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"BLOW YE THE TRUMPET IN ZION!" JOEL 2:1

By Gordon F. Nelson

"Blow ye the trumpet in Zion (Jerusalem), and sound an alarm in my holy mountain (Horeb, the mountain of God): let all the inhabitants tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand." Joel 2:1.

Of all the scriptures in the Bible the prognosticators love, is this second chapter of Joel, where they authenticate their particular "army", and give various interpretations to the "day of the Lord". Similarly, the cults claim the 144,000 mentioned in Revelation 7:4. The Jehovah's Witnesses and the Seventh Day Adventists are very adamant on this. Since the 144,000 are all Jews, one may ask the cultist, "Of which tribe are you?"

Joel 2 is not quite as easily handled as the 144,000, but I will briefly touch on the various interpretations. Morris Cerullo and Earl Paulk have similar views in a way. The only real difference is Morris Cerullo's "army" will be raptured, and Earl Paulk's (author of Dominion Theology) will not. Paulk's kingdom is definitely of this world.

In Tulsa, Oklahoma and Atlanta, Georgia, the "Dominion Theologist's" have begun to make the "kingdoms of this earth" to belong to Jesus Christ, now! They have begun to take over banks, commercial houses, real estate, so they can present "the kingdoms of this earth" to the Lord Jesus. Revelation 11:15.

The church really gets things backwards, applying Gentile scriptures to Jews and vice versa. God gives us a promise in Isaiah the 28th chapter that this will one day come to a screaming halt. It is termed *"the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it."* Isaiah 28:18. The overflowing scourge is the "Every Word of God Ministry", as opposed to Copeland-Hagin-Capp, "Word Faith Ministry".

"From the time that it goeth forth it shall take you: for morning by morning shall it pass over (radio, television, cable, satellite), by day and by night: and it shall be a vexation (Heb. agitation, fear, trouble) only to understand the report." Isaiah 28:19. A revival is coming, but this Essek William Kenyon's revival is a counterfeit. They do miracles exactly as the magicians of Pharaoh's court, having "heard or seen" nothing. Read the entire 23rd chapter of Jeremiah.

How dare anyone compare a ministry like William Branham's to anything of this nature; he who sought neither the "gold nor the glory".

To quote from the "New Scofield Study System", his footnote for Joel 2:1:

"The day of the Lord in prophetic times will cover the time of the coming tribulation period." C. I. Scofield.

Scofield ignores the “army of the Lord” aspect, and rather zeros in on the “day of the Lord.” I quite agree with Scofield that often times in scripture, “day of the Lord” refers to the tribulation period, but not in this context. This “day of the Lord” is referring to the “war of Gog and Magog”, wherein His Name is vindicated in the world. The truth is, the “day of the Lord” in Revelation is the last 3½ years of Daniel’s 70th week, so Scofield is wrong in declaring the entire 7-year reign as such.

“Blow ye the trumpet in Zion!” Zion, the city of Jerusalem, is the center of the earth. This is a wake-up call to the residents. *“I have set watchmen on the walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace.”* Isaiah 62:6. Often in the night the citizenry would cry out, *“Watchman, what of the night?”* What do you see from your high towers, which are built into the walls that surround the city? From another part of the city, *“Watchman, what of the night?”* Providing all was well, he would answer, *“The morning cometh, and also the night.”* Isaiah 21:11-12. We are guarding the city; go to sleep!

In a sense, the RIVERBANK NEWS is as a watchman perched on the wall. The trumpet is blown every month to inform you of the night! The Bible warns of the coming night *“when no man can work”*. John 9:4. We must *“publish against Jerusalem”* while it is still day (Jeremiah 4:16) that she might see her sin.

Joel commanded, *“Blow ye the trumpet in Zion (not in Springfield, Missouri or Washington DC) and sound an alarm...let all the inhabitants (of Israel) tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; a day of darkness (war) and of gloominess (the size of God’s army), a day of clouds (airplanes so thick as to blot out the sun) and of thick darkness (the allies of God enter war).”* Joel 2:1-2.

