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Bible Explorations Newsletter

Bible Explorations September 2008 Issue

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“If the watchmen sleep under an opiate of Satan’s and not recognize the voice of the true Shepherd, and do not take up the warning, I tell you in the fear of God, they will be charged with the blood of souls. . . . Light must come to the people through agents whom God

shall choose, who will give the note of warning, that none may be in ignorance of the purposes of God or the devices of Satan. At the great heart of the work, Satan will use his hellish arts to the utmost. He will seek in every possible way to interpose himself between the people and God, and shut away the light that God would have come to His children. It is his design to keep them in ignorance of what shall come upon the earth. All should be prepared to hear the signal trumpet of the watchman, and be ready to pass the word along the walls of Zion, that the people may prepared themselves for the conflict. The people must not be left to stumble their way along in darkness, not knowing what is before them, and unprepared for the great issues that are coming.” **RH 12, 24, 1889; 2RHA p. 354.**

It is our duty to blow the trumpet in Terra Bella. We will continue to do all we can to remove the one who interposes himself between the light and the people of God. We will do all we can to bring you up to date on prophecy and its relationship to current events. The Feast of Tabernacles begins October 15th and concludes at sundown October 22nd. To those who understand His feasts, this time is sacred time. This time is also a special time that unites our families and strengthens friendships as only camping out can do.

Remember that “New truth is constantly unfolding; at every step, new and clearer light is shining upon the pathway of God’s people, that they may go onward and upward”. ST 3/16/1882

In the days of Christ, folk travelled from the most distant parts of the land of Israel, and even from beyond, to keep these holy statutes and were blessed by His presence.

Yes, the alert faithful saw and heard Christ give one of His finest sermons at the Feast of Tabernacles. Perhaps, with all that is going on in the world right now, and with the presence of His Spirit, we may hear some of the most important and timely messages during this Tabernacles!



Precious folk flew in from New York last year and pitched their tents beside these trees. At that time the trees were only 18 inches high. We still consider this camping area special for that group of saints whenever they come. Not seen in the picture are 64 new little starts about 18" or more high. Adding these to the 78 trees already there will make a very nice second grove for campers. Also a water hydrant has been set up in the midst of it for your camping convenience. Remember, October 15 – 22. The Terra Bella campground will be open the week before and the week after. Porta-potties show up in the middle of the previous week. Campers are responsible for their own food. Bottled water is suggested for drinking. Plenty of room for tents and lots of RV hookups, which have both electricity and water, plus a common dump site on the property. WELCOME! Our next news letter will have a more complete schedule of speakers and events. Plan on hearing messages above the norm, and experiencing blessings that are heaven sent. Children, junior, and youth programs are always a part of these feasts.



Cheri Hall is the coordinator of activities for all the kids. She works hard and lays plans a long time in advance in order to provide spiritual guidance, constructive

recreation, and leadership for the three divisions. Anyone who accepts such responsibility also sets themselves up for criticism from folk who would lead differently. Cheri appreciates suggestions and helpers.

Cheri and her crew follow the counsel given in AH, p. 498:

“Youth cannot be made as sedate and grave as old age, the child as sober as the sire. While sinful amusements are condemned, as they should be, let parents, teachers, and guardians of youth provide in their stead innocent pleasures which will not taint or corrupt the morals. Do not bind down the young to rigid rules and restraints that will lead them to feel themselves oppressed and to break over and rush into paths of folly and destruction. With a firm, kind, considerate hand hold the lines of government, guiding and controlling their minds and purposes, yet so gently, so wisely, so lovingly, that they will still know that you have their best good in view.”

Cheri needs our encouragement and support. She is constantly on the look out for people who take the salvation of the young to heart and are willing to help in any of the divisions. Once again, she welcomes help, and she welcomes suggestions. If you would count it a privilege to work with the young for a few hours, or for a part of each day of the retreat, contact Cheri Hall at 707- 695-5705.

So, what of the consistent undercurrent of warnings coming from all directions of the globe regarding a great change in events to happen in the fourth quarter of this year? Are we hearing trumpets? Are we hearing a warning? Are we being told to “Get ready?”

Remember that “New truth is constantly unfolding: at every step, new and clearer light is shining upon the pathway of God’s people. . .” ST 3/16/1882. With Dr. Fowler, Sam Batton, and others, we will be exposed to new and clearer light. We will watch for truth unfolding.

What is Essential?

