



**Bible Explorations, Inc.**  
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# Bible Explorations Newsletter

May/June 2016 Issue

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### PAST MEMO

I don't remember exactly what it said but it went something like this: We believe this is more than a private ministry reaching the world with present truth; it's a weapon in the hands of Yahweh to equip pastors, businessmen and women, warriors of today like Joseph, Moses, and Paul, and people who want to grow further into the depths of God's Word.

I've tried to make our newsletters in just that way, but this time I am really stumped. There was just too much information given at the last camp meeting feast to boil it down to one letter.

Fortunately we do have all the services on DVD at a very low price, but even they are not like being here.

The only way to clear up a slight misunderstanding is to talk to the speaker between meetings.

However the DVDs are clear enough and a whole lot cheaper than travelling to Terra Bella. Check the order page. Try not to be one that misses out.



### PENTECOST IS COMING

Lem Remeriz is our speaker this year at Pentecost. On Sabbath June 11, his topic will be "Pentecost at Mt. Sinai"; at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday the 12th, his topic will be "Pentecost in the upper room (1st century Pentecost)"; Then at 11 a.m. His 3rd message will be "Pentecost in the last days". These messages will give us the background and pertinence for what to expect in our future. Unless Yashua intervenes you will have Sunday afternoon to start your journey home. You may camp on the property and spend a little more time camping if you wish.

### SUGAR?

Little problems and big problems tell of disturbing issues at various places in our world.

"Coke" stops production in **Venezuela** amid sugar crisis. Coca-Cola ran out of sugar. The company announced late Monday that it has temporarily stopped production of Coke and other sugar-sweetened beverages as sugar stocks are disappearing in Venezuela. It's the latest sign of economic and humanitarian crises spiraling in Venezuela.

The country's embattled government can't afford to pay for basic imports such as raw sugar, milk, eggs and flour. Government employees are only working two days a week to save on power. And medical supplies are scarce causing a health crisis that affects the nation's 30 million people.

### **FROM ANOTHER CORNER OF OUR WORLD.**

CNN One in three gas stations in **France** is running dry! Workers protesting against new labor laws imposed by the French government have gone on strike at all eight of the country's oil refineries.

Three refineries have been forced to halt operations, and the government has made use of its emergency reserves of fuel for the first time in six years. One in three gas stations is short of fuel or completely dry, according to several reports in French media.

The new laws make it easier for employees to fire workers and reduce overtime pay. The government used special powers earlier this month to bypass the French parliament to pass the legislation because it feared the measures would be defeated.

Labor unions are demanding the government withdraws the changes, and are threatening even more disruption.

### **ROME, ANOTHER CORNER**



Al Shakarji, 51, stopped laughing as he described the moment Francis greeted him before the flight. "I felt security and peace — a man like this is a father to the world," he said. (Pretty good for a Muslim)

The **trip to Rome** was the end of a long journey that started in Dair Alzour, a Syrian town under siege by

Islamic State, where Al Shakarji recalls a rebellious neighbor's decapitated head hanging from a balcony for three days.

"Don't go to Syria," he said grimly, drawing a finger slowly across his neck.

In March of last year, Al Shakarji decided to risk fleeing down mined roads and past snipers to reach Turkey, taking his wife and three children with him. Between Islamic State and the government of President Bashar Assad, he saw little hope for his family in Syria.

"My two sons were approaching the age for military service and to stop them becoming assassins, for either Assad or ISIS, we had to go," he said.

Now, he says his oldest son plans on training as a dentist. But first, Sant'Egidio is organizing Italian lessons for the families in Trastevere.

Another of the Syrians brought to Rome with Francis is Nour Essa. Sitting outside a classroom at Trastevere, Essa clutched an Italian grammar book and tried out a hesitant "*Come stai?*" — "How are you?" — on an African refugee in her class.

Essa's family history is a refugee tale that spans the 20th and 21st centuries. Her grandfather was a Palestinian who fled the new state of Israel in 1948 and settled in Syria.

"The difference is there were two sides in 1948, whereas in Syria you can't understand how many sides there are," said Essa, 30.

She then married and had a child, but the war was creeping into her Damascus suburb. "We lived between checkpoints loyal to Assad and the Free Syrian Army and in 2015 we could smell the sulfur from chemical weapon attacks," she said.

