpose-driven church movement has answered the call. With management guru Peter Drucker as his mentor, Rick Warren’s quest for reformation and transformation serves the UN vision very well. In fact, the two seem to march to the same drumbeat. Like Warren’s vision of transformation, UNESCO Culture of Peace Programme calls for total transformation to its global system of assessments and control – “a process of individual, collective and institutional transformation.”[2]

Those who have studied UN literature realize that its envisioned “Culture of Peace” would happily embrace a compromised form of Christianity that would serve the world system. But Biblical Christianity, so despised by the world, would be banned — just as Jesus warned His disciples:

“...they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved.” (Matthew 24:9-13) See Signs of the times

A small group of faithful missionaries, working quietly among the African poor, might by God’s

grace, be able to share the whole gospel beyond the watchful eyes of the new global managers. But the publicity-hungry PD movement with its popular agenda will be carefully scrutinized for compliance with the UN ideals. To succeed within this global framework of control, it must conform, comply and ultimately serve the global agenda. And its fury may well be focused on those uncompromising missionaries and faithful Christians who would rather suffer persecution at the hands of intolerant “peace-makers” than betray their beloved Lord.

Two Scriptures would be worth remembering in the challenging times ahead:

“...the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me.” John 16:2-3

“But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.” Acts 20:24

Endnotes:

1. Rick Warren: *Global Baptists* — “We’re all in this together,” at <http://www.bwanet.org/Congress/congresstoday29f.htm>
2. *UNESCO Culture of Peace Programme* at <http://www.peace.ca/vowunesco.htm>
3. Federico Mayor, speaking at a conference on “solidarity” during the 1996 UN Conference on Human Settlements in Istanbul, Turkey. Taped and transcribed by Berit Kjos.
4. Leonard Sweet, *Soul Tsunami*, Page (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1999), pages 17, 34, 75.
5. Ken Camp, “‘Second Reformation’ will unify church, Warren tells Dallas GDOP,” Pastors.com, 2005, at www.pastors.com/article.asp?ArtID=8280
6. Leonard Sweet, *Quantum Spirituality*, entire book available online at Quantum Spirituality: A Postmodern Apologetic
7. See “The International Agenda” at <http://www.crossroad.to/Books/BraveNewSchools/2->

- International.htm#1-wcefa and Small Groups and the Dialectic Process at <http://www.crossroad.to/articles2/04/3-purpose.htm>. See also <http://www.undp.org/eo/ADR>
8. "Millennium Goal: Conforming the world to Socialist Solidarity" at www.crossroad.to/articles2/TwoSummits.htm
 9. www.crossroad.to/Quotes/globalism/chisholm.htm and "UNESCO: Its purpose and Its Philosophy" at www.crossroad.to/Quotes/globalism/julian-huxley.htm
 10. "Serving the 'greater whole'" at www.crossroad.to/Books/BraveNewSchools/6-Service.html and "Social Change and Communitarian Systems" at www.crossroad.to/articles2/04/6-purpose-communitarian.htm and "Molding **Human Resources** for the Global Workforce" at www.crossroad.to/text/articles/HumanResources.html
 11. "Pastor [Warren] lays out a global vision," [registration required]:
 12. "Reinventing the World" at www.crossroad.to/articles2/Reinvent1.htm and Re-Inventing the Church at www.crossroad.to/articles2/2002/change-agent-1.htm
 13. "P.E.A.C.E. Plan: A Worldwide Revolution, Warren Tells Angel Stadium Crowd" at <http://www.purposedrivenlife.com/absolutenm3/templates/articles.aspx?articleid=981&zoneid=25>
 14. David Van Biema, "Warren of Rwanda," *Time* magazine, August 22, 2005 at <http://www.time.com/time/archive/preview/0,10987,1093746,00.html>
 15. "Remarks by his Excellency Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, at Saddlback Church (17 April, 2005) at http://www.gov.rw/government/president/speeches/2005/17_04_05_saddleback.htm
 - 16 Topical Index of Scriptures at www.crossroad.to/HisWord/verses/topics/alliances.htm
 17. Richard Bennet, "The Purpose Driven Life: Demeaning the Very Nature of God," at http://www.bereanbeacon.org/articles/rick_warren_purpose_driven_2.htm
 18. Declaration on the Role of Religion in the Promotion of a Culture of Peace
 19. "Dealing with **Resisters**" at www.crossroad.to/articles2/04/4-purpose-resisters.htm

Equipping Leaders to 'Lead Like Jesus'?

by Berit Kjos, September 2005

"Ken [Blanchard] has signed on to help with the Peace Plan, and he's going to be helping train us in leadership and in **how to train others to be leaders all around the world**. In fact, he was here this week and I've asked him to just give a little video greeting." [1] Audio tape of Rick Warren introducing the PEACE Plan and Ken Blanchard to Saddleback Church.

"Lead like Jesus.... Give yourself a hug, for you deserve it." [1] Ken Blanchard's video response to the above introduction.

"Dear Saddleback Family... don't miss this first encouraging message in 40 DAYS OF PEACE which begins now!!! ... This week I shared part of this message in New York City where **I spoke at the United Nations**, and also to The Council on Foreign Relations. I love you and thank God for you! Pastor Rick." Group email sent on September 17, 2005.

"Various churches and denominations claim to be undergoing 'transformation.' This word no longer refers to the humble sanctification of the individual believer. Rather, it now refers to an orchestrated, systemic and revolutionary overhaul of the global church, including the 'transformation' of cities, societies, cultures, marketplaces, and more." [2] Lynn and Sarah Leslie.

"American Christianity is going through a **second reformation**," wrote Rick Warren back in February 2003. Then he repeated his transformational theme, which sounds a lot like the "social gospel" with its presumptuous disregard for God's unchanging Word:

"The first Reformation clarified what **we believe**. This reformation is all about how we act and **operate in the world**. It involves the key components of purpose, decentralization, lay mobilization, use of technology, and continuous learning. **Churches that change are thriving and growing more effective. Churches that refuse to change will miss the reformation, and are dying.**" [3]

Warren's rousing threat has alarmed many pastors and leaders around the world. They don't

want to miss the bandwagon to success! So they join the world's quest for popular acclaim, positive affirmations, digital data, and manipulative processes — including the psycho-social strategies pushed by UNESCO. And they look to Rick Warren rather than God's Word to show them how to "act and operate in the world."

The first part of this series outlined the key points of Rick Warren's P.E.A.C.E. Plan and the UN Millennial Goals. Remember, Pastor Warren is subject to global guidelines as he functions within the structure of the UN global management system. But that's no problem to "America's pastor." His "soft" version of God's Word, avoidance of offensive truths, and tolerance for popular culture fit right in.

So, instead of shunning him as a Christian, globalist leaders court him as a useful asset. After all, they had already planned to link the world's churches to their agenda. They needed a Pied Piper who could draw the masses into the envisioned global solidarity. Small wonder Warren was invited to speak at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) on September 12 as well as to UN leaders at a UN interfaith prayer breakfast on September 13. [4] His P.E.A.C.E. plan is a perfect vehicle for meeting UN goals:

1. **Plant churches** (the focus of Part 1). The purpose-driven management system, mentored by Peter Drucker, serves UN goal #8: "Develop a global partnership for development." The two systems use the same technologies, techniques, psycho-social processes, and monitoring technology to train and monitor the "human resources" needed for change and development.