It is true “That God who walked with Enoch was our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He was the light of the world then just as He is now. Those who lived then were not without teachers to instruct them in the path of life; for Noah and Enoch were Christians.” Then she adds: “The gospel is given *in precept in Leviticus. Implicit obedience is required now, as then. How essential it is that we understand the importance of this word!*” 6T392

What word? The word spoken in the precepts of Leviticus to which *implicit obedience* is required! It is *essential* that we understand this word. These truths, together with the sacrifices that pointed to Christ’s death, even the giving of His blood at Calvary, are *all* important for us to understand. Let us come together, during the Feast of Tabernacles determined to learn more of the words in Leviticus. In fact in Leviticus we are commanded to do this very thing:

“And ye shall keep it a feast unto the LORD seven days in the year. It shall be a statute forever in your generations: ye shall celebrate it in the seventh month. Ye shall dwell in booths (tents? RVs? simple sticks with tarp? motels?) seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths: that your generations shall know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt. I am the LORD your God. And Moses declared unto the children of Israel the feasts of the Lord.” KJV Lev.23:41-44. “If ye are Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed and heirs according to the promise.” We are Israelites indeed!

Praise goes to Christ for His horrendous sacrifice that we might be adopted into His olive tree. We must no longer remain under the substituted feasts of Babylon. Today we are freed by His blood to follow in the footsteps of our Saviour and enjoy the feasts of His providing.

As it is written: “Jesus traveled up and down the breadth of the land, giving His invitation to the feast. When the sun illuminated the landscape, Jesus said to the vast throng: ‘I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.’ Advent Review and Sabbath Herald, July 7, 1896.”

Again we wonder if He would do and say differently today than He did then? Most of us think not, especially in such a spiritual context.

We believe we serve the same One who gave the feasts in the first place expecting His Israel to comply, and that just so surely He expects His “144,000 children of the tribes of Israel” to do the same and today.

Again the people were reminded of the sacred obligation of the Sabbath. Yearly feasts were appointed at which all the men of the nation were to assemble before the Lord, bringing to Him their offerings of gratitude and the first fruits of His bounties. The object of all these regulations was stated: they proceeded from no exercise of mere arbitrary sovereignty; all were given for the good of Israel. The LORD said, “Ye shall be holy men unto Me” – worthy to be acknowledged by a holy God.” PP p. 311, par. 2.

All were given for the good of Israel! Ye shall be holy men unto Me! Praise His holy name! His commands are enablings, and the opportunity is ours to become holy.

The Coming Feast of Tabernacles

Oct. 15-22

“Yearly feasts were appointed at which all the men of the nation were to assemble. Only men? Oh no. Women and children attended as well.

But men were basically the head of the household and responsible for the spiritual welfare of the entire circle.

The necessity of coming together for learning and prayer is becoming more critical as we near the coming time of trouble. Many folk who believe in the statutes are

searching their hearts for any sin that needs to be forgiven. All of us are very serious about being right and in tune with our heavenly Father. The signs of the times seem to be shouting out expediency. Those of us who believe in His statutes are being drawn together for worship and prayer — prayer especially asking for clear guidance.



📁 Where have all the dollars gone? To wars in other countries – nearly every dollar gone. 📁 CNN news, June 19, 2008, said that President Bush signed a bill including more than 160 billion dollars to continue financing our war efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Money Crunch? YES, it is becoming more obvious every day. When the final crunch hits is anyone’s guess. It is still speculative. Some say as early as this month, others say before the end of the year, and still others are looking at 2009. The majority of Americans see nothing coming at all. David Gates implies it will be nationally catastrophic affecting us all in the near future.

There was sufficient explanation of the depressing depression news in our last newsletter with suggestions of how to be reasonably prepared. I was reading in The Trend’s Journal, Winter Issue, 2008, that “Just as the Twin towers collapsed from the top down, so too will the US economy from an economic 9/11. When the high-stake speculators, banks, brokerages, and buyout firms that leveraged billions with millions get hit. . . . everything underneath them will turn to rubble.”

About the Trends Journal: Trends says it distills the voluminous ongoing research of The Trends Research Institute into concise, readily accessible form. By tracking 300 separately-defined, domestic and international trend categories — including: business, economics, politics, social developments, education, health, science, technology, philosophy, the arts, entertainment, and fashion — four times a year. The Trends Journal establishes the connections that others fail to see or misinterpret. Its Globalnomic method cuts through the confusion of information overload and zeroes in on the trends that will shape the future.