Then her husband's draft papers arrived. The couple fled, starting a terrifying, 10-day journey across ISIS-held territory in an ambulance and then in a cattle truck. Stopping in Aleppo, her husband was ordered to fight by ISIS fighters — "real monsters," said Essa. But a smuggler guided them through minefields toward Turkey, where after waiting out rough seas and numerous tangles with Turkish police, they made it to Lesbos on March 18, packed into a dinghy at night with 50 other refugees.

"We had heard the borders were closing and had to hurry," she said.

"I was shocked when we were asked if we wanted to go," (to Rome) Essa said. "We shook the pope's hand

when we were on the plane and he caressed my 2-year-old son's head."

Addressing journalists on the flight back to Rome, Francis discussed the 12 Syrians on board, saying, "It will be the duty of the Vatican, in collaboration with the Sant'Egidio Community, to find them work, if possible, or to maintain them. They are guests of the Vatican."

What she is sure about is that no Muslim leader has made the gesture the pope did. "Muslim governments should be ashamed," she said.

"I will stay here in Italy and live **like an Italian**," said Al Shakarji.

### CASCADIA RISING

#### FEMA prepping for Pacific Northwest Megaquake



The Cascadia Subduction Zone spans from northern California to southern British Columbia. This subduction zone can produce some of the strongest earthquakes on the planet, and researchers are warning that the area could be long overdue for a quake that could exceed 9.0

While most people heard of the San Andreas Fault line in California, very little attention has been given to the Cascadia Subduction Zone. But when compared to the San Andreas, the CSZ is a much larger and scarier threat.

"Cascadia can make an earthquake almost 30 times more energetic than the San Andreas to start with, and then it generates a tsunami at the same time, which the side-by-side motion of the San Andreas can't do." Chris Goldfinger, a professor of geophysics at Oregon State University told CNN.

"This would be like five or six Katrinas all at once, up and down from California to Canada, would be the closest thing I can think of," said Goldfinger.

Federal, state and military officials are taking the threat seriously, and are working to put together a plan that will dictate their response when the 'Big One' hits.

The preparedness drill will test plans that have been put together over the last couple of years, plans that expects over 14,000 deaths, 30,000 injuries, and the complete devastation of the Pacific Northwest coast. According to

planners, the quake could devastate the region for decades and could displace a million people.

As bad as the quake will be, it's really only the tip of the iceberg. About 20 minutes after the quake strikes, a devastating Tsunami will slam the Pacific Northwest Coast. . . Taken from an article by Robert Richardson.

### My comment regarding Cascadia

It could be something more real than a glorified urban legend, especially as we consider Biblical statements about earthquakes as a part of last day events; and the fact that so many official preparedness programs seem to be in earnest about it is not conclusive evidence, but certainly adds a certain credibility.

I think the earthquakes predicted in Scripture must be extraordinary simply because earthquakes have been reported over the years. People say "We've always had earthquakes!" In order to get the world's attention surely they will be comparable to the recent large ones, and perhaps even larger as the time approaches.

### Have you ever had to face this comment?

Why don't I keep the feasts of Yahweh? Because they were attached to animal sacrifices, and the sacrificial system, and everything (meaning every day) attached to animal sacrificing had its spiritual significance nailed to the cross!!!

How pathetic: What they fail to realize, or make excuses for, is that the Israelites had animal sacrifices on every single day, and if their premise is true than there are no days to be considered holy.

To carry this a little further, some who say this, including teachers, choose to forget, or excuse Yahweh, for having more animal sacrifices on the 7th-day Sabbath than most any feast day.

So don't be buffaloed. It's an old argument that never did hold water.

### CNN FROM RUSSIA

It seems that Russia could eventually recognize that NATO is not a "bad guy" wanting to pick a fight, especially not with Russia.

"Russian President Vladimir Putin said Russia will retaliate against the placement of U.S. missiles in nearby countries such as Romania, according to Russia's state-run news agency TASS.



"The U.S. launched a ground-based missile defense system earlier this month in Romania. The system is meant to defend Europe against rogue states like Iran and not intended to target Moscow's missiles, Washington said.

"Putin issued his threat during a news conference Friday after meeting with Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras

"If yesterday in those areas of Romania, people simply didn't know what it means to be in the cross hairs, then today we will be forced to carry out certain measures to ensure our security." Putin said.

