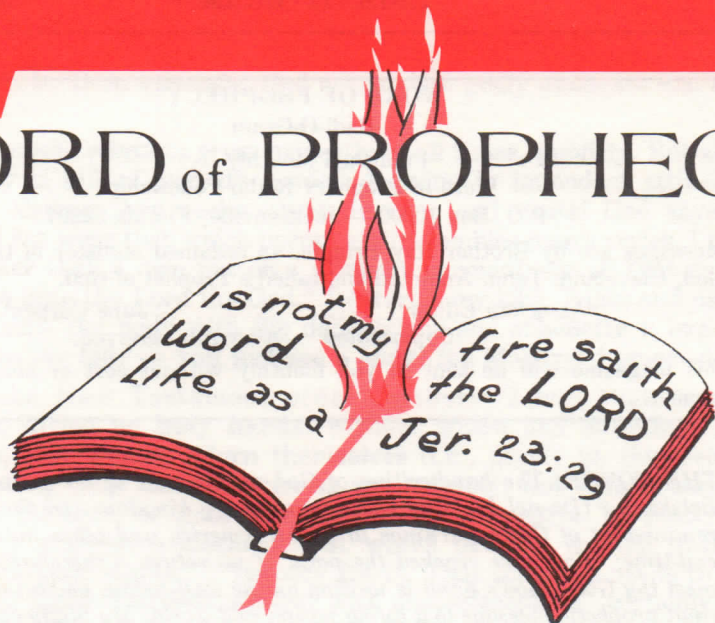


# WORD of PROPHECY



RADI - O - GRAM

March, 1978



GOD'S HANDWRITING ON THE WALL

Inside:

**\*\*Two Holy Ghost Revelations**

— A Shocking Look Into God's Prophetic Picture Window

**\*The Time of the End**

— A Warning to Charismatics —

**\*New Wine in Old Bottles**

## WORD OF PROPHECY

### Radi-O-Gram

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*THE COVER: The handwriting of God on the wall of the palace of King Belshazzar (Daniel 5), "God has numbered thy kingdom and finished it" is reminiscent of God's warnings to pagan America and other nations of the end-time: "You have reached the point of no return — therefore prepare to meet thy God." God's hand is writing on the wall today, emblazoned in His final prophetic message to a dying nation and world: My judgments will fall upon you soon with severity — therefore, repent or perish!*

## TIME OF THE END

No proverb of theologian or philosopher could be more truly written about America in this end-time generation than, "as America goes, so goes all nations of the world." As our sick, decadent, pagan society plunges recklessly forward into the terrible, rising judgments of God, other nations emulate our methods and follow our life-styles of moral perversion and spiritual decadence. The price is too great, and the road back is too long for our society to return to Bible morality and old-fashioned repentance to God — we'd have to give up our sins and selfishness and pride!

Who's to blame? Is our President, Congress, and the Supreme Court? No! The preachers of this generation are to blame — pantywaist, fun-loving, weak-kneed ministers who don't preach about our responsibility to God — responsibility to keep the 10 Commandments, to live a sanctified, holy life; to overcome sin — to fear God! Already now, God's hand has written on the wall that our society has reached the Point of No Return — and preachers who won't preach Holiness, Repentance, and the Fear of God are to blame. Politicians, parents, children, and our youth would not be so adamant in their rebellion against God's Word if pastors and evangelists had been preaching God's righteousness and judgment over the last 30 years. This Sick Society with this disgusting permissiveness toward sin and perversion would not be possible if this generation had produced a few real men of God who had fearlessly preached righteousness, temperance (self-control), and God's judgments during the last three decades. Acts 24:25. There is no fear of God before our eyes. Romans 3:18. The way of peace we have not known. Romans 3:17. "There is no truth, nor mercy, **nor knowledge of God in the land.** [And] By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out (i.e., break God's laws), and blood toucheth blood." Hosea 4:1-2.



What are the results of these abominations we're committing against God? Answer — "Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall **languish** (i.e., wither, fade, and lose our strength) with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away." Hosea 4:3. In the same revelation God warns: "My people (i.e., the church) are destroyed for lack of knowledge: **because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee . . . seeing thou has forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.**" Hosea 4:6. Oh my God, if the Christians would only hear this message — great would be the peace of their children! And themselves! God's message to His worldly church of this end-time is: "**As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore and repent,**" Revelation 3:19, and: "I have somewhat against thee, because **thou has left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent,** and do the first works." Revelation 2:4-5.