In its Winter, 2008 edition, The Trends Journal proclaims that: “Failing banks, busted brokerages, toppled corporate giants, bankrupt cities, states in default, foreign creditors cashing out of US securities . . . whatever the spark, the stage is set for panic in the streets. When the giant firms fall, they’ll crush the man on the street.”

Under tax revolts: “It was a reason given for starting the first American Revolution and as the trends add up, it will also be a reason for starting the second. Fed up, and not willing – or able – to take it anymore, overtaxed Americans will begin the battle against politicians and bureaucrats in the fight to lower and/or repeal taxes ... while demanding higher tax rates for those seen as paying too little.”

Is this too much doom and gloom? It would be, if we had not been told over 100 years ago what to do to help ourselves and our loved ones before times get tough.

More than one hundred years ago, wise Sabbath-keepers moved to small country towns. You all know, from the last newsletter, what Ellen White said about that. (If you were not on our mailing list at the time of our last newsletter, go to www.bibleexplorations.com and click on Newsletter Archive. Then click the August edition.

The Journal continued: “America’s going broke and the whole world knows it. Betting that its economy will spiral down and that the dollar will fall with it, foreign creditors are dumping dollars on the market . . . and even Third World street vendors don’t want to take greenbacks any longer. The further it falls, the less its worth, the less it buys, in the real world they call it inflation.”

The results of such a spiral, should it continue, are too horrible to describe, so I won’t. But friend, it is time we realize that as brothers and sisters in Christ, we need to be close to Him and to each other. Clara and I are honored by each of you who travel to Terra Bella showing the universe whose side we are on, His. We will pray together knowing that all things work together for the good of those who love Him. We pity those who say they love Him but really do not. “He that sayeth he loves Him and keeps not His commandments is a liar and the truth is not in him.”

Our strength is in Him and our connection to Him must not be weakened, but strengthened. Let us heed His call to attend the feast, and there cast ourselves at the feet of the Saviour. We will ask that His righteousness will cover us as giant feathers, and that we will be raised in spirit, truth, and knowledge from glory unto glory.

Only His Grace is Totally Sufficient

One precious couple that supports this ministry writes: “Even if we observe Torah 110% above and beyond the call of duty we will still miss out on getting to heaven, because our righteousness is faulty. The Messiah and His righteousness must be the total focus.” Hallelujah! I couldn’t have said it better.

FREE HOLY HISTORY BOOKS!

To help you Elijah missionaries, Bible Explorations, this month only, will give away boxes of HHBs for the cost of shipping. Boxes of 50 or 100 per box are free as long

as they last. S/H \$20.00. Spanish or Eng. Limit one box per order. Surely together we will get the word out!

EXPLANATION

There has been a question about a quote referred to in the last news letter. It was stated that Ellen White indicated our national economy will be gone just *before* religious legislation passes through congress. The reference I gave was Great Controversy 1888 p.590. For easier reference, the same quote is given in the 1911 Great Controversy also on page 590, and again in 4SP 408. It reads like this:

”It will be declared that men are offending God by the violation of the Sunday Sabbath; that this sin has brought calamities which will not cease until Sunday observance shall be strictly enforced; and that those who present the claims of the fourth commandment, thus destroying reverence for Sunday, are troublers of the people, preventing their restoration to divine favor and temporal prosperity.”

I suggest restoration is not necessary until something is lost, neglected, or has become worthless. Temporal prosperity has been lost in the above statement. Sunday observance, they say, must be enforced *to restore* it.



“Wall street is bracing itself for another week of roller-coaster trading after more than \$300 billion was wiped off the US equity markets on Friday following the emergency funding package put together by the Federal Reserve and JPMorgan Chase to rescue Bear Stearns.” The Independent.co.uk/March 16, 2008.

Under the caption: Wall Street Fears for Next great Depression, Margareta Pagano writes: “One UK economist warned that the world is now close to a 1930’s-like great depression, while New York traders said they had never experienced such fear. The Fed’s emergency funding procedure was first used in the Depression and has rarely been used since.”

“In the UK, Michael Taylor, and senior market strategist at Lombard, the economics consultant said: ‘We have all been talking about a 1970’s-style crisis but as each day goes by this looks more like the 1930s. No one has any clue as to where this is going to end; it’s a self-feeding disaster.