2. **Equip servant leaders** (the focus of this article). Today's leadership training — as you will see in this series — fits in the world as well as in the church. Church volunteers are essential to the UN quest for global solidarity.

3. Assist the poor. This matches UN Goal #1: "Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger."

4. Care for the sick. This matches UN Goals #4: Reduce child mortality, #5: Improve maternal health, and #6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

5. Educate the next generation. This matches #2. Achieve universal primary education.

2. Equipping "servant leaders"

In Part 1, you met Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda, the target country for the PEACE campaign. Apparently, Rick Warren had prepared him well for their joint "ministry" in this small, embattled nation in Africa. The president's statement to Saddleback church last April bears repeating, for it outlines the structure for global change: "Rick and I agree," said Kagame, "that **each partner – the church, the government, and businesses** have a role to play and we are **better together**...."[5]

Peter Drucker, Rick Warren's mentor and a key architect of his purpose-driven management system, would fully agree with the **three-fold alliance** affirmed by President Kagame. According to the Drucker Foundation (renamed Leader to Leader Institute), the world is already divided into three sectors: public (**government**), private (**business**) and social (civil society including **churches**). Since the government sector lacks the resources needed to establish the envisioned global welfare system, the work must largely be handled by volunteers from the social sector. And, as Pastor Warren continues to remind us, only churches (primarily purpose-driven churches) are organized and equipped to meet the world's need for servers, coaches and trainers.

Ponder these three statements from Drucker's Leader to Leader Institute. Notice the reference to the Rockefellers, who have been funding and founding globalist, transformational and socialist programs throughout the last century:

"The Leader to Leader Institute will chart the future path for the **social sector** to become the **equal partner of business and government** in developing responsible leaders, caring citizens,

and a **healthy, inclusive society**. [*This is where the small groups and dialectic process enter in.*]

"The Foundation will bring the best leadership and management voices *from* across the world to people of the world with a focus on providing social sector organizations with the ideas and tools that enable them to better serve their customers and communities.

"Packaging knowledge and experience into **tools for social sector leaders** in critical areas such as: fund development, **marketing, volunteer management, collaboration, self-assessment, innovation, and measuring results**...."[6]

"A Symposium organized by The Peter F. Drucker Foundation for Nonprofit Management, sponsored by **The Rockefeller Brothers Fund** [December 1996]....

"As government cuts back social spending, many people expect the social sector to absorb much of the anticipated need for services.... We are now talking about a true partnership to **build community and produce people** who are needed by healthy businesses and a **healthy society**."[7]

Purpose-driven leaders fit right into this system of community building and human resource development. By emphasizing deeds rather than doctrine, they avoid conflict with their two partners — government and business. The fact that President Kagame, Warren's government partner in Rwanda, works with the Clinton Global Initiative as well as with UNESCO adds secular support (as well as publicity) to their projects.[8]

According to UN treaties and declarations, humans everywhere must be trained to think collectively (in facilitated small Groups) and to follow the ground rules. These include politically correct tolerance, feeling-centered — not fact-based dialogue, and the all-important *authenticity* (openly "confessing" assumptions and feelings so that the group can "correct" and realign them through dialogue and consensus). Continual assessment will measure progress and compliance.

Bruce Wilkinson, author of The Prayer of Jabez and The Dream Giver, shares Rick Warren's vision for Africa and reliance upon high tech tools for success-driven leaders. In fact, he offers his services as a "dream coach" who can provide all the strategic tools needed for success:

"Are you excited about your Dream Journey, but aren't sure where to start? DISC and the Dream Assessment will give you the tools you need to pursue and achieve your Big Dream.

"To identify your unique personality type, DISC is a simple, effective tool that has been tested and **used by millions of people worldwide**. The short, online assessment helps you understand **what motivates you**, your personal strengths and weaknesses, and how you relate to other people.... There is a fee for the assessment..."[9]

Since Mr. Wilkinson depends on high-tech management tools rather than the Holy Spirit to fulfill his "Big Dream," one might wonder about the source of it. Of course, he is not the only celebrated leader relying on these assessments, which happen to be based on "the proven psychological principles found within the works of **Carl Jung** and **William Marston**." [10]

Popular management guru and author, **Ken Blanchard**, who often provides speaking platforms for Christian leaders such as **John Maxwell** and **Rick Warren**, describes the same basic assessments on one of his websites.

Notice that the work of the Holy Spirit is not included as a factor in the DISC self-assessments. It's designed to honor man, not God, for human strengths and accomplishments:

"The Online DISC Profiler is a powerful tool that can help you significantly improve your work effectiveness. With the unique Self-Assessment and Observer Assessment, it is designed to give you a comprehensive view of how you interact with others in everyday situations. The goal is to understand your personal chemistry in order to enhance your relationships. Once you know your behavioral style characteristics, it is easy to see **what drives** those around you...." [11]

Ken Blanchard — P.E.A.C.E. Plan leadership trainer

Do you wonder who will actually train the leaders for the vast purpose-driven transformation of Rwanda, Africa and the world?

Pastor Warren has chosen **Ken Blanchard** — "one of today's most sought-after authors, speakers, and business consultants" [12] — to lead the "leaders all around the world." Co-author of *The*

One Minute Manager and co-founder of the Center for Faithwalk Leadership, Blanchard sounds like a Christian: "After studying both the theory and practice of leadership for more than 35 years, I have found that Jesus is the greatest leadership model of all times," he tells us on a page promoting his Lead Like Jesus Celebrations. He continues:

"Lead Like Jesus will equip you, your church, and your community to **experience Jesus** in a powerfully different way — to grow to trust Him as the perfect leader for all time." [13]

How will Ken Blanchard equip people to "**experience Jesus** in a powerfully different way"? Will he present God's truth so that people might be convicted of sin and regenerated through the Holy Spirit?

Apparently not! Speaking "to about 2,000 leaders during the annual Southeast Christian Church Leadership Conference" last year, Mr. Blanchard echoed Warren's philosophy: emphasize behavior, not beliefs:

"From my standpoint, at the end of Matthew when [Jesus] says, 'Go and make disciples,' I think people emphasize the evangelism part of that and ... forget what discipling means. It's a follower, somebody who does what I say. As leaders you're all influencing people's thinking, beliefs and all. He [Jesus] has a mandate for us to be servant leaders.... **People ask me if I'm interested in evangelism. I'm not. I think the next big evangelism movement will be driven by behaving differently.**" [14]

Since Rebecca Barnes, editor of ChurchCentral.com, had quoted Blanchard in the above report, "Serving to lead like Jesus, she was asked by Bud Press to verify what she wrote. Ponder her response:

"I spoke with Ken Blanchard... and he said he is **not interested in evangelism**. He quoted Ghandi, who said if everybody in the world would act like Jesus everybody in the world would want to be a Christian." [15]

How then can Mr. Blanchard guide Rick Warren's P.E.A.C.E. Plan goal #1: Plant churches? Without evangelism, might those "churches" be filled with unregenerated members? Would the people even know God's revealed truths about Jesus? What kind of spirits might they "experience"

if they have never heard the true gospel (including its “divisive” message of sin, judgment, redemption and victory through the cross)?