### HANDWRITING ON THE WALL

In the ancient kingdom of Babylon which had degenerated into a drunken, immoral, and totally depraved society, Bible history records: "Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem . . . and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them . . . In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another." Daniel 5:1-6. **The party was over** as the hand of God writing on the wall terrified the drunken revellers — they were all sober in one shocking moment of divine intervention! **Party's Over!** The terrified king cried aloud to bring in his ministers — the astrologers, the Chaldeans (sorcerers), and **soothsayers!** My, my, this sounds like the church's ministers of today! These theologians stared at the writing left by the hand of God on the palace wall, but alas, they could not read the true God's handwriting! "Then was king Belshazzar greatly troubled, and his countenance was changed in him, and his lords (also) was astonished." Daniel 5:9.

Who can read this strange message, queried the king and his counsellors? Enter the queen: "O king live forever: let not thy thoughts trouble thee" quietly advised the first lady of the empire, "There is a man in thy kingdom, **in whom is the spirit of the holy gods;** and in the days of thy father (Nebuchadnezzar) light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him . . ." Daniel 5:10-11. Praise God! God always, in every crisis, has a man, a holy man — often Bible history reveals that it was only one, as in Noah's days — to whom He can impart His message, wisdom, and gifts, who will dare stand alone to rebuke and reprove sin and rebellion against God.

Daniel was a prophet — he did not just read and interpret the message from God's handwriting on the wall — he rebuked this dissolute, pagan monarch before his thousand drunken revellers: "O thou king, the most high



God gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honor: And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him . . . But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him: And he was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses: they fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the most high God ruled in the kingdom of men, and that he appointed over it whomsoever he will, (Recorded in Daniel 4). **And thou his Son, O Belshazzar, has not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this;** But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven . . . Then was the part of the hand sent from him; and this is the writing that was written . . . Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin . . . God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. Thou are weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians." Daniel 5:18-28. Daniel, the lonely prophet, a holy man of God was forgotten by a decadent society and a profligate king until this mighty empire had reached the point of no return!

Who can read the handwriting of God today that is written against this perverted and violent society that is crime-ridden and corrupt to the core? Ministers of today's church are not interpreting it correctly and it's leading the church into a tragedy. As God's prophet cried, "To whom shall I speak and give warning, that they may hear? behold, their ear is uncircumcised, and **they cannot hearken: behold, the word of the Lord is unto them a reproach; they have no delight in it.**" Jeremiah 6:10. Also in the warning of the Apostle: "(In the last days man will be) Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth." II Timothy 3:7.

### THE FINGER OF GOD

When God's finger writes, and men and nations ignore God's message, God has no other choice but to send severe divine judgments. God's divine laws and word were written by His hand. "And he (God) gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon Mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of **stone, written with the finger of God,**" the Ten Commandments. Exodus 31:18. Why do preachers of today's sick, worldly church and sick society negate and abrogate the law of God by their publicly professed rejection and unbelief? If a person is really born-again, God's finger writes the Ten Commandments upon that person's heart and mind so he can live holy: "Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, This is the covenant (i.e., of grace) that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; and their sins and iniquities will I remember no more." Hebrews 10:15-17. A major difference between the covenant of the law and the covenant of grace is that God's finger writes His laws on the fleshly tables of our hearts, not on tables of stone. II Corinthians 3:3; I John 2:3-6.

Right now, the finger of God is busily writing His warnings to God's people about the consequence of their worldliness, sins, and abominations — and, the church is going into great tribulation for chastening and purging! Only holy,



anointed, God-called and God-fearing men can read God's handwriting accurately on the wall of today's fun-loving churches, and give them God's warning. Others look at these warnings with apathy, or with bewilderment as did the ministers to Belshazzar in Babylon. "Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets." Amos 3:7. To His prophet, God charged: "Thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me . . . And when this cometh to pass, **(lo, it will come)**, then shall they know that a prophet hath been among them." Ezekiel 33:7, 33. "And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets . . ." I Corinthians 12:28.