Today News

Thursday,
Sept. 4, 5:12
p.m. by
Madlen Read,
*Stocks
plummet...*

AP. "Wall Street plunges after retail, unemployment data." "Furthermore, if the job market keeps deteriorating, it is tough for Wall Street to see a rebound in sight because of the tumbling housing market." Dow and Nasdaq both dropped considerably. Bank of America Corp fell 7.2 %; Citigroup Inc, fell 6.7%.

Please remember that the main point of pointing out the \$\$ crisis is that some sensible preparation should be made by each one of us in the event that some of the drab financial prognoses prove correct.

But also we should confidently consider Ellen White's words in Evangelism page 63: "Money will soon depreciate in value very suddenly, when the reality of eternal scenes opens to the senses of man." Just prior to that she wrote: "The very means that is now so sparingly invested in the cause of God, and that is selfishly retained, will in a little while be cast with all idols to the moles and to the bats." Let us do what we can to spread the word, and to encourage one another, meeting together, and so much the more so as we see the day approaching.

Coming from NewsWithViews.com, and written by Greg Evenson. "For thirty years, I have been writing, speaking, imploring, and begging others to make rational, concrete plans for a time in life that would offer no quarter, give no mercy, and that would in a word be – catastrophic. We are coming face to face with that moment. You have so little time left to do anything that will give you a fighting chance. What are you doing?"

WARS AND RUMORS OF WARS

Two powerful countries that might be happy to see the US destroyed are Russia and Iran. Russia has said it would declare war on us if we continue to protect Asian Georgia. Georgia has attacked South Ossetia. Russia has stated that it will not sit by and allow the Georgians to attack South Ossetia, but still Georgia went to war against South Ossetia August 8, 2008. Russia has also said it would be considered as an act of war should the U.S. help Ossetia.

Russia sent a major battle fleet into the Mediterranean headed by the modern aircraft carrier the Admiral Kuznetsov and the flagship of its Black Sea Fleet, the guided Missile Heavy Cruiser Moskva. This powerful fleet has at least 11 surface ships and unknown numbers of subs. The Admiral Kuznetsov carries approximately

47 warplanes and 10 helicopters. The warplanes have mid-air refueling capability. The Russians insist that they have developed a plasma based system that allows them to stealth any aircraft, and a recent incident where Russian fighters were able to appear unannounced over a US Navy carrier battle group tends to confirm their claims.

Saber rattling, rumors of fighting nightmares, and a very unstable world is where we live. But let our hearts not be troubled, because the Elijah spirited people are being developed according to the Holy writings of Malachi, and the "everlasting" truth will be presented one more time; yes, even though under very trying, end-time circumstances. And then shall come the end of this world as we know it, but a new beginning will unfold, even with the coming of the Messiah, the granting of eternal bodies to the saints, and a wonderful everlasting experience will open before us. There will be no age like this age! We will praise Him face to face and live in His grace forever more.

RATTLING CLOSER TO HOME

The Military Assistance Plan

By Jim Couri, NewsWithViews.com

While Americans are being bombarded with large doses of presidential primary news coverage, the US entered into an agreement with its northern neighbor that may have an impact on future *internal* military action.

In a political move, which received little if any attention by the American news media, the US and Canada entered into a military agreement this year, allowing the armed forces from one nation to support the armed forces of the other nation during a *domestic* civil emergency, according to a police commander involved in homeland security planning and implementation.

"This is a military plan that's designed to bypass the Posse Comitatus Act that traditionally prohibited the US military from operating within the borders of the United States. Not only will American soldiers be deployed at the discretion of whomever is sitting in the Oval Office, but foreign soldiers will also be deployed in American cites," warns Lt. Steven Rodgers, commander of the NJ Police department's detective bureau.

"*The Military Civil Assistance Plan is seen by critics as a further incremental step toward creating a North American armed forces available to be deployed in domestic North American situations. According to the NORTHCOM press release, the plan 'allows the military from one nation to support the armed forces of the other nation during a civil emergency.'*"

The agreement was signed at US Army North headquarters, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, by US Air Force General Gene Renuart, commander of NORAD and US Northern Command, or USNORTHCOM, and by Canadian Air Force Lt. General Marc Dumais.

Question: Is anyone really expecting such rioting in our streets that both US and Canadian forces must be called?