The rapture is referred to as the “blessed hope”, Titus 2:13, not a day of darkness. Why can’t we take literally what the text says instead of some wild spiritualization that both Morris Cerullo and Earl Paulk read into it?

Ezekiel and Joel were contemporary prophets. Joel is the confirming witness that Ezekiel’s prophecies of the coming “war of Gog and Magog” will occur. The scripture requires more than one witness to establish that Ezekiel 36-39 is true. *“In the mouth of two or three witness shall EVERY WORD be established.”* 2 Corinthians 13:1.

The Bible says, *“Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.”* 2 Peter 1:20. One could question the validity of Ezekiel 36-39 in a court of law, but with Joel’s testimony the judge would throw it out of court.

There are Biblical rules that must be followed in an “Every Word Ministry” that are not adhered to in a Copeland-Hagin-Capp, “Word Faith” prosperity deception!

“Blow ye the trumpet in Zion...A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness (many troops spread across the mountains surrounding Israel), as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; THERE HATH NOT BEEN EVER THE LIKE, neither shall be any more after it.” Joel 2:1-2. Gog has assembled the largest standing army the world has ever seen, standing on the mountains of Israel.

“A fire (atomic energy) devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth (Grozny): the land is as the garden of Eden before them (Israel -“blossom like a rose in the desert”, Isaiah 35:1), and behind them a desolate wilderness (Chechnya); yea, and nothing shall escape them. The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen (Russian Cossacks), so shall they run.” Joel 2:1-4.

“For the world is mine, and the fulness thereof.” Psalm 50:12. Don’t you know, one could never have a Moses without a Pharaoh? It was Shakespeare who said, “The entire world is a stage and we are actors. We make our entrance, the curtain goes up, we perform on stage, and then we exit.” Jesus was on stage for 3½ years. Oftentimes, we must wonder how we played our part in this “drama of life”.

“He removeth kings, and setteth up kings,” Daniel 2:21. It is like a giant chess game to the Lord. These interpreters of scripture cannot understand why God would claim such a horrible critter as Pharaoh (the Bible says God hardened his heart). This is the problem with properly understanding Joel 2. *“And the LORD shall utter his voice (an earthquake like the world has never seen: maybe a 16.1 on the Richter scale!) before his army (God’s only hope to fulfill his covenant, “all Israel shall be saved”, is in the hands of Gog): for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?” Joel 2:11.*

The Apostle John, in commenting about the “day of the Lord” in Revelation (the last 3½ years) wrote, *“For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?” Revelation 6:17.*

Have you ever watched a televangelist taking long strides across the platform, with his mike in hand, say, “How many knows?” that Eve ate an apple? If one preacher sees another one with a “How many knows?”, they all mimic! Well, I have a “How many knows?” for you. If you have ever fished, this is easy. “How many knows? If the fish takes the bait, and you really get the hook in his jaws, that fish is yours. How many knows that?”

“Set thy face against Gog...and say...I am against thee, O Gog...and I will turn thee back, and put HOOKS INTO THY JAWS.” Ezekiel 38:2-4. You can give that fish line, let it run to tire itself, but that fish is God’s. How many knows that? *“I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen.”* Russia and Gog will obey the Lord exactly like a fish on the line. Especially, with the collaborating witness of Joel. You can count on it!

“And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud (airplanes)...IT SHALL BE IN THE LATTER DAYS, and I will bring thee against my land, (Why?) that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.” Ezekiel 38:16.

Mikhail Gorbachev was a lover of freedom that God raised up for such an hour as this! In some great camp meeting back in 1915, a prophecy broke speaking of a Russian with a peculiar mark on his forehead, who would lead in the greatest exodus of Jews to “Let my people go!” Who would believe God would use a Russian to lead an exodus of Jews?