### TIMES OF THE GENTILES

This generation will soon come to the end of God's greatest dispensation of mercy to men — the age of grace, Ephesians 3:2 — but just before the end of God's period of grace (at that junction), we will enter a transition period of seven years called "**the time of the end.**" Daniel 11:35, 40. Also, "Go thy way Daniel; for the words are closed up and sealed **till the time of the end.**" Daniel 12:4, 9. "**The times of the Gentiles**" (Luke 21:24), i.e. from the cross of Christ until His return, will be fulfilled completely during the Time of the End, the last 7 years of this age — commonly called the Great Tribulation Period. A week in prophetic symbolism is a period of 7 years. Daniel 9:24-27.

During the rising Gathering Storm, an age of great moral corruption and spiritual darkness, on stage one, enter the antichrist and false prophet. For one-half of the last 7 years of the Time of the End, Antichrist will lead the masses of earth's billions into one last wild, mad fling of exotic pleasure, idolatry, sex orgies, sadism, drunkenness, gluttony, and world travel. The antichrist and false prophet will challenge God and His Word successfully for 3½ years, "Casting down the truth to the ground." Daniel 8:12. The false prophet through deception of lies and miracles will lead the world into worship of the antichrist's image. Revelation 13:8, 14-15. These master deceivers will agitate the world's deceived masses into violently persecuting God's true saints for 3½ years: "And it was given unto him (antichrist) to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: **and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations (even America).**" Revelation 13:7. Also, "Power was given unto him (antichrist) to continue forty and two months." Revelation 13:5.

God, in mercy, will intervene with two greatly anointed prophets in one last effort to stop man's maddening rush into hell. These will testify God's last message to a totally corrupt and perverted society — a message of mercy and reconciliation — but, the antichrist will overcome and kill them after 3½ years of their prophetic ministry. Revelation 11:3-12. The god of pleasure, through the beast out of hell, will prevail!

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### LET IT NOT HAPPEN HERE

Of 21 notable civilizations, 19 perished not from conquest from without, but from decay from within.

— Arnold Toynbee



### THE PARTY IS OVER

Homosexuals, fornicators, idolators, winebibbers, dope addicts, nudists, gamblers, revellers, and all despisers of God and the Truth will rejoice with the demons of hell! God's answer to the devil's counterfeit prophets have been killed! The bodies of those two prophets of God will be left lying in the street of Jerusalem where they are martyred, to rot! But, divine judgment will halt the partying: "They of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see (i.e., by world-wide TV) their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another (i.e., have a Christmas-like holiday); because these two prophets tormented them that dwell on the earth (i.e., the non-Christians). And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them. And the same hour was there a great earthquake . . ." Revelation 11:9-13. Here, billions of humanity, exotic pleasure lovers, will be watching their televisions, when suddenly God intervenes — this drunken party of man's last fling into vile affections, degrading their bodies in total animalistic appetites, comes to its bitter end. God gave them up! Romans 1:22-29. Please read! They dishonored their bodies between themselves.

The finger of God has written: "Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof . . . the earth mourneth and fadeth away . . . **the earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof**; because they have transgressed the laws . . . they shall not drink wine with a song; strong drink shall be bitter to them that drink it . . . there is a crying for wine in the streets; all joy is darkened, **the mirth (fun) of the land is gone.**" Isaiah 24:1-11. Also, "The loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low; and the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day. And the idols he shall utterly abolish. And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the Lord, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth." Isaiah 2:17-19.

Dissoluteness and permissiveness in morals and religion increase daily as pleasure, pride, excessive idleness, and intemperate eating and drinking increase. Noah's day, Sodom, Israel, Rome and other great civilizations are graphically detailed in character by the scriptures as warnings to this (our) rebellious, corrupt generation. "As I live, saith the Lord God, Sodom thy sister hath not done, she nor her daughters, as thou has done, thou and thy daughters. Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, **pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness** was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. And they were haughty before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good." Ezekiel 16:48-50.

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Strange as it seems, we are more inclined to hate one another for points on which we differ, than to love one another for points on which we agree.



