

The Spiritual Tragedy of the Age!

I believe it may have been the information brought to me that the Rabbinic calendar of the Jews was not the one in use by the Jews at the time of Christ, which, after my confirmation of this in God's word, resulted in God withdrawing the delusion that I, and the congregation I served, had been under until then. 1 Samuel 15:22, 'And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? **Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.**' I had learned the lesson that it is unwise to assume that church tradition can be relied upon as an arbiter of Bible truth. The words, pattern and recorded example of Jesus Christ are far more important!

That was way back in 2001, when, as far as I know, most all of the Church of God were following the '*tradition of the Jews*', that this was the "Hebrew" calendar, with the result that, each month, they are a few days wrong, and in some years, a month and a few days, thus, **false Holy Days all the time!** The Jews know this and have made moves to return to the observation of the moon to determine the *correct* start of each month, but most people are apparently not close enough to God's word to be aware of or recognise the seriousness that error, 2 Thessalonians 2:11, 'And for this reason **God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie.**' And that is exactly what happened!

At the same time in America God was opening the minds of other faithful Bible believers to the truth, and so came about the *first* joint British/American 'Abib-Expedition' to Israel to determine, together with the Karaite Jews who had had a similar revelation at that time, the *true* first month of the year, by examining the condition of the natural barley crop in Israel, (See our film, "The Month of The Abib") and the first appearance of the moon in Israel to start the month, for the Wave Sheaf Offering, which was made each year during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Leviticus 23: 9-11, 'And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into of the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it.'

[All of the commanded "High" days listed in Leviticus 23 also have deep symbolic significance to New Testament Christians, which is why we find Jesus Christ, the disciples and all Christians, including Gentiles, keeping the Holy Days in the pages of the New Testament (John 13:1, 29, 1Corinthians 11:23-24, Matthew 26:17, 1 Corinthians 5:7-8, Acts 12:3, Acts 18:21, Acts 20:6, Acts 2:1, Acts 20:16, 1 Corinthians 15:52 (Feast of Trumpets) Acts 27:9 (Atonement), John 7:8-10, John 7:37. Those who look to Christ's *example* (**1 Peter 2:21**) keep them now, and *all mankind will keep them*, in God's Kingdom! (Zechariah 14:16-17).]

God had, by then, already removed me from the hierarchical WCG and distanced me from those who did not have as their **priority** the love of God's word ahead of church tradition. Matthew 20: 25-28, 'But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. **But it shall not be so among you:** but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, **let him be your servant:** Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

So, I could teach the small North West Church of God in Chester, UK, the Bible Truth of the calendar that Jesus Christ and the Jews then followed.

Soon after that first Abib expedition, (Abib is the condition of the barley which determines the readiness of the firstfruit barley harvest, the Wave Sheaf and the first month of the year) it became clear to me that the Wave-Sheaf, with its very many grains, had to picture *more* than the Resurrection and acceptance of Jesus Christ's sacrifice by His Heavenly Father, simply **because as we will see, 3½ years is revealed by the scriptures to pass after the Firstfruit Resurrection, but before** Christ returns from Heaven *with* His Bride. Indeed, what could be more appropriate than the Firstfruit Resurrection occurring on the day symbolising the firstfruit harvest in Israel?

Remember, never just believe *anyone's* teaching! Always look for the confirming scriptures!

We see that the Church's Commission to preach the [whole] gospel in Jerusalem (Jeremiah 31:6-8, Isaiah 40:1-11, Isaiah 49:18, Isaiah 52, Isaiah 62:6-7, 10-12) ceases in **the midst** of Daniel's 70th week, Daniel 9:27, '**And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate...**', when God's servants, who have been carrying out that life endangering commission, will flee from Jerusalem, Matthew 24:15-16, '**When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:**' (From the invading Beast)

That same act of fleeing by the Saints, is pictured worldwide in Revelation 12:14-16, '**But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle to fly from the presence of the serpent to her place in the wilderness, where she was nourished for a time, and times, and half a time.** (Some to the Petra region, some taken to Heaven. See, eg. "Christ Goes to Petra", Page 1 no.7 Articles, "The Division of The Saints", no.4, under MORE and then END-TIME.)