“Thou art the God that doeth wonders.” Psalm 77:14. Just as God used Mikhail Gorbachev, he will use Gog. How else will Israel repent? God doesn’t send angels: he sends Gog. In the drama of life, God is playing an old re-run of Moses and Pharaoh. You probably never believed the Red Sea stood back like

a wall, and the children of Israel walked across on dry land. He is so compassionate; he is now playing the re-run for unbelievers!

Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the third most powerful man in Russia, makes some unnerving statements:

"When I come to power, I will be a dictator." He has threatened Germany with "nuclear destruction" if she interferes in his march to Israel. To Japan: "We will create new Hiroshima's and Nagasaki's. I will not hesitate to use nuclear weapons."

He has blamed both world wars on the Jews! The exodus of Jews better be completed before Vladimir Zhirinovsky comes to power!

No industrial nation can survive without oil. In the opening of the third seal is a solemn warning, *"see thou hurt not the oil and the wine."* Revelation 6:6. The oil is the "hook" that God has in Russia's "jaws"! *"A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth."* Is the great Russian bear on her march to Israel right now? If she is, Russia will not need the oil wells of Chechnya. She will be only a short distance to where there is unlimited oil; *"the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them."* Joel 2:3.

Remember how Saddam Hussain lit those oil wells upon his retreat from Kuwait? *"Behind them a flame burneth."* Read Joel's prophecy in Joel 2:3; a single flame indicating the city of Grozny behind them burning as they march on the Holy Land!

Boris Yeltsin has already lost control. The army is not obeying his command on Chechnya. I believe Russia will drop "the bomb" on Grozny, the capitol city of Chechnya, and let her go up in smoke as did Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

"Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall come to pass, that AT THE SAME TIME (she drops the bomb) shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought." (Forget the oil in Chechnya, go for it: the beautiful land.) *"And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwallled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely (Israel trusting in the United Nations), all of them dwelling without walls (no defense against our weapons), and having neither bars nor gates, to take a spoil, and to take a prey (Heb.- booty)." Ezekiel 38:10-12.*

It is after Russia drops the bomb on Grozny, that *"Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish (England), with all the young lions (U.S.A., Canada, Australia) thereof, shall say unto thee (as they see the oil wells of Grozny in flames), Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? (Jewish wealth) to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?" Ezekiel 38:13.*

This, absolutely, reads like tomorrow morning's newspaper. My friend, it is later than any of us think! Please read Ezekiel 38:14-17 right now! We will pause for station identification! Russia is presently on her march to the Holy Land. The "war of Gog and Magog" will occur shortly after leaving these oil wells a flame in Grozny. Russia will rally her allies; Eastern Europe, Iran, Sudan, Ethiopia, Libya and other Arab nations on the mountains of Israel. Russia remembers how Israel handled the

Egyptians in the “Six Day War”, so she is not taking any chances on relying only on her own military might.

According to Grant R. Jeffrey's, “the Russians have produced eight thousand anti-ballistic missiles, while the U.S. has none: Russia is the arms supplier to every one of these nations. They all use Russian AK-47 rifles, T-72 tanks, missiles, and personnel carriers. For the past forty years, Russia has trained the military officers and intelligence staff of all these nations listed in Ezekiel's prophecy which includes a huge confederacy of nations from Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East against (tiny) Israel.”

Ezekiel 38:13 is the only reference to the United States in Bible prophecy, as a lion cub of England. The lion (England) and her cubs (the British Empire of which we are a part, scripturally). The “Dominion Theology” of Earl Paulk, as the British Israel doctrine, both teach that the “Anglo-Saxon” people are the Israel of God. You see in this 38th chapter how helpless we are as we ask Russia the question, with Grozny in flames. *“Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company (of nations on the mountains looking down on Israel) to take a prey?”*

With President Clinton's closing of our military bases, and the signing of the NAFTA and GATT treaties, which supersede any law of our Congress, we are definitely a Third World power that Russia completely ignores as any threat.

“Russia has the largest military machine in history, with over five million troops, plus one million special KGB interior ministry troops and border guards. In addition, they trained 250,000 commandos known as Spetsnaz forces that specialize in infiltration, sabotage, and assassination of political, military and intelligence forces. Their air force and navy massively exceed America's armed forces. Over 600 huge Russian arms factories are running day and night non-stop shifts, despite talks on disarmament.”