This radical departure from Jesus’ Great Commission may not surprise those who know that Mr. Blanchard serves on the Advisory Board of The Hoffman Institute (*last checked on 8-26-05*). Other members of the Advisory Board include:

“Joan Borysenko... Former Director of the **Mind/Body** Medical Institute at Harvard University... [and] the author of... *Fire in the Soul: A New Psychology of Spiritual Optimism*.”

“Margot Anand Larkspur... Founder of **Sky Dancing Tantra** International, and author of several internationally best selling books, including *The Art of Sexual Ecstasy*, *The Art of Sexual Magic*.... She has also had extensive training in Gestalt therapy....”

“Rev. Hal Milton... a **Unity** Minister... trained extensively in body therapies, movement education and **Rolfing**....”

“Claudio Naranjo... one of the early staff members at **Esalen** Institute... is a leading international authority on the **enneagram** and has authored numerous important books on consciousness including his recent *The End of Patriarchy*.”[16]

Occult Spirituality

This Quadrinity Process was conceived by “an American psychic”[17] named Bob Hoffman. “Renowned for his intuitive capacities, Hoffman was dedicated to awakening people to the awesome power of **love that dwells within each of us**. He believed that **unconditional love was the birth-right of every human being**. He wrote that The SPIRITUAL SELF is the pure non-programmed, non-mediated aspect of self that is... **resonating in harmony with the Universe**.”[18]

That sounds decidedly New Age rather than Christian! Yet Mr. Blanchard himself claims to have benefited from this process. In a promotional endorsement at hoffmaninstitute.org, Blanchard gushes, “The Hoffman Process brings forth spiritual leadership in a person. It made my spirituality come alive.”

An interview with Raz Ingrasci, President of the Hoffman Institute, sheds more light on his faith in this New Age force:

Ken Blanchard (KB): “People are looking for some higher power to help them....”

RI: There is also the sense that **when one acts in alignment with a higher power**, the action is more likely to lead to both success and satisfaction....

KB: “Right....”

RI: So, people bring spiritual values into their businesses first by bringing spirituality into their everyday lives.... How does the Hoffman Process help with this?

KB: “The Hoffman Process actually brings forth spiritual leadership in a person. Since taking the Process, my title at our company has become Chief Spiritual Officer. Now, I’m working on creating a Center for Chief Spiritual Officers....”

RI: “In the Process, people shed their false selves to reveal a **true and loving, noble servant within, which we call your Spiritual Self**....”

KB: “Yes.... The essence is to **let this spirit into your heart** so you become a different person from the inside out.... It gave me a way to have my spirituality be at the center of my life.

RI: “What importance do you find that tithing, service, or charitable giving can have in a person’s business life?”

KB: “I think it is all important, **it is about energy**. If all you do is take energy, you’re an energy drainer. Tithing, giving back, being thankful, sends energy out and you get more energy back. John Templeton tells people that the best money practice in the world is to give 10% of what they earn away.”[19]

I can’t help but wonder what “spirit” Mr. Blanchard has “let into [his] heart.” Is he totally blind to the unbiblical nature of the “spirituality... at the center” of his life? The Quadrinity Process is incompatible with Biblical truth! In fact, Jesus died on the cross to free us from the dark forces that *drive* the Hoffman Process. The two are as contrary as night and day!

Yet the celebrated leadership trainer for Warren’s PEACE Plan seems to believe that the two fit together. This strange paradox reminds me of a wise statement in *A Time of Departing* by Ray Yungen:

“Satan is not simply trying to draw people to the dark side of a good versus evil conflict. Actually, he is trying to eradicate the gap between himself and God, between good and evil, altogether.”[20]

On the other hand, the Bible tells us, “Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.” Ephesians 5:11.

Yet, the fellowship and connections between Blanchard and New Age spirituality is twined together like a web. One of the National Board Members of Blanchard’s Lead Like Jesus is Mark Victor Hansen, co-creator of the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* book series.[21] In an Interview with The Hoffman Institute, he like Ken Blanchard, exuded enthusiasm for the Hoffman Quadrinity Process:

Hoffman Institute: Your books have sold over 60,000,000 copies and you are one of the most popular speakers in America. From your perspective, what’s going on in our culture?

Mark: “We’ve got the most prosperous culture in human history and we’ve also got the biggest spiritual hole in human history.... To fill that hole you **need something like the Hoffman Process**, where you clean up your act and go deep inside to find out that your core essence really is important, that you do matter, and you can make a difference.... One of the places I’m encouraging absolutely everyone to go is **The Hoffman Process**....”

“...we were number one in the *New York Times* with *Chicken Soup for the Sports Fan Soul*. All of us have infinite potential but most of us are self-sabotaging. You need the **Hoffman Process** to get out of a lot of your self-sabotaging behaviour.”

“I think the great givers, the people who are fully self-actualizing and alive, are the great givers. I can pick hundreds of role models, but I’ll pick three – Nelson Mandela has just given to a whole country. Mahatma Gandhi (and Mahatma of course means Great Spirit) was riddled through to the end with lots of pain, and he strove to unify and free a subcontinent....”

“As our **mutual friend Dr Ken Blanchard**... said ‘Feedback is the breakfast of champions.’ Everyone needs feedback and most of us don’t like it.... You have to replenish yourself individually, and we have

to do it collectively, and then we have to replenish the planet.”

Hoffman Institute: “So tell me, Mark, is the Hoffman Quadrinity Process *Chicken Soup for the Soul*?”

Mark: “**The Hoffman Quadrinity Process is a Banquet for the Soul!**”[22]

Lead Like Jesus’ list of Board Members also includes Rick Warren, Bob Buford, John Maxwell, Steve Douglass [President of Campus Crusade for Christ], Bill Hybels [Willow Creek], and Laurie Beth Jones, author of *Jesus in Blue Jeans* and *Jesus CEO: Using Ancient Wisdom for Visionary Leadership*. In the latter book, she wrote:

“For me to refer to God as ‘She’ would unfortunately put this work beyond the boundaries of acceptance and understanding for too many people. We must search for an all-inclusive terminology.” (p. 305).

“Jesus regularly visualized the success of his efforts ... Jesus was full of self-knowledge and self-love. His ‘I am’ statements were what he became.” (p. 7, 8)

In his endorsement of The Seven Spiritual Laws of Success by New Ager Deepak Chopra, Blanchard wrote, “*The Seven Spiritual Laws of Success* make wonderful guiding principles for anyone attempting to create a productive and satisfying life or human organization.” Do they? For a Christian?

“Something big is happening,” wrote Dr. Thomas Hohstadt, who also calls himself a devoted Christian. “...the way we think is changing. And — as a result — *the way we believe is changing*. That belief, of course, is not a different ‘Word,’ it’s a different understanding of the Word. For spirituality is converting to new sympathies. Faith is transmuting to new sensitivities. And this Spirit-birthered age is **birthing new spirit!**”[23]

Dr. Hohstadt is right about the transformation — but tragically deceived about God and His Word. Yet, since his summary gives us a glimpse of today’s “new thinking” and global reformation, ponder his next points:

“Even church leaders are ‘thinking’ differently. What was once a ‘subculture’ is now mainstream. What was once embarrassing is now respectable....