"NATO, which operates the missile defense system, said the missiles could not be used offensively as they don't include explosives and are designed to simply "punch" targets out of the sky."



Perhaps Putin thinks that explosives could be added very quickly and at minimal expense? Could be.

"The NATO run system is housed at a U.S. naval support facility in Deveselu, Romania, a site of a Romanian military base. An additional anti-missile platform is planned in Poland."

"It will be that same case in Poland" Putin warned, "We will wait until Poland takes certain action. We won't take any action until we see rockets in areas that neighbor us."

It seems that "wars and rumors of wars" will continue until the great consummation. Some have been and will be very bloody.

## I REMEMBER WHEN



Do you remember when SDAs considered themselves the "people of the Book"? We could point out the flaws of other beliefs and show that we believed in the entire Word of God, Old Testament and New, as it took the complete Word of God. to know His will. Those were the years that I came into the church. We would tell our non-SDA friends that we were the people of the Book and suggest that others were not. It worked successfully for several years. It may not have been the best method, but it usually produced good results - - - until we, the laity, could see where great parts of the Bible had been left out and some parts had been added.

Now it seems that it's just 'love Jesus,' pay your tithes, give offerings, and be entertained at church with no references made to the looming time of trouble nor what to do about it. The talk is about favoring the gays and if women should be ordained, etc., etc. and not a deeper and more productive study of the prophecies. If the prophecies are discussed it is only the surface understandings known years ago until it seems like old stuff to put on a shelf for later use.

But Ellen White clearly tells us to: "...trace the history of the controversy in past ages, and especially so to present it as to shed a light on the fast approaching struggle of the future. In these records we may see a foreshadowing of the conflict before us. " GC Intro. XI

I remember doing that once for the ministers at a Conference meeting using Daniel 11. Later my superior in the Conference read a letter to me from an official in the Union: "I hope this is not what he (meaning me) is presenting to his congregations!" etc. etc.

**Dan 11:42** He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape.

**Dan 11:43** But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the

precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians *shall be* at his steps.

**Dan 11:44** But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.

**Dan 11:45** And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

The above is how the chapter ends, I believe I did a present day application to the entire chapter.

Since I got reprimanded from high places for tracing the history of the controversy in past ages, and especially so to present it as to shed a light on the fast approaching struggle of the future, I had to make a decision, and I did.

Ellen White gives council to whomsoever will receive it, for instance of Daniel 11 she penned:

"Trace the history of the controversy in past ages, and especially so to present it as to shed a light on the fast approaching struggle of the future."



"Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place. The prophecy in the eleventh of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. Much of the history that has taken place in fulfillment of this prophecy will be repeated." Letter 103, 1904, p.6; RH July 8, 1976, p.9. Note that this was written years after its first fulfillment, and to take place well after 1900.

But do we hear anything of "much of it" being repeated? How will it be repeated? What are the signs of its being repeated? What part contains the "much" to be repeated? What pertinent warning is in it that will help me and my family be prepared for what it says?

No leader that I know of is making an attempt to find out what the prophecy means to the final generation.

But none the less, "In history and prophecy the Word of God portrays the long continued conflict between truth and error. That conflict is yet in progress. Those things which have been, will be repeated. Old controversies will be revived, and new theories will be continually arising." MS 12, 1895; 2SM 109.

"The prophetic periods of Daniel, extending to the very eve of the great consummation, throw a flood of light upon events then to transpire." RH 9/25/1883

So, where do we go to hear these ideas proclaimed with suggested possibilities of fulfillment? to the organized church? Not so. Hardly ever, except from bold ministers at rare locations. I hope you can find one. Otherwise group studies in homes, or Bible Explorations camp meetings. My oh my, this last camp meeting had oodles of such lectures. Hope you were here. Sorry if you missed out.

### THE TRINITY DOCTRINE

Seems to be one of the items not studied. How come? I found out that our church was practically non-Trinitarian as far as our pioneers were concerned, and the doctrine as we have it today came in after the death of Ellen White. Since there have been so many questions raised in recent years why hasn't an open forum been presented? Why do people bristle and get their backs up, over and against any such honest discussion? In fact it has become a "believe it or else" truth causing many to leave the organized church. What a senseless shame!