Grant R. Jeffrey's *Prince of Darkness*

No external nations or combination of nations could have defeated Rome. She simply decayed from within, as America is doing. The history book written by Gibbons, “The Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire”, depicts the same path of liberalism that caused Rome's collapse. When we signed these treaties, NAFTA and GATT, we surrendered our sovereignty to a foreign power ruled from Geneva, Switzerland. Their decision is binding upon the U.S.A.

We have so many “false prophets” guided by “British-Israel” doctrine and “Dominion Theology” doctrine. These paint an entirely different picture, ignoring the facts, and relying on their Anglo-Saxon birth right to redeem them, so unable to read “the signs of the times”.

Gentiles are only an “ingrafted branch”, soon to be cut off completely. *“For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural branches (Israel), be grafted into their own olive tree?”* Romans 11:24.

The British-Israel doctrine which teaches that the Anglo-Saxon nations are the 10 lost tribes of Israel, does not believe Romans 11:26. *“And so all Israel shall be saved.”* They believe the British-Americans are Israel.

The arrival of Elijah brings the “fulness of the times of the Gentiles” to fruition. *“If thou continue (Gentile Church) in his goodness: otherwise thou (ingrafted branch) also shalt be cut off.”* Romans 11:22. *“For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?”* (Romans 11:15) signifying the resurrection of Moses from the dead; the promised “Deliverer out of Zion.” Romans 11:26.

“And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord...that if he found any of THIS WAY, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.” Acts 9:12. Saul was busy putting Christians in jail. The last thing on his mind was salvation. *“Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you.”* John 15:16.

As a sinner, I stumbled into a Salvation Army church. I did not come to get saved, but I heard the voice of God speak terror into my heart. “Tonight, or never. You’ve had your last call.” Such horrible words to speak to a nice little sinner that enjoyed being a sinner. I knew exactly what He meant. I was already I-A, and could be shipped out in a hurry to fight in World War 2. The choice was mine; I am not that brave to resist Him any longer. I can sympathize with the Apostle Paul when someone with more power than Caesar says, *“Saul, Saul, why persecuteth thou me?”* Acts 9:4.

Do you think Israel plans on a revival? Why, they are too busy making money, some might say, to even give it a thought. I can show you how God uses hornets to accomplish His will. The hornets obey God.

God has made a covenant; *“For this is my covenant unto them, When I shall take away their sins.”* Romans 11:27. But, He requires a little cooperation from these stiff-necked Jews. This is the reason God says, “I have an army, I have hornets, I have bright lights that can blind a man for three days, I issue final ultimatums, I have whatever it takes to break the will of a rebellious person. He will obey Me!” We have a choice: I pray you “choose life”.

“For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.” Romans 11:25.

The Philadelphia Church was birthed through the tremendous preaching of George Whitfield of England. He met a theologian by the name of John Calvin, and defeated him. Like the Democrats, Calvinism never ceases from the church. It is called Laodicea (Gk. - two Greek words, dike: judgment and laos: of the people). Laodicea means the “hireling form of government” from a composition of two Greek words. The very government adopted by the Assemblies of God when they organized in 1912; “judgment of the people”.

How will we know when the fulness of the Gentiles has come? This is another one of these “How many knows?”, as I strut with my mike in hand.

“Blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: for this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.” Romans 11:25-27.

God has made a covenant, that every one of you stiff-necked Jews are going to get saved! Do you think this is a formidable task the Lord has decreed? You are playing poker with a God that has an ace up his sleeve. It is called “My army”. When these watchmen give their report of the size of the army surrounding all the mountains of Israel, it will be a “day of gloominess”, like Joel said. How else are you going to get Jews to repent? God knows the stubbornness built into their nature.