We are co-authors more than bystanders. Our world is more a 'Creating' than a 'Creation.'... The quantum world promises **we can make the Holy Spirit offers He can't refuse.**'... When our decisions and God's will mutually move each other, the role of divine action takes on totally new meaning.... Today, our imagination is being baptized, and our windows on God's miraculous presence are reopening." [23]

Everything seems to be turning upside-down! Is that what this global "transformation" is all about? Leaders can claim to be Christians and speak the Bible's assuring affirmations — even as they dismiss the reality of *absolute* truth in order to follow the latest blend of feel-good spirituality, self-exalting psychology, New Age affirmations, and pragmatic psychological strategies.

Thank God for His wonderful Word! It brings us back to reality! It also reminds us that Satan is more than willing to repeat his tempting tactics age after age, for human nature doesn't change. But in the midst of the spiritual battles, our Lord has armed us with His truth and Spirit so that we may discern deception and walk in His triumph!

"Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness...."

Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!" Isaiah 5:20-21

"...the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. But you be watchful in all things..." 2 Timothy 4:2-5.

"Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ!" 2 Corinthians 2:14.

Note: At the UN interfaith prayer breakfast on September 13, Rick Warren concluded with what seems to be his standard salvation prayer. He had already told the presidents, ambassadors and other distinguished attendees that God loved each one and had a purpose for them. But his message excluded the gospel. He explained neither the obstacle of sin nor the victory of the cross — the ultimate expression of our Savior's love. Then he prayed:

*"Father... there are some here today who have been living the good life, not realizing that there is even a far better life — a life of purpose.... Forgive us for shallow living thinking only about temporary things that are on this side of eternity. I pray that today many will **step across the line to a better life a life of purpose and power and peace....***

"You might want to pray to God just in your own words. It doesn't matter what you say... He knows your thoughts.... I'll say something and if it represents the prayer of your heart, you just say in your mind, 'Me, too, God.

"Dear God. Thank you for making me, for creating me, and for loving me. I want to fulfill the purposes that you made me for. Starting today I to want get to know you and love you and trust you. And I want my life to bring you pleasure. Thank you for sending Jesus Christ. Help me to understand it more. As much as I know how I want to open up my life to your love and your purpose. In your name I pray. Amen." [See Widening the Gate to the Kingdom]

Endnotes:

1. http://www.saddlebackfamily.com/peace/Services/110203_high.aspx. (Last accessed in July 2005. We have an audio take of the sermon which is no long accessible this link.
2. Lynn and Sarah Leslie, "What Is Transformation?" at www.crossroad.to/articles2/05/sarah-leslie/transformation.htm
3. "Ministry Toolbox Saddleback Sayings" (2/12/2003) at <http://www.pastors.com/RWMT/?ID=89>
4. http://www.sliceoflaodicea.com/archives/2005/09/update_rick_war.php and http://www.cfr.org/about/what_we_do/influential_forum.html
5. "Remarks by his Excellency Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, at Saddleback Church" (4-17-05) at http://www.gov.rw/government/president/speeches/2005/17_04_05_saddleback.htm
6. "The Leader to Leader Institute Vision 2010" at <http://drucker.org/about/vision.html>

7. "Emerging Partnerships: New Ways in a New World" at <http://leadertoleader.org/forms/partners.pdf>
8. http://www.clintonglobalinitiative.org/home.nsf/pt_bio at http://www.clintonglobalinitiative.org/home.nsf/pt_bio
9. "The Dream Assessment" at http://www.thedreamgiver.com/index.cfm?PAGE_ID=105
10. "The Strategic Assessment System" at http://www.profilesglobal.com/pageloader.asp?pagename=sys_ben
11. "The Online DISC Profiler" at <http://www.kenblanchard.com/areas/onlinedisc.cfm>
12. "Lead like Jesus" at http://www.ccn.tv/programming/event/evt_29apr04.htm
13. "Lead Like Jesus Celebrations" at http://www.ccn.tv/programming/event/evt_29apr04.htm
14. Rebecca Barnes, "Ken Blanchard: Serving to lead like Jesus," 5-20-04 at <http://www.churchcentral.com/nw/s/id/19303/printable/yes/template/Article.html>
15. Rebecca Barnes, "No evangelism?" at <http://www.churchcentral.com/dcforum/DCForumID7/68.html>
16. The Hoffman Institute – Advisory Board at <http://www.hoffmaninstitute.org/advisors.html>
17. "A Psychological De-Tox – with the Hoffman Quadrinity Process" at <http://www.quadrinity.com/articles/article3a.htm>
18. "The Negative Love Syndrome and the Quadrinity Model" at http://www.hoffmaninstitute.org/nls_online3.html
19. "Spirituality in Business – An interview with Ken Blanchard" at http://www.hoffmaninstitute.org/nls_online3.html
20. Ray Yungen, *A Time of Departing* (Silverton, OR: Lighthouse Trails Publishing Company, 2002), page 101.
21. National Board Members at www.leadlikejesus.com/templates/cuslead-likejesus/details.asp?id=21633&PID=88945&mast=
22. Hoffman Institute's Interview with Mark Victor Hansen
23. Dr. Thomas Hohstadt, "Something Big Is Happening" (2005) at http://www.futurechurch.net/archives_view.asp?articleid=51#N_1_

www.geocities.com/Heartland/Estates/6535/kjos.htm

*Berit Kjos is a widely respected researcher, the author of books and magazine articles, a popular conference speaker, and a concerned parent who has extensively studied current education systems and global changes.

Kjos first became aware of New Age and occult influences in our society at a 1974 conference on holistic health. As a registered nurse, she was interested in methods of healing, but soon discovered that the occult powers found in New Age methods brought bondage instead of true healing. As a parent, Kjos became aware of similar New Age influences in education. She began to monitor the schools for classroom programs that taught occultism and New Age spirituality,

then began to share what she learned with other parents and teachers.

Kjos has given workshops and seminars at conferences such as the Association for Christian Schools International and CHEA. She has spoken at conferences for such groups as The Stealing of the Mind, The Constitutional Coalition, Child Evangelism Fellowship and Concerned Women for America.

Kjos' book, *Brave New Schools*, surveys the scene in today's public schools and provides guidelines for parents who are concerned about their children's education. Kjos shows how myth, feeling, imagination, and politically correct stories are replacing truth, facts, logic, and history in the classroom. She also explains what programs such as Goals 2000 are all about, and why all students – even homeschoolers – eventually will be

required to demonstrate competence in the new social and thinking skills before they can move on to higher education or jobs.

Kjos is also the author of *A Twist of Faith, Your Child and the New Age*, and *A Wardrobe from the King*. Her articles have appeared in magazines such as *Virtue*, *Moody*, *Servant*, *Focus on the Family*, and *the Christian Conscience*. Kjos has also written numerous Bible study guides, booklets, and devotionals.

A frequent guest on national radio and television programs, Kjos has been interviewed several times on *The 700 Club*, *Point of View* (Marlin Maddoux), *Bible Answer Man*, *Beverly LaHaye Live*, *Crosstalk* and *Family Radio Network*. She has also been a guest on "Talk Back Live" (CNN) and other secular radio and TV networks.

Kjos and her husband, Andy, live in California. They have three sons and two grandchildren.