And then there is the stubborn resistance of the statutes in spite of the fact that the Scriptures tell that only those who recognize them will receive the Spirit of Elijah that we all want, and are at last seen on the sea of glass. Wow! What an exciting series of studies. But where do we go to hear good solid Bible teachings on the subject. To the church? Oh no! We are practically anathema for even bringing up the subject. Why? Is the church actually repeating the history of the stubborn and blind Pharisees in some ways?

### PENTECOST IN CANADA

One of our speakers for the fall feast of Tabernacles will be Tom Stapleton. He is doing a great work for our heavenly Father and for present truth. He is a Canadian that has taken messages to Australia in recent days. Tom is hosting a Feast of Pentecost for the Canadians in his area. I like his invitation letter and am glad to share a part of it with you:

"Shalom all you saints, we would like to formally invite you to the Feast of Yahweh. Wherever you are going to keep it, keep it with all of your heart. We would like to

share with you this invitation so that you know we are heeding the call to come up to the feast of Yahweh. If you are close enough to make it here by evening June 10 we would love to be graced by your presence.

"We encourage you to celebrate His appointed time wherever you are, even if it is two or three. They will honor you with Their presence because you honor Them. Find a venue that is close enough for you to go and encourage others in this journey we have been called to. The blessing of the Father and the Son awaits you.

"Yah bless you and your gathering on this Divinely Appointed Time. Let us not forsake the assembly of ourselves together as some do, especially as we look to the fulfillment of the outpouring of the Spirit to finish the work we have been given to do. He is coming soon but first He has a work for us to do in helping prepare others for His coming. If we don't see you soon, we will see you later."

### ALAN GREENSPAN Former Federal Reserve Chairman

During an exclusive interview to the Fox Business Network's Cavuto, coast to coast, gave a dire warning about the economy. He told Neil Cavuto the U.S. has a global problem of shortage in productivity growth and is headed for a state of disaster. We have a global problem of a shortage in productivity growth and it's not only the U.S. but it's pretty much around the world and it's being caused by the fact that the populations everywhere in the Western world, for example, are aging and we are not committing enough of our resources to fund that.

In another article the caption is "Alan Greenspan warns that Venezuelan style martial law will soon come to the U.S."

I don't really believe that "aging people" are the cause of such over rated instability, but I do believe there is a financial disaster that is coming and anything that costs money may be blamed. I believe Mr. Greenspan knows what the real issue is, but is not telling all the truth. As you know from previous articles, Ellen White indicates our lost economy just BEFORE Sunday laws are in place. You who read our newsletters have plenty of info about it and how to make some preparation for it. Perhaps some of this will be included in Brent Meikle's lectures this fall at Tabernacles. In fact I'm almost sure of it.

Let's spend our wealth wisely, especially our religious dollars. What we give to His work today may come back to us in a dire time of need. The saying is true - we cannot out give Him. Especially proud are we that He who owns the universe gives us such a privilege. The privilege of being obvious supporters of His work.

### MODERN SLAVERY



Sydney (AFP) - More than 45 million men, women and children globally are trapped in modern slavery, far more than previously thought, with two-thirds in the Asia-Pacific, a study showed Tuesday.

The details were revealed in the 2016 Global Slavery Index, a research report by the Walk Free Foundation, an initiative set up by Australian billionaire mining magnet and philanthropist Andrew Forrest in 2012 to draw attention to the issue.

It compiled information from 167 countries with 42,000 interviews in 53 languages to determine the prevalence of the issue and government responses.

It suggested that there were 28 percent more slaves than estimated two years ago, a revision reached through better data collection and research methods.

The report said India had the highest number of people trapped in slavery at 18.35 million, while North Korea had the highest incidence and the weakest government response.

Modern slavery refers to situations of exploitation that a person cannot leave because of threats, violence, coercion, abuse of power or deception.

I believe that deception should be the bottom line. A lot of the other things would disappear if folk were not deceived. Satan is the great deceiver and is partly responsible for a person believing wrong is right, or that a man, or group of men are in the place of a god. The Word would not have said "Be not deceived" if it were not possible. Think about it.

### SUSTAIN US

Because some of you do, Yahweh's message of His commandments, statutes, judgments and other important truths for our time are once again secure on four satellites. You who help us have joined with heavenly forces. We are pressing on together. Ever onward! Your generous offerings make it all possible. Without them there is no way in which this ministry could do what it does. We continue to get encouraging letters from various parts of the world. Praise our Yahweh.

# Bible Explorations

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