...Then from the mouth of the serpent spewed water like a river to overtake the woman and sweep her away in the torrent. But the earth helped the woman and

opened its mouth to swallow up the river that had poured from the dragon's mouth.' (Woman = the Church, God's faithful People, serpent, dragon = Satan inspired Beast, the river = Beast's army, which has then just invaded Israel)

Verse 17, 'And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with **the remnant** of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, [**obviously not fully, Matthew 25:12**] and have the testimony of Jesus Christ', equates with Daniel 7:25, 'And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall **wear out the saints** of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until **a time and times and the dividing of time.**'

Those 'worn out' by the Beast for 3½ years are the sadly **deluded** vast majority of God's Church, as we see in Revelation 7:14, 'And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which **came out of great tribulation**, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. The Great Tribulation, which takes so many lives, is the *last* half of the 7 years of Tribulation.

This situation is the reason why God is so angry with His ministers. (Isaiah 56:10-11) They should have recognised that many of them have accepted, without biblical proof, a faulty calendar with erroneous Holy days, a system of church government Jesus Christ clearly condemned, a totally false 3½ year End-Time scenario rather than the Biblical 7 years, and a consequently misplaced Resurrection and Holy Days, while *ignoring* God's plain commands about the Jerusalem commission to the Church because it does not fit into what has become church tradition. All this because we looked to a man or men *instead* of God's word!!

BUT, Jeremiah 31:6-8,

'For there will be a day when **watchmen** will call out on the hills of Ephraim, 'Arise, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God!' "

For **this is what the LORD says:**

"Sing with joy for Jacob; shout for the foremost of the nations! Make your praises heard, and say, 'O LORD, **save Your people, the remnant** of Israel!'

Behold, I will bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, including the blind and the lame, expectant mothers and women in labor. They will return as a great assembly!'

We can gather this is AFTER Israel's (UK, US, Australia, Canada, New Zealand) coming invasion and slavery, but today most of Ephraim's watchmen are still fast asleep.

Although we have not yet reached the point when it is time to go up to Jerusalem, for Israel has not yet been invaded, thank the Lord; when that time comes, we must be absolutely prepared for that complex migration, or we too would be held captive and unable to broadcast this commanded and much needed message of hope to the 'foremost of the nations', from Jerusalem when they will most need it!

However, God's Church has **not even acknowledged** this command of our Lord, and that is why God has brought you to read this today. For us to fail to acknowledge God's plain Holy word, (and He expects His future Bride to be to be aware, is to disobey His will; to disobey God is to lose God's Holy Spirit; to lose God's Holy Spirit means no or little oil in your lamp and the door closed for you into God's Kingdom.

Matthew 25:9-10 'No,' said the wise ones, 'or there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.'

But while they were on their way to buy it, **the bridegroom** arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet, **and the door was shut.**'

Acts 5:32, 'And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Spirit, whom God hath given to them that obey him.'

I was amazed to see Jeremiah say this Jerusalem responsibility falls to Ephraim! Who in Ephraim has even mentioned these verses? Who are the watchmen of Ephraim? And then it dawned on me. What had I and the North West COG been doing in Britain in the 90's onward? Starting the then North West Church of God. Correcting its doctrinal faults. Writing to the Queen and receiving replies regarding current events, and the Prime Minister! Visiting 10 Downing Street with North West COG members to get God's words across, and including advertising in national newspapers like the Sunday Times and Daily Mail, but our message became regarded as politically incorrect and unacceptable, and so we began the Church website.

We were the watchmen of Ephraim, preaching the gospel, citing those doctrinal errors within the Church, through regular adverts in "The Journal" and warning the nation about its mistakes and the dangers of EU membership, and our eventual departure from it! And when I left the UK to return to Australia, it was the Australian Prime Minister, Tony Abbott's turn, to regularly hear from Ozwitness, and God's work continues, for Australia, Canada and New Zealand are descended from Ephraim too.

The Ozwitness website's emphasis has gradually come to concentrate on the End-Time, as God revealed just how far the COG had strayed from the scriptures. Who else was to make God's Church aware of its danger, when no-one else is prepared to even admit that it is blinded, deluded by God Himself! 2 Thessalonians 2:10-11, 'and

with every wicked deception directed against those who are perishing, because **they refused the love of the truth** that would have saved them. For this reason God will send them a **powerful delusion** so that they believe the lie,' because the Church has looked to a man or men and church tradition, instead of loving God's word. If you recognise that Truth, please forward this message to others, for God is calling His Faithful to His will (Isaiah 43:10) and there is no copyright on this website.

The false tradition that the Tribulation is only 3½ years long, has convinced the ministry to find no time-space for the Church's God-given commission in Jerusalem, for that error fails to recognise the difference between the "tribulation of those days", the first 5 Seals, and the "Great Tribulation", the 3½ year 7th Seal!