In this game of poker, the Lord has a stacked deck! One more ace: Elijah! Wow! *“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.”* Malachi 4:5. “We have to have genuine turning to God in true repentance,” Elijah will scream at those Jews. “Only then, will God fight for us.” For extra measure, to show these Jews (after all Elijah is a Tishbite) that he is anointed of God, he will raise the Jew’s Deliverer, Moses, from the dead. It is easier now for a Jew to find God through Moses than a Tishbite! You can believe it! All Israel will be saved before the war of Gog and Magog.

Anytime Jesus plans on visiting earth, He always sends His advance man ahead. Elijah saying, “Behold the Lamb of God!” will cause these Jews to see Him whom they have pierced.

The Talmud suggests that Elijah was a priest. The Jewish rabbis see a similarity between Elijah and Melchizedek, the King of Salem. The Bible is strangely silent about both of their fathers, mothers, ancestors, and descendants.

For thousands of years the Jews believed Malachi’s prophecy that God will send them “Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.” Mal. 4:5. Each year at the Passover, the Jews set out a wine cup as an invitation for the prophet Elijah. They leave the door or window slightly ajar to invite Elijah’s entrance at their Passover Seder meal in the hope that his year he will usher in the coming Messiah.

Elijah’s appearance will motivate the Jewish people to national and individual repentance. The rabbis expect Elijah to establish the proper rituals for the restoration of the temple service. The Talmud claims that several wonders will accompany the coming of Elijah. #1-He will bring Moses back to life. #2-He will reveal the secret location of the three holy vessels that mysteriously disappeared: the Ark of the Covenant, the flask of manna, and the container of sacred anointing oil. #3-He shall not depart from Judah...until Shiloh comes. #4-He will transform the geography of the Holy Land, leveling the mountains. Another curious belief of the rabbis is that Elijah will be one of eight princes that will form a cabinet for Messiah. Additionally, they believe Elijah appears before the war of Gog and Magog.”

Grant R. Jeffrey’s *Prince of Darkness*

Do you think God will allow Gog to harm Moses and Elijah? Gog can bellow like Goliath from those mountains, but God has these Russians exactly where He wants them. God will declare war on Gog and Magog by first sending the largest magnitude earthquake the world has ever seen. *“And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog (maybe Vladimir Zhirinovsky?) shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, that my fury shall come up in my face. For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel...every man’s sword shall be against his brother (God so confuses the Russians). And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.”* Ezekiel 38:18-22. The Bible further states, *“It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”* Hebrews 10:31.

“Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the LORD (of Israel).” Ezekiel 38:23.

Please don't confuse this war of Gog and Magog with the final battle of Armageddon, where all the nations come against Israel. You will note, man never sees the hand of God in any of these wars!

We witnessed the “Six Day War”. This was a miracle of God. The news will soon center on what is happening in Jerusalem. Americans will be glued to their television watching God sanctifying His Name through the defeat of Gog. The fulness of the Gentiles does not end until this war of Gog and Magog has begun. We are running out of time!

As in the natural, so in the spiritual. The church of Jesus Christ has no intentions of repenting, no more than those stiff-necked Jews. But God has made a covenant with the church, as well. It is to be blameless, without *“spot, or wrinkle”*. Ephesians 5:27.

Our flesh responds, Come on God: knock it off! My covenant with you was of grace, not the law! He answers us with, How about being *“conformed to the image of His Son.”* Romans 8:29. Well, I forgot about that one. OK, I lost! What do you want me to do? Surrender!

We go about this religion as though we were God, never inquiring as to what pleases Him. This is the way it is, Lord! We have done it this way for one hundred years. Nobody is about to make us change! Man is no match in his attempt to play poker with God. He had some aces up His sleeve in dealing with these Jews! The lure: #1 - Russia's need of oil. #2 - Gog. #3 - Elijah and Moses. By this time they have capitulated, like Saul on the Damascus road, “What will you have me do?”

Has the Lord any such surprises for the church as well? Yes, He has! Well, what is it? “Gog.” That one was for the Jews, Lord. We have no “Gogs” sitting on mountain tops!