[PARTS 3 AND 4 WILL BE PRESENTED IN THE NEXT ISSUE.]



Prophecy Unfolds

The Seven Trumpets of Revelation

CHAPTER 4

The Sound and the Sea

“And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood;” Revelation 8:8.

THAT FIERY MASS

Can you wrap your imagination around the magnitude of John’s words in such a brief verse? He sees a huge fiery mass flying through the air, then plunging into the sea. Approximately one fifth of the earth is affected! This is obviously some object he has never seen before. Trying to describe it, he writes, “as it were” to tell us it was like a great mountain (*oros*), adding that it was “burning with fire.”

John has already seen mountains in previous visions. He will be shown similar scenes again. Is this particular mass symbolic of a “kingdom,” as we prophetically see described in the Old Testament? (Psalm 48:1, Jeremiah 51:25). Or – is this a literal fiery mass, streaking out of the sky towards a cataclysmic event?

The best way to get a clue is to first see how God used “*oros*” before in *these apocalyptic visions* and will use it again:

- 6:14 “every mountain and island were moved”
- 6:15 “hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains”
- 14:1 “Lamb stood on mount Sion”
- 16:20 “and the mountains were not found”
- 17:9 “seven mountains on which the woman sitteth”
- 21:10 “he carried me away ... to a great and high mountain”

Do you note something interesting about these texts? Each time the word mount / mountain is used, it has a literal meaning. There is no reason to believe there is a “kingdom” application. The imagery and context leads us to conclude that John simply saw a literal mass – obviously as big as a great mountain – plummeting from the sky. Even when the Bible uses the word “mountain” to depict a kingdom, it describes a true mountain, not “as it were a great mountain.”¹

What could this huge mass be? It obviously is so big it affects one third of the sea. In addition, it

¹ Canter, Bryan; *Revelation – A Study of the Eschatological Application of Prophecy – Part 4 – The Seven Trumpets* (Prophecy Research Initiative document – 2003), pp. 55-56 (emphasis added).

kills sea life and destroys ships. Has God ever rained fire down on this earth before? Certainly in Sodom and Gomorrah, the cities were turned to ashes from showers of fire and brimstones (Genesis 19:23-29, II Peter 2:6, Jude 1:7).

Have you ever lived in one of the western states of the USA? You know the Sierra Nevada Mountains or the Cascade Range rises 5,000–15,000 feet above the valley floors. John lived in the area of Palestine where mountains were 1,000–2,000 feet tall. Is that what he was referring to? Did he ever travel to Northeast Asia Minor where the snow capped volcano, Mount Ararat, rises 17,000 feet above the plain? He never said. His mountain portrayal likely was of the diminutive size in Palestine.

Would a 1000-2000 foot diameter mountain-like mass be significant? It would be devastating to a large part of earth. There is only one plausible mountain-like object that could meet John's description – an asteroid. As they streak through the sky, they are on fire. Remember, God's judgments are so singular that the world is left with little doubt that it is a divine power at work.

Is an asteroid impact a possibility? It certainly is, and becoming increasingly possible! In fact, this is of such great concern to the United States that NASA has created a special division called Asteroid Comet Impact Hazards. They have noted: "Evidence that the earth may be impacted by an asteroid or comet large enough to cause global devastation is increasing rapidly."² Though the risk appears small from the *known asteroids* and Near Earth Objects [NEO's] in space, God's sovereign control can create any circumstance He desires.

TIMING OF THIS TRUMPET

The four angels holding the winds of strife were told to "hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads" (7:3). Those mighty and powerful angels had been given the power to damage earth, sea and trees – but not until the 144,000 were

sealed. With destructive harm now *beginning* to occur, the Trumpets announce that that group has been sealed.

Many readers might be squirming and thinking, "I thought that when the winds were released the Seven Last Plagues occurred!" And, that would be true.

"The nations are now getting angry, but when our High Priest has finished his work in the Sanctuary, he will stand up, put on the garments of vengeance, and then the seven last plagues will be poured out. I saw that the four angels would hold the four winds until Jesus' work was done in the Sanctuary, and then will come the seven last plagues."³

Expositor White has refined our grasp of these events. There is a period of time *before* that happens when the angels partially release the winds in *destructive warnings* to draw the world to its final irrevocable decisions. Note these concepts:

"... it was God that restrained the powers, and that He gave His angels charge over things on the earth; that the four angels had power from God to hold the four winds, and that they were about to let them go; but *while their hands were loosening*, and the four winds were about to blow, the merciful eye of Jesus gazed on the remnant that were not sealed, and He raised His hands to the Father and pleaded with Him that He had spilled His blood for them. Then another angel was commissioned to fly swiftly to the four angels and bid them hold, until the servants of God were sealed with the seal of the living God in their foreheads."⁴

"The Lord will not suddenly cast off all transgressors, or destroy entire nations, but He will punish cities and places where men have given themselves up to the possession of satanic agencies [partial destruction]. Strictly will the cities of the nations be dealt with, and yet *they will not be visited in the extreme* of God's indignation because some souls will yet break away from the delusions of the enemy, and will repent and be converted, while the

² AIAA Position Paper (1995), <http://impact.arc.nasa.gov>.

³ White, Ellen G.; *A Sketch of the Christian Experience and Views of Ellen G. White* (1851).

⁴ White, Ellen G.; *Early Writings*, p. 38.

mass will be treasuring up wrath against the day of wrath."⁵

These thoughts, written over many decades, reflect the *judgment warning*, which comes through the first four Trumpets.

"Four mighty angels are still holding the four winds of the earth. Terrible destruction is ***forbidden to come in full***. The accidents by land and by sea; the loss of life, steadily increasing, by storm, by tempest, by railroad disaster, by conflagration; the terrible floods, the earthquakes, and the winds will be the stirring up of the nations to one deadly combat, while the angels hold the four winds, forbidding the terrible power of Satan to be exercised in its fury until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads. Get ready, get ready, I beseech you, get ready before it shall be forever too late! The ministers of vengeance will pour all the terrible judgments upon a God-forsaken people. The way of obedience is the only path of life. May the Lord help you to see it in time to open your ears, that you may hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."⁶

"Probationary time will not continue much longer. Now ***God is withdrawing His restraining hand*** from the earth. Long has He been speaking to men and women through the agency of His Holy Spirit; but they have not heeded the call. Now He is speaking to His people, and to the world, by His judgments. ***The time of these judgments is a time of mercy for those who have not yet had opportunity to learn what is truth.*** Tenderly will the Lord look upon them. His heart of mercy is touched; His hand is still stretched out to save. Large numbers will be admitted to the fold of safety who in these last days will hear the truth for the first time."⁷

Can you see how God is bringing the great controversy between good and evil to a close? Destructive judgments come [Trumpets]. But His protective care supervenes in amazing mercy for those who might yet repent. He is loath to let them go. Tenderly He waits and gives even this opportunity to come home!

THE SEA TURNS TO BLOOD

Daniel, during his awesome end-time expose' in the 12th chapter, observed: "Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked" (Daniel 12:10 NIV). What is he describing? The moment in time when the whole world finally belongs forever to Jesus or Satan.