One Canadian commentator, Rachel Marsden, said: Once the Canadian people discover they can be legally invaded by U.S. troops, they will take to the streets and protest and use the very effective weapon of civil disobedience. Canadians will not stand for occupation by a foreign army same as Americans won't. . . We have our own police, security and military forces, thank you. We don't want Americans coming into Canada with weapons." She said. "And Americans don't need Canadian soldiers."

In our last newsletter, I quoted Ellen White stating the possibility of civil war in America. It is a statement we wonder about, however, we also wonder about the necessity of such a treaty as mentioned above? Do our two governments know of some overwhelming surprise that would cause such internal civil ruckus in our cities? I certainly hope not!

Never-the-less these are times of unrest, both economic and military, and so I believe it is time to remind ourselves that in Christ we can have a peace which passes all understanding. In other words, we can have a peace that most folk will not understand as end-time issues continue to develop. "Great peace have they that love Thy law (Torah) and nothing shall offend them." Let's share His peace with others while we can.

CONFIRMED RETREAT SPEAKERS

1. Sam Batton: Author of a book on current applications of the book of Revelation. Coming from Conception Bay east of Canada, he brings a fresh look to old prophecies and ties their final applications to our day.
2. Randy Brhems: He will present 3 high-end spiritual value messages, and be our organist complementing the keyboard artistry of Arlene Overbeck.
3. Richard Myers recaptures A.T. Jones sermons on Righteous by Faith — very helpful as we prepare for a deep indwelling Christ in our hearts and the seal of God.
4. Dr. Frank Fowler, one of our favorite speakers, will be sharing "Religious Liberty Updates," "Why Sunday Appeals to Satan," "Basis for the Final Judgment," and other pertinent issues.
5. Roger Plata: Special messages regarding the Seven Trumpets of Revelation and More Excitement from the Stars.
6. Donna Nicolas: Prominent speaker at camp meetings and churches. Her messages center around "His Healing Touch."
- 7 Carl Baxter: The Battle of the Bibles. You will be amazed as Carl shares his knowledge on this sensitive but vital end-time subject. Come without prejudice and hear what he has to say.

8. Al Silva: A fresh look at Colossians Chapter Two and How Feast Keepers can Stay Happy in the SDA church.

9. Jerry Otterstrom: "Ye Shall Not Surely Die."

10. Lori Dee Ketcherside: Elementary school teacher by training and popular lecturer of Daniel and Revelation. Her subjects will include: "The Rising Power of the Papacy," "Beings of Light and the Sabbath," and "The Abomination that Leads to Desolation."

Rural Property for Sale

Lots of snow in north Idaho makes for plenty of water. Secluded in forest. Two large bedrooms, large bathroom, huge living room. Big garage on 5 acres with nice creek. Solar electricity – off the grid, plus generator back up. \$175,000. Art Lambert 208-255-9434. cbsandpoint.com

Note from Joy Davis in north Idaho: If any of you are prepared financially, and interested in purchasing a remote nice country home before winter, she knows of several in her area. Give her a call. 208-699-4844.

TESTIMONIAL (recorded without edit corrections)

"I am a licensed minister since past 16 years. And full time pastor and also running Evangelism team. My conference paying me little wage to help take care of my family. I have been receiving Bible Study lessons from Philadelphia Press Ministries USA. These materials have been helping me to grow spiritually from strength to strength. In fact their material that opened my eyes most was your book titled 'An Innovative Approach to Holy History.' Scales fall down from my eyes, which means that all the Seventh day Adventist members here in Nigeria were far from the truth regarding Passover, Statutes, and Judgments. In fact through your book I understand the statutes that remain. Also understand that the feasts will be observed forever and eternally. I will like to join hundreds of other sincere folk in their observance, and enjoy the benefits of a spiritual feast.

"Please, as a current pastor, what will I do now? If I leave my field now what will I do to help my family? I will like to get acquainted you and ministry. I have started sharing these truths with serious and sincere members in my church where I pastor. In fact many of them were surprised and I don't know where this will lead me to, if the news goes to Conference office. Please, please, I need your help on this Issue. Can you please come to Nigeria and give lessons of these hidden truths to thousands of Adventist in Nigeria? And to get acquainted with you.

"My Almighty God bless and reward you all for opening our eyes, and encourage you to be spreading this truth. I am looking forward hearing from you as soon as possible."

Shall Clara and I go to Nigeria to help them over there?

Our Walter story teacher is on vacation this month.