The Lord says, Open your eyes and look upon your electronic mountains of religion that television has created. You have already had the Jim and Tammy Bakker story smeared all over the newspapers. Jimmy Swaggart is just one that got caught with his hand in the cookie jar. You remember the drunkenness of A.A. Allen, the story of Oral Roberts being held hostage in his tower, finally bailed out by a professional gambler, O.L. Jagers and his solid gold altar and his never die doctrine. Do you want me to go on?! Now we have an even greater problem; a new generation. We had enough with the old. Now hear this! Benny Hinn has already announced he is a “little god”. This sent such shock waves that both Jack Hayforth and James Robison, each, spent four hours with him. It was so serious to Hank Hanegraaff that he spent time with him, also, at which meeting he supposedly repented; gave up the wearing of a Rolex watch, and promised never to sling his coat across the stage again! The church finally realizes, We are our brother's keeper.

I am sure the slinging of a coat and the wearing of a Rolex were trivial in comparison to his claims of deity. Hank Hanegraaff, unconvinced, published an article in Christianity Today to expose the followers of Essek William Kenyon, or “Word Faith” ministries. It is worth reading, put out by C.R.I. (Walter Martin's Christian Research Institute).

Benny Hinn's ordination in the Assemblies of God, will be considered May, 1995. If accepted, he will be the main speaker at the next general council of the Assemblies of God in Springfield, Missouri. Could the "strong delusion" of 2 Thessalonians 2:11, that God promised to send, spring forth at this convention. "You shall be as gods." Believe this lie and be damned. 2 Thessalonians 2:12.

The Hagin-Copeland faith teachers, "International Convention of Faith Churches and Ministries" ordained Benny Hinn. The statements Benny alludes to, "Why everyone is doing it!" refers to this particular fellowship of preachers who have become disciples of E.W. Kenyon. The list includes Frederick K.C. Price, author of Name It and Claim It! The Power of Positive Confession, Marilyn Hickey, Kenneth Copeland, Kenneth Hagin, Jerry Saville, T.L. Osborne, Robert Tilton, John Avanzini, Charles Capp, Jan and Paul Crouch, and Morris Cerullo. Hagin's Rhema College ordains all of its graduates into this body of believers, so the list is constantly growing, creating an "army". "This is God's army!" Morris Cerullo says, and he is correct, but in the sense of "Gog's army" being used by the Lord. I will prophecy to you that more scandals like with Jim Bakker, Robert Tilton and Jimmy Swaggart are coming. God sends "hornets" to cause the real church to repent of dictatorship pastors! As in the natural, so in the spiritual.

What the church needs to pray for is another Ezekiel or George Whitfield to stand up to "Gog" and say to these "Word Faith" teachers, "*Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold I am against thee, O Gog...and I will turn thee back!*" Ezekiel 38:3-4.

Pentecostalism is the only religion that condones preachers owning their own churches, the only religion to handle rattlesnakes, the only one to ignore the Father and the Holy Ghost as does the United Pentecostal Church. These are our sins! Sins not relevant to Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians or Catholics. Only the emotional Pentecostal Charismatic supports a religion without any government. I am convinced Jesus was speaking directly to us Pentecostals who boast so much, and often possess so very little. "*Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of the Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? (have we not spoke in other tongues?) and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity* (Gk. - lawlessness, without government)." Matthew 7:21-23.

In fifty-three years in this Pentecostal religion, to my knowledge, only Diane Sawyer, on her Prime Time telecast, has denounced preachers "owning churches". To be called a steward, you will be asked to give an account for what you supported with your money.

"*A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land; the prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?*" Jeremiah 5:30-31.

This climaxes a letter in honor of Martin Luther King's birthday. No one gets it all; not even the races. The white man may be rich like Laodicea, but really a pauper in the things that matter: to worship God in spirit and in truth! When we get to heaven none of us will remember what color we were on earth, for "*God shall wipe away all tears.*" Revelation 21:4.