You wonder, "How can that happen? There are so many millions – maybe even billions – who have never been drawn to that forever decision! And, you would be right. That is one of the astonishing reasons that prophecy has been given to us. It reveals not only how right and wrong will end, it discloses what God permits and does to force a final decision for or against Him. These Trumpets are one of two final acts that lay bare the heart of man. The other the work of the fourth angel of Revelation.

Hail was mixed with blood in the first Trumpet. During the second Vial Plague, which will occur after probation closes, the *whole* ocean turns to blood. In this second Trumpet one third of the commercial sea lanes become blood.

How dreadful! He says, "the sea became blood" – that's for real! This horrible event will be used by God's people to warn a faltering world that its end is in sight – repent while the last lingering elements of time still invite a decision.

Can we explain how the blood got there? No way. It is so dramatic that the world will be convinced that it is an "act of God." There lies the genius of our sovereign God in causing this. The unrepentant will suddenly be divided into two groups: One will see it as the fault of God's people and will plan greater revenge; the second will see it as an admonition to urgently repent. Closer and closer will be the pressure until every person will have made an eternal decision.

"And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed." Revelation 8:9.

⁵White, Ellen G.; *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 21, p. 68.

⁶White, Ellen G.; *Review and Herald*, 6/7/1887.

⁷White, Ellen G.; *Last Day Events*, p. 182.

That part (one third) of the ocean that became blood no longer sustains life. Because of the asteroid's impact on the sea, one third of the ships are destroyed. Can you imagine this moment in time? One third of this world's vegetation is gone. Now one third of the sea is lifeless and too dangerous to sail on!

This ties to an interesting allusion in Revelation 18:17. There it notes: "every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off." They were mourning Babylon's fall. Yet John tells us that at her height of arrogance and power "her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire." Revelation 18:8.

Babylon represents the Christian world's collective apostasy – which defies God. As His destructive plagues begin their work against the earth, its wicked inhabitants grieve their losses.

"God has a storehouse of retributive judgments, which He permits to fall upon those who have continued in sin in the face of great light."⁸

"A world is represented in the destruction of Jerusalem, and *the warning given then comes sounding down along the line to our time*: 'And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring.' Yes, the sea shall pass its borders, and destruction will be in its track. It will engulf the ships that sail upon its

broad waters; and with the burden of their living freight, these will be hurled into eternity."⁹

"The tempest is coming, and we must get ready for its fury by having repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord will arise to shake terribly the earth. We shall see troubles on all sides. Thousands of ships will be hurled into the depths of the sea. Navies will go down, and human lives will be sacrificed by millions."¹⁰

Luke describes this time: "On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken." Luke 21:25-26 NIV. The oceanic tumult relates to the shaking of the heavens. The outcome is worldwide fear of individuals and nations.

The terror from the first two Trumpets might seem enough. But it isn't. God warned His people that the end would bring utter desolation. The beginning of that process occurs with the Trumpet Plagues.

Note something most fascinating: God is starting to "decreate" things He had once brought into existence. Things that served mankind in a myriad of ways are now either being destroyed or made dysfunctional. Why? Man was given dominion over all living things (Genesis 1:28). For 6000 years after sin came in he was on probation to restore that trust. He failed. What was entrusted to him is now being withdrawn.

CHAPTER 5

Strange Name for a Star

[REVELATION 8:10-11]

With each Trumpet event, the more bizarre the story! In the Seals we discover that when the Lamb broke each Seal an *event* occurred. Here, when an angel sounds, an *event* occurs. This conveys heaven's

absolute control has over each segment of the end of time. Whether a message refers to the righteous or the wicked, God remains in sovereign charge.

⁸White, Ellen G.; *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 14, p. 148.

⁹White, Ellen G.; *Review and Herald*, 12/7/1890.

¹⁰White, Ellen G.; *Maranatha* p. 37.

“And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters;” Revelation 8:10.

This great star also falls from the sky (“heaven”). As we see the fiery trails of meteors in the night sky as they enter the atmosphere, John is witness to similar imagery, noting a star, burning “as it were” a lamp.

This is so interesting. In the portrayal of Trumpet two, he saw “as it were” a great mountain. Here he finds the best way to help us visualize the brilliance of this star by asking us to think of a “lamp.” Since it is a “great” star, here implying large in size, that lamp must be like a brilliant torch, making its way to the earth.

That is actually what the word for “lamp” means (*lampas* – torch). In fact, some have translated it “a great meteor – flashing across the sky like a blazing torch.”¹

What now happens is supernatural. That single star-like object fell on one third of the fresh water of rivers and springs on the world and poisoned them. Many try to “figure out” how that might happen. We need not tarry on that point. God directly associates that particular meteor with a plague on earth’s fresh waters. We don’t need to know how He did it.

Much of the earth’s food supply is gone. Sea commerce is disrupted. Now, fresh water is unavailable to one third of the earth. Devastation, death and desolation follow in the wake of God’s judgments.

Now, something so unusual is noted:

“And the name of the star is called Wormwood; and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.” Revelation 8:11.

Some expositors claim that “wormwood” is Satan being cast out of heaven. That occurred long before and is graphically portrayed in Revelation 12. There would no longer be either the “need” or logistical reason to put Satan back into heaven to recast him out just before Christ’s second coming.

John neither personifies the star nor the name “wormwood.” Wormwood is a plant of the genus *Artemisia*, which occurs worldwide, including Palestine. It is a “bitter” herb and can be poisonous.

Anciently, God warned Israel that they would be destroyed by this herb, if they remained in apostasy (Deuteronomy 29:18; Jeremiah 9:15; Lamentations 2:15, 19; Amos 5:7). No star of antiquity or pagan mythology was named wormwood. It is an “*ad hoc*” descriptive name given by its *effect* on the world. It was not uncommon to describe calamities, sorrows or disappointment by plants in nature (Jeremiah 9:15, Lamentations 3:19).

A judgment using bitter herbs was a metaphor in the Old Testament for “the punishment meets the crime.” It was descriptive of Israel’s idolatry (Proverbs 5:4; Lamentations 3:15, 19; Amos 5:7, 6:12; cf. Hosea 10:4). God pictured them as polluting water, making it unfit to drink.

When He, in turn, used “wormwood” as a punishment (Deuteronomy 29:17-18), it was a rebuke to the covenant community of their idolatry and apostasy. It is in this third-Trumpet judgment that Babylon and its followers are punished for idolatrous practices.

The record of John says that many men died from these polluted waters. The neurotoxin (*thujone*) is in this bitter herb and can be lethal at the proper concentration.

By now we can imagine the world in terror! There is no place to hide from God’s wrath. Much of earth’s crust cannot support life. One can hear an echo still reverberating from the courts of heaven from the antediluvian era: “My Spirit shall not always strive with man.” Genesis 6:3. The slow withdrawal of divine grace is underway. Soon, the world will be filled with Satan’s unrestrained followers as his committed loyalists.

What happens then? Stay tuned. When we hear the fifth and sixth Trumpets, Satan will be in full charge – and it’s not pretty. But first – the fourth must sound.

¹Brighton, Louis A; *Revelation, Concordance Commentary* (Concordance Publishing House, Saint Louis), 1999, p. 227.

The Garden Patch



By David E. Stottlemeyer, M.A.
Staff Research Associate
University of California – Riverside
Avocado Breeding Program

Irrigation

Rain in Its Season

“Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.” Lev. 26:4.