But now this website is gradually reaching God's people wherever they are found with the message that we have a God-given commission in Jerusalem. Jeremiah 31 is part of the gospel of the Kingdom of God and not to be ignored by any faithful minister!! It continues from Jeremiah 30:7, 'Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of **Jacob's trouble**; but **he shall be saved out of it.**' It explains that He will punish, but He will heal, and captive Israel will be rescued and safely delivered and re-settled in Israel once more, where He will be our God and we will be His people!

There, in Israel in the Middle East, He will bless His people with peace, as the nation is rebuilt after the worldwide restructuring and Great Tribulation. Israel need weep no more as they will have at last learned their lesson and repented of their abominations, which will bring about their decimation in cruel captivity and slavery.

Then, in that important chapter, we are informed that Israel and Judah, reunited, will be taught God's way, given the Holy Spirit, and led into the New Covenant, verse 33, 'But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; 'After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.' Which minister dare deny that this whole chapter is about the End-Time, starting with the time of Jacob's trouble and the **watchmen of Ephraim's** message, right through to the establishment of God's kingdom here on the earth? If we refuse God's quite clear command, we become FALSE!

It was only after I had been brought to recognise my responsibility to deliver this warning to God's ministers, as no one else in Manasseh or Ephraim was prepared to own God's command, that God revealed the significance of the blood moon, so let us see how this great error came about.

The misunderstanding of the 'Last Trump'

(i) This serious mistake is explained at length in article 2 on page 3 of "Articles", but simply, there is confusion with another series of 'trumps', listed in the book of

Numbers, which the Jews of Christ's day understood, as Vine's 'Dictionary of NT Words', under 'Trump', explains, long before the book of Revelation, including chapter 11:15, was even written!

(ii) Revelation 11:15, 'And **the seventh angel** sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.'

It also says in this verse that *the angel blows this trumpet*, but at the **Firstfruit Resurrection, God blows His Trumpet**, Zechariah 9:14,16, 1Thessalonians 4:16. 'And the LORD shall be seen over them, and his arrow shall go forth as the lightning; and the Lord **GOD shall blow the trumpet**, and shall go with whirlwinds of the south.... And the LORD their God shall save them in that day as the flock of his people: for they shall be as the stones of a crown, **lifted up** as an ensign upon his land.

1 Thessalonians 4:16, 'Because the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of an archangel, and **with the trumpet of God**. And the dead in Christ will rise first.'

(iii) Revelation's 7th Trump *briefly* sounds to begin God's Reign on Earth with His Bride, but the Resurrection Trumpet 3½ years previously, is indicated to sound *continuously* during the Saints' gathering and departure *from* the earth with Jesus Christ for the Sea of Glass before our Father's Throne in Heaven!

(iv) The Resurrection takes place *before* the Great Tribulation, Joel 2:31, 'The sun shall be turned into darkness, and **the moon into blood**, *before* the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.'

The Great Tribulation takes place *after* the Resurrection, Revelation 14:14-20, 'And I looked and saw a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was One like the Son of Man, with a golden crown on His head and a sharp sickle in His hand. Then another angel came out of the temple, crying out in a loud voice to the One seated on the cloud, "Swing Your sickle and reap, because the time has come to harvest; for **the crop of the earth is ripe**." So the One seated on the cloud swung His sickle over the earth, and **the earth was harvested**.' (*This is the Firstfruit Resurrection!*)

'Then another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. Still another angel, with authority over the fire, came from the altar and called out in a loud voice to the angel with the sharp sickle, "Swing your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes from the vine of the earth, because its grapes are ripe." So the angel swung his sickle over the earth and gathered the grapes of the earth, and he **threw them into the great winepress of God's wrath**. And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and the blood that flowed from it rose as high as the bridles of the horses for a distance of 1,600 stadia.'

The 5th Seal

I recently came across this statement by a respected COG minister:

“the fifth seal represents what is widely known as ‘the great tribulation’, during which some Christians will be martyred for their beliefs. The saints are not, in other words, taken to heaven.”

(i)

Why would this sincere minister want to reposition the Great Tribulation from the 7th Seal? Because that error would allow those listed in Revelation 7 to participate in the First Resurrection [at the 6th Seal] and they include most of the COG! **However**, in **Matthew 24:9**, **‘Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. This is the 5th Seal**, but notice it occurs *before* ‘the abomination of desolation’ in **Matthew 24:15** at **the halfway point in the 7 year tribulation** (See Daniel 9:27) and is *followed* by the Great Tribulation in **Matthew 24:21**.