I want to commend by black brothers in Christ. I have never heard of a black preacher trying to handle a rattlesnake, to baptize in Jesus Name only, to form an all gay, black Metropolitan Church, to believe the British-Israel doctrine, O.L. Jagger's "never die" doctrine, E.W. Kenyon's "little gods", women pastors, and in the Pentecostal Church of God in Christ elders being "*lords over God's heritage*". 1 Peter 5:3. You have much to praise God for, having escaped the white man's "pollution" of the gospel. This can be attributed to the leadership of Bishop Charles Harrison Mason, who more clearly understood the subject of government that would work in the local assembly. It is self-evident that it is the whites that did not "endure sound doctrine" and all this pollution of the gospel came from them. Had the white man not rebelled against black leadership in 1912, he too could have avoided the pollution he fell into.

This past October, 1994, in the city of Memphis, Tennessee, an interracial movement was launched called, The Pentecostal Charismatic Churches of North America. This multi-racial organized group sought to be the voice for 18 million Pentecostal Christians in the U.S.A. Led by the two largest Pentecostal organizations, the Assemblies of God and the predominately black Church of God in Christ; six whites and six blacks became the executive board.

The Christmas issue of the San Francisco Chronicle carried the story, devoting 1½ pages to this phenomenon, under the heading "Reconciliation comes to the Pentecostals". In the ensuing article, it said, "William Joseph Seymour, the black preacher who led the early movement in 1906, wrote that 'the color line had been washed in the blood of Jesus.'" As I understood the article, the whites were also under the leadership of Bishop Mason, founder of the Pentecostal Church of God in Christ. (By the way, this is the fastest growing church in America today.)

"Before long, however", continues the story, "whites refused to submit to black leadership of the Church of God in Christ, and separate denominations were formed about 1912. Other white brothers pulled away from us...Now, they want to come back, says Pastor Martin of Oakland."

Had the whites remained in the one-fold under Bishop Mason, they would never have been cursed with this "hireling form of government", or so-called democracy. Dr. Cecil J. Lowry once told me, "I would never pastor a church the way the Assemblies of God has them set up." Instead, he went and owned his own church and became another "Gog".

If this attempt in Memphis will denounce the title "Reverend", which only applies to God, and denounce "Gog", God will bless The Pentecostal Charismatic Churches of North America.

I will close with a quote from Grant R. Jeffrey's book, Prince of Darkness.

"A man-made theocracy is the most dangerous and the worst of all possible governments. If a nation must suffer under a tyrant, it is preferable to endure a money hungry dictator than a religious inquisitor that wants to force all men to worship in a particular way. Eventually the greedy dictator may satisfy his greed. He may even realize at some level that he is in the wrong. However, the tortures inflicted by an inquisitor know no bounds because he is convinced he is absolutely right in his attempts to force his victims to change their religious beliefs. During the Middle Ages a religious tyranny, call the Inquisition, brought about the torture and murder of approximately forty million innocent men, women, and children for the crime of believing that the Papacy was a religious error. Many of these victims were born again Christians."

I prophecy to you Pentecostals that you will repent. Pastor John Hagee says just the opposite of Grant Jeffrey, who is a non-Pentecostal. "Theocracy is the only form of government", he says, and he ridicules the Baptists for not following his example. Pastor John Hagee, you are dead wrong! And, you will repent! Israel repented. What a miracle! Come on church. If the Jews repented, so can we!

The Assemblies of God need to repent for leaving the guidance of a man who knew how to make an organization work scripturally, Bishop Mason. Through pride, they chose the Laodicean form of government, "judgment of the people", decided on by the Assemblies of God in 1912.

The Assemblies of God don't even know the scriptural title for a minister. It is "elder"! The whites think an elder is a deacon, I guess. This word "reverend" is only mentioned once in the Bible. Its application is to God, not man. "*Holy and reverend is his name.*" Psalm 111:9. His name is holy and reverend, not your preacher. For starters, why not repent of your using God's name. If you first begin to call yourselves "elders" instead of "reverends", maybe we could let you join The Pentecostal Charismatic Churches of North America.