“The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.” Deut. 28:12.

Notice that God promised rain in its season to the children of Israel. And the result of that rain would be fruit, such that Israel would have enough to lend to all the nations around them. I believe this promise had both physical and spiritual applications and is something we should consider and pray for in these last days.

Watering

And with the above promise we now address the issue of irrigation. Although rainfall is usually the best irrigation your garden can get, most of us live in areas where supplemental water must be applied throughout the season. This is one topic that I always have difficulty addressing because of all the variables involved. The amount of water to apply, when and how frequent to apply it, and the method

of application will be determined by a combination of factors, including:

- Soil type: this helps determine how often one has to water
- Variety of plant: each plant has different water requirements
- Weather conditions: this too has a lot to do with how and when to water
- Water quality: poor quality water may require leaching irrigations
- Season: as the season changes, so does the plants water needs

Since each location has a different set of the above variables, it is impossible to set up any hard and fast rules about watering. What I will try to do is give some general guidelines that should serve as a starting point, and then the irrigation should be adjusted and refined to fit the specific conditions of your location.

Soil Type

It is important to know what type of soil you have – sand, clay, or loam – as you start to think about irrigation. Soils that are mostly



David Stottlemeyer

sand drain quickly and need frequent watering. This is because the soil particles are large and do not hold water well. Clay soils drain slowly and need water less frequently. In fact, in heavy clay soil water retention can often become a problem, which is why raised beds are often used with this type of soil. Clay is made of very fine (small) particles that hold water well but are very hard to work (wet clay soil tends to be sticky or gummy). Loam is considered one of the best soils and is made up of a mixture of sand, silt, clay and organic matter. So, how can you tell what type of soil you have? There is actually a fairly simple test to roughly determine your soil components:

Fill a glass jar one-third full with soil to be tested; add water to the top of the jar. Place the lid on the jar and shake well. Allow the contents of the jar to settle overnight. Then compare your results with the following:



Sandy soil will settle almost completely on the bottom and leave the water looking fairly clear.



Loam soil will appear very dark and rich with pieces of organic matter still floating in the water.



Clay soil will produce a distinct line of clay along the upper sediment layers.

As mentioned in a previous article, both sandy and clay soils can be improved with the addition of organic matter.

Variety of Plant

With such a wide variety of crops available to be grown in the garden you should expect that they should have very different water needs. A rapidly growing plant like a melon or squash will usually require a lot more water than a slower growing plant (some herbs and such). Luckily, most garden plants will do fine without special, individual water care but the key is to watch your plants. If any look like they are not doing as well as expected – check some gardening books and see if they need more or less water.

Weather Conditions

Hot, dry and windy conditions will put a bigger water demand upon your plant than will cool, calm, and humid conditions. If your weather forecast calls for hot and windy conditions, you probably want to increase the water your giving to your plants. And if you have cool, calm and humid conditions, you will want to cut back on your watering as well.

Water Quality

The best water for your plants would be pure rainwater. But most of us do not live in areas

where rainfall is sufficient to water the plants year-round, and thus we end up adding water by irrigation. There are many areas where the ground or city water is of poor quality – often there is salt or some other element. In that case, you may need to apply extra water several times a year to keep the problem from building up in the soil.

Season

The water needs of a plant will change as the season changes and the plant matures. An example would be plants such as beans where you want the dried seed. As the plant matures and starts to dry up, its need for water is greatly reduced. Likewise, when an onion bulb reaches its full size, you want to cut off the water, dig the onion up and allow it to dry on the surface for a few days before you bring it into the home and put it in storage. A good gardening book and careful observation will help you to adjust your watering for the various crops.

Checking for Soil Moisture

One of the key things to successful watering is to know what is happening to the water in your soil. To do this, you need to check your soil moisture. Most garden plants like their water in the top 12 inches of soil. To determine your soil moisture, dig a 12-inch deep wedge of soil from your garden. Observe the amount of moisture in the sample. You want to water if the top 6 inches of soil is dry. After you irrigate, wait a few hours then dig down again and see how deep your water penetrated. This will give you some clue as to how long you need to water to get the soil moist down to 12 inches deep.

Of course, if you like to be a little more scientific and less “dirty” you can invest a little money and purchase a “Tensiometer.” A tensiometer is a device that can measure moisture tension in the soil or any porous medium. It consists of a tube, which has a ceramic tip on one end, and a vacuum gage

attached to the other. The tube is filled with water. As the soil dries, the water in the tube moves through the ceramic tip into the soil creating a vacuum, which registers on the gage. Soil tension levels used to schedule irrigation vary with soil texture. In a sandy loam, irrigation should begin when soil tension reaches 20 centibars (a unit of pressure) and cease when it falls to 10 centibars. A soil tension reading of zero indicates the soil is completely saturated with water. In a finer textured soil, such as silt loam, there is no need to irrigate until soil tension reaches 30 centibars. For the garden, a 12” tensiometer would probably be the best.



When do I water?

Evening and early morning are the best times to water because less water is lost to evaporation than with midday irrigation. On disease-prone plants, water in the morning so the plant leaves will dry quickly and will not be wet overnight.

Watering Methods

The main watering methods available to the gardener are: sprinklers, drip systems, and hand watering. And again, there are advantages and disadvantages to each.

Sprinklers can cover large areas effectively, but may encourage the spread of disease – especially on raspberries, beans, tomatoes and other susceptible plants. Sprinklers are inexpensive to purchase and easy to set up. There are also battery controlled timer systems that can be placed right on a water valve to automatically water your garden at set times.

Drip systems are best for maximum water efficiency and disease control. They also work

well when you have individual beds with different irrigation schedules. However, most drip systems are somewhat limited in how they apply the water, usually by an individual emitter or a soaker type system. Either method works well with larger plants, or perennial plants. But small, closely spaced plants can be a challenge since running an emitter to each plant is usually impractical as soaker systems work best if the plants are located close to the soaker. Then you also have the extra work of removing the drip system every time you need to work up the garden again.

Hand watering is labor intensive but does have the advantage (if done properly) of placing the water right where it is needed. Also, it gives the gardener the opportunity to observe what is happening in the garden as they water. A watering wand with a shutoff valve is a good option as it breaks up the flow of water into a gentle spray and can be stopped when needed. When hand watering, you want to apply the water gently to a section until the soil has a "shine" to it. Allow the water to soak into the soil before applying more. Depending on your soil type, you may need to do this several times before adequate water has been applied. The disadvantage, of course, is that the garden is relying on you to give it the water it needs. If you are called away unexpectedly for a few days, it can be quite hard on some of your plants.

Personally, I use mini-sprinklers on most of my smaller plants (carrots, lettuce, spinach and so

forth) and save the drip system for my larger plants (tree crops, and larger garden crops like zucchini, tomatoes and artichoke).

Conclusion

As I said at the start, irrigation is not an easy topic to cover because there are so many factors involved. But don't let that discourage you. If you take the time to observe what is happening in your garden – and adjust your watering as you see how conditions affect your plant, you will soon find what works best for your location.