### THE HIGH COST OF THE PARTY

Slogans that suggest excessive individual freedom without a corresponding responsibility flourish in our fun-loving, affluent social order — Travel now, pay later! Easy credit! Have fun now, months to pay! It's fun to be a Christian! Something good is going to happen to you, etc.! Our nation is bankrupt by every standard — we're living on deficit spending which won't work for long! God has written, "Whatsoever a man (or a nation) sows, he shall also reap." Galatians 6:7. "For ye have sown the wind and ye shall reap the whirlwind." Hosea 8:7. To the youth of our nation who have gone into rebellion and utter rejection of God's commandments, God has warned: "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of all thine eyes (not in God's ways, i.e.): but know thou, that for all these things **God will bring thee into judgment.**" Ecclesiastes 11:9. The church has lost nearly all the youth of this generation because it has not taught young boys and girls that God has demanded (not requested) that they live a holy and sanctified life — and, to fear God. "**Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.** For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." Ecclesiastes 12:13-14. This generation has sown their wild oats and they are going to reap a bitter harvest.

This last days' party — an orgy of drunkenness, dope addiction, cigarette smoking, sex perversion, abortions, gambling, and all types of permissiveness in sinful indulgences, has a terrible price that we all are going to help pay — and even now we're paying! This partying costs the revellers of America over 15 billion dollars annually for cigarettes — over 10 billion for booze — other billions of dollars are wasted on gambling, dope, and illicit sex. We, the taxpayers, are paying for their abortions, treatment of social disease, illegitimate babies, and medical care for the victims of these perversions whose sins have caught up with them. These sins cost taxpayers billions of dollars in taxation!

Broken homes and broken hearts are the most terrible part of the reaping — reaping what we've sowed! This represents vividly the high price of sin and rebellion against God's commandments.

But that is only the beginning of the cost of this pagan revelling! God's hand has written: "Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity (i.e., rebellion) shall not be your ruin . . . For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye." Ezekiel 18:30-32. Sin and rebellion are bringing ruin upon our once great nation — God's terrible judgments are already beginning to fall upon us and will increase swiftly in their fury! **What judgments, the skeptic scornfully demands?** Answer: God has warned us by His prophet: "At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom (i.e., any nation), to build and to plant it, If it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then will I repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit (bless, i.e.) them." Jeremiah 18:9-10! God, Yes, God Himself, is going to punish America for our sins, perversions, and abominations that are defiling this great land of plenty. Each successive winter now becomes more severe, coupled with heating shortages, food shortages, and power failures. Can we not read God's



handwriting on the wall? Our "bread belt" is becoming dust bowls, and crop diseases are increasing, thus diminishing our food supplies. Floods will contribute greatly to the projected famines in the living prophecies of that great prophet of Nazareth, Jesus Christ: "And there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places. **All these are the beginning of sorrows.**" Matthew 24:7-8. Tornadoes and hailstorms will greatly multiply our sorrows in the rising Storm of God's judgments. The Lord gave, and the Lord will take away. Job 1:21.

### TOO LATE TO CRY

The fulness of the Gentiles is reaching a climatic ending — Gentile nations are plunging ahead recklessly into their wild, insane orgy of exotic sex and perverted pleasure, mingled with their acceptance of exotic religion, studiously ignoring the warnings of God's Word and prophets. Saints, don't cry about these sick, depraved, hell-bound apostates — homosexuals, lesbians, women libs, and Bible-haters! Some of Jesus Christ's last words to the godly women of His dying society was, as he in agony bore His old rugged cross: "Jesus turning to them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me but weep for yourselves, and for your children. For, behold, the days are coming, in the which they shall say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck." Luke 23:27-29. We have reached the point of no return — we are weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. (Daniel 5:27).

Beloved in the Lord, our hearts must mourn for our family and God's elect before it is too late.

— then, persecution and harrassment will fall upon us with severity. Will God's saints suffer with the unbelievers in the rising judgments of God? Yes! It is already beginning! But, God will bring us through these sorrows if we'll obey and fear Him. Psalm 33:18-19; Jeremiah 15:11. Hunger will soon cause many in this nation to panic as God's finger has written upon the wall: "Son of man, when the land sinneth against me by trespassing grievously, then will I stretch out mine hand upon it, **and will break the staff of the bread thereof, and will send famine upon it**, and will cut off man and beast from it: Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord God." Ezekiel 14:13-14. It will soon be too late to cry over America, and even our own families. God's hand continues writing, magnifying his message of repentance, and warnings of His terrible judgments, upon the walls of our minds and consciences — the delicate barometers of our souls — seeking desperately to stop, or at least slow down, this maddening, toboggan slide into His escalating judgments, and hell!