(ii)

Does not **Joel 2:30-31** make this clear enough? **‘And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.**

The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and awesome Day of the LORD.’

(iii)

Again, is not **Revelation 6** clear that the Heavenly Signs and the blood moon take place just as Jesus Christ is seen arriving on His throne and *before* His wrath is poured out, **Revelation 6:12**, **‘And when I saw the Lamb open the sixth seal, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black like sackcloth of goat hair, and the whole moon turned blood red.’**

Verses **16-17**,

“Fall on us and hide us from the face of the One seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb. For the great day of Their wrath has come, and who is able to withstand it?”

Thus we can conclude that the Heavenly Signs, and the blood moon *precede* the First Resurrection, at the 6th Seal, Matthew 24:29-31,

‘Immediately after the tribulation of those days: (First 5 Seals)

“The sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light;

the stars will fall from the sky,

and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.”

At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. And He will send out His angels with a loud trumpet call,

and they will gather His elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.’

This is **followed by** the Great Tribulation, as we have plainly read in Revelation 14:14-20.

(iv) Despite that statement by the minister to bolster the common, but erroneous End Time Scenario, we see from the word of God that the Saints are indeed taken to Heaven for a lengthy period of time after the Resurrection. Revelation 14:1-5, ‘Then I looked and saw the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, [margin, Hebrews 12:22] and with Him 144,000 who had His name and His Father’s name written on their foreheads. And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of many waters and the loud rumbling of thunder. And the sound I heard was like harpists strumming their harps. And they sang a new song **before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders**. And no one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed **from the earth**. These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they are virgins. They follow the Lamb wherever He goes. They have been redeemed from **among** [not ‘among’, but Greek, ‘the’] **men** as firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. And no lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless.’

Not only that, but it is apparent that they are there, on the Sea of Glass throughout the whole 3½ year Great Tribulation, and *still* there as the 7 angels are given the 7 last plagues, Revelation 15:2-5,

‘And I saw as it were a **sea of glass** mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, **stand on the sea of glass**, [Cf. Revelation 4:2-5, ‘At once I was in the Spirit, and I saw **a throne standing in heaven**, with someone seated on it. The One seated there looked like jasper and carnelian, and a rainbow that gleamed like an emerald encircled the throne. Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and on these thrones sat **twenty-four elders** dressed in white, with golden crowns on their heads. From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings, and peals of thunder. Before the throne burned seven torches of fire. These are the seven Spirits of God. And **before the throne** was something like **a sea of glass**, as clear as crystal. In the centre, around the throne, were **four living creatures**, covered with eyes in front and back.] having the harps of God. And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles.’

How can it be claimed that the Saints are not taken to the sea of glass, before the Father’s Throne in heaven?!

Let us understand that those listed in Revelation 7 are nevertheless God’s People, like those in Revelation 2 & 3, and, as we see in verse 14, they go through the Great Tribulation, and at the risk of repetition, so miss the Firstfruit Resurrection! It happens because God has blinded them to His End-Time commands because they loved a man more than God’s words. Today you have read those words, and seen the

proof, but be warned, God has said that almost all of His people will **still stubbornly reject them**. Hosea 9:7-8,

‘The days of punishment are coming, the days of reckoning are at hand. Let Israel know this. Because your sins are so many and your hostility [to God’s words] so great, the prophet is considered a fool, the inspired person a maniac. The prophet, along with my God, is the watchman over Ephraim, yet snares await him on all his paths, and hostility in the house of his God.’ This is where we are today!

So, by comparing the words of the Bible with Church tradition, we have seen not only total delusion about the events of the End-Time, but a blatant refusal to acknowledge our God’s clear and specific End-Time instructions.

God has been very patient, but His plan cannot progress to the return of Christ until the faithful few have acknowledged, and begun to prepare for the fulfilment of that vital broadcast from Jerusalem. **No matter how well** we may have served God over the years, if we refuse THIS command, we become as Saul, and we will not escape God’s words in 1Samuel 15:23, **‘For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.’** What a profound tragedy!

We all know that **whatever God wills, will be done**. All that remains then, is to see just *who* will be faithful, for Revelation 17:14, shows us that on Christ’s return with his Bride, **‘These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.’** Only your love of God’s word can overcome strong delusion, *once it is admitted!*

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