Sources of Information & Photos

Soil type – simple test for sand, loam, and clay:
http://www.hgtv.com/hgtv/gl_soil_water_other/article/0,1785,HGTV_3635_1370983,00.html

Tensiometer:

<http://lieth.ucdavis.edu/Research/tens/98/SmtPub.htm>

<http://www.noble.org/Ag/Horticulture/water-notwater/Index.htm>

Tensiometers can be purchased from various garden supply centers including:

<http://www.gemplers.com>

<http://www.fruitgrowers.com>

Watering

<http://www.bobvila.com>

<http://www.engr.uga.edu/service/extension/publications/b894-cd.html>



FOCUS ON THE *Sabbath*

[This section is devoted to news, articles, special messages, laws, sermons and political events that draw attention to the Sabbath. We are especially interested in how the Christian world views a weekly "rest day" – a pivotal prophetic end-time issue.]

Mass. Investigates Defiance of "Blue Laws"

Nov 25, 2005 – BOSTON

Massachusetts' attorney general is launching an investigation into several supermarkets that stayed open on Thanksgiving in defiance of the state's Puritan-era Blue Laws.

The laws were passed in the 1600's to keep colonists at home or in church on Sundays. Parts of the laws, such as the ban on Sunday liquor sales, have been repealed, but a prohibition on most stores doing business on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day, has not.

"If these stores want to open, there's a way to do it: Change the law," David Guano, a spokesman for Attorney General Thomas F. Reilly, told The Boston Globe. The office didn't say what sort of penalty the stores could face.

The Globe reported that at least six stores, all Super 88 Markets, were open on Thanksgiving. One Super 88, in Quincy, shut down after a visit from police that day.

Reilly's office had earlier warned the Whole Foods supermarket chain not to open on Thanksgiving after a competitor complained. Wal-Mart, Family Dollar and Big Lots also received warnings.

Super 88 officials said they didn't know about the warnings.

"We don't celebrate" Thanksgiving, said Rudy Chen, a former manager of a Super 88 in Chinatown who now works at the chain's headquarters. He said the store he managed was always open on Thanksgiving and no one complained.



Christian Heritage Foundation, CS

4256-B Mockingbird Lane
 Banning, California 92220 USA
 Telephone: 951-922-1638

E-mail: christianheritagefo@earthlink.net
 Web: www.endtimeissues.com
 Fax: 951-849-2922 (call first)

[All dollar figures are suggested donations/tax deductible]

	No.	\$ Amt.
End-Time Issues... Magazine: on web – fill out info at bottom for e-mail announcements	—	—
Books:		
Sequence of Earth's Final Events. Penetrating sequence of events as outlined in the writings of expositor E. G. White. Complete with all references. Her incredible insights as to the <i>steps</i> or <i>sequence</i> of all significant end-time events are given in depth. [Wire-O – 50 pgs] – \$12.00	—	—
Commentary on the Book of Revelation. These are phrase by phrase analyses of the Book of Revelation. This is the product of the <i>Prophecy Research Initiative</i> , a lay research team of Seventh-day Adventists. The work also addresses a major question: "Is this phrase, verse or chapter specifically for God's last-day church?" [Wire-0 – 1500+ pgs]	—	—
Revelation Chapter 1 – Vol. I. This Testimony of Jesus is End-Time – \$15.00	—	—
Revelation Chapters 2 and 3 – Vol. II. Christian Churches Are Just Like That – \$23.00	—	—
Revelation Chapters 4 to 6 – Vol. III. Throne Room / Five End-Time Players – \$20.00	—	—
Revelation Chapters 7 to 8:1 – Vol. IV. 144,000 / Great Multitude – \$13.00	—	—
Revelation Chapters 8:2 to 11:19 – Vol. V. Trumpet Appeals / Loud Cry Opposition – \$20.00	—	—
Revelation Chapters 12 and 13 – Vol. VI. Purified People / Apostate People – \$20.00	—	—
Revelation Chapters 14 to 16 – Vol. VII. The Beast Acts / God Reacts – \$20.00	—	—
Revelation Chapters 17 – Vol. VIII. The Vatican Church and State / The Last Pope – \$11.00	—	—
Revelation Chapters 18 and 19 – Vol. IX. Babylon Falls / Jesus Rises – \$15.00	—	—
Revelation Chapters 20 to 22 – Vol. X. Everything Is Restored – \$20.00 [pending]	B/O	—
Five to Nine Volumes – 10% off	—	—
Whole Set – 15% off – \$150.00.	—	—
End-Time Secrets of Daniel 8–12 – Preface to the Book of Revelation – Beautiful, exciting end-time meaning of each chapter (get them in bulk, scatter like leaves of autumn!) [Paperback – 138 pgs – Perfect Bound]:	—	—
\$16.75 Retail		
\$15.00 Campmeeting/workshop/seminar special		
\$14.00 Bulk: 2–10 books		
\$12.00 Bulk: 11–50 books		
\$11.00 Bulk: 51–100 books		
\$ 9.00 Bulk: 101 plus books		
Plus shipping		
Rome Stoops to Conquer , by Jesuit Priest Dr. E. Boyd Barrett. This is one of America's most sinister works of how the Catholic Church planned to control America, then the world. Published in 1935, everything remains on schedule. All this was laid out in a six-year period after the Vatican became a "city-state" in 1929 (when the Lateran Treaty was signed). It is an insider's report of what sinful lengths the Vatican would pursue to be, once again, in control. It is must-reading for anyone seriously studying end-time issues. It reveals arrogant raw power of the papacy. [Wire-0 – 136 pgs] – \$18.00	—	—
The Great Week of Time [Pending/Can B/O]	B/O	—
SUBTOTAL:	—	—

!!! Please see back of page !!!

BALANCE FORWARD: _____

Workbooks:

End-Time Secrets of Daniel – Workbook One (Chapters 8 & 12) [wire-O – 70 pgs] – \$10.00 _____

End-Time Secrets of Daniel – Workbook Two (Chapters 9–10:7) [wire-O – 68 pgs] – \$10.00 _____

The Seven Seals of Revelation [wire-O – 70 pgs] – \$10.00 _____

Is Pope Benedict XVI the Last Pope? (Revelation 17:1-11 w/narrative article) [wire-O – 40 pgs] – \$8.00 _____

Classes:

In-depth End-Time Classes – DVD’s with accompanying Workbooks:

Is Pope Benedict XVI the Last Pope? (Revelation 17:1-11 w/narrative article)
1 DVD w/40-pg workbook – \$18.00 _____

Amazing Seven Seals of Revelation – 8 DVD’s w/70-pg workbook – \$80.00 _____

Amazing Seven Seals of Revelation – 2 CD’s (audio only) w/70-pg workbook – \$22.00 _____

Amazing Seven Seals of Revelation – 1 DVD MP3 (all 8 classes – for computer only)
w/70-pg workbook – \$20.00 _____

Shipping and Handling – \$3.50 for the first book plus \$.50 for each additional book up to 10 _____

Any additional donation is greatly needed and appreciated: _____

PAYMENT: [Please print clearly!]

Date _____ \$ _____ Ck # _____ Cash Visa MasterCard TOTAL PAID: _____

Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____ BALANCE DUE: _____

Signature _____

[Call for Visa/MasterCard orders: 951-922-1638 – OR download order form and mail with card information or check or money order.]

[Please print clearly!]

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

(We will put your e-mail on our monthly list to inform you when a new *End-Time Issues...* magazine has been posted to our website.)