### GOD'S MESSENGERS

The church of Jeremiah's generation has God censured: "Why trimmest thou thy way to seek love (i.e., the love of the world)? **therefore hast thou also taught the wicked ones thy ways.**" Jeremiah 2:33. Did you hear that indictment of the church by the Lord? "You have taught wicked people your ways!" This is the awful truth of today's church, and it is shocking! God sent to this church His messengers, the prophets, in a near abortive attempt to turn



His people and their preachers back to His holiness and the fear of God. "Judah hath profaned the holiness of the Lord which he loved," cried God's messenger. Malachi 2:11. "The chief of the priests (i.e., the ministers), and the people, transgressed very much after all the abominations of the heathen, and polluted the house of the Lord." II Chronicles 36:14. But in mercy, "The Lord God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place: But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and **misused his prophets**, until the **wrath of God arose against his people, till there was no remedy.**" II Chronicles 36:15-16. When God's own people refuse the message of warning, contemptuously, of God's true prophet, God's wrath will come upon His own people.

Beloved, be wise enough to exclaim with the righteous king of Judah, Jehosaphat: "Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; **believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.**" II Chronicles 20:20.

### REPENTANCE

There is yet time for God's people — the church and its ministers — to turn away from their worldliness and ungodliness. Rebellion against God's holiness and the fear of God has all but ruined the church and our whole nation. God promised His people centuries ago, "If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts (pestilence) to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and **turn from their wicked ways**; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." II Chronicles 7:13-14.

Thousands of God's people are going to mourn and repent in the rising sorrows that Jesus our Lord has foretold of. However, the prophetic message and warning must precede the Gathering Storm and the turning back of the church — that is why this is an absolutely essential, vital ministry to the church as we obey the Lord to: "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and **shew my people their transgressions, and the house of Jacob** (i.e., the church) **their sins.**" Isaiah 58:1. Also as the apostle declared: "Reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine (i.e., to the church)." II Timothy 4:2. Christ warned the church, "**As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.**" Revelation 3:19.

these predicted sorrows will come upon our nation and church will sore travail. Computers and electronic detection devices, ingeniously devised to regiment society into a faceless and classless mass, will soon be used upon God's saints to curtail our religious liberty as the kingdom of the antichrist arises,

Jesus forewarned all of His true followers: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy."

What will God have to send upon America to get her on her knees in repentance? **God is going to break the pride of our power** — militarily, economically, and materially! God warned Israel and all nations: "**and I will break the pride of your power; and I will make your heaven as iron, and your**



earth as brass: And your strength shall be spent in vain: for your land shall not yield her increase, neither shall the trees of the land yield their fruits: And if ye will not be reformed by me by these things, but will walk contrary unto me; Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and I will punish you yet seven times (i.e., seven times worse) for your sins." Leviticus 26:19-24. Can we survive when God turns our prairies into dust bowls (brass), and the clouds of the heavens become as iron? Well, we will survive, but barely, as God brings America low in His severe judgments.

In closing, let me repeat again that the cause of this wretched, spiritual bankruptcy, and massive rebellion against God's laws in every facet of our corrupt and sick society, even the church — bringing down upon us swiftly the thundering judgments of God — is weak, apologetic preachers; moral cowards, who will not preach old-fashioned repentance and holiness, with the judgments and the fear of God. Do you know such a preacher? There are many near you!!!

While our society, our national institutions of home and church, and our economy decay and collapse about us, what will you do — you and your family? You and I, i.e., all Christians are going into the fierce Gathering Storm — but, is your house built upon the Rock or on the sand? U.S. currency is failing fast. God asks, "And what will ye do in the day of visitation, and in the desolation which shall come from far? to whom will ye flee for help? and where will ye leave your glory." Isaiah 10:3.

In the rising age of spiritual darkness, the beginning of sorrows, God's hand has written that, "**They shall cast their silver in the streets**, and their gold shall be removed: their silver and their gold (i.e., money) shall not be able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the Lord: they shall not satisfy their souls, neither fill their bowels (i.e., their money won't buy food): because it is the stumblingblock of their iniquity." **The party will soon be over!** Our wild spending spree on luxury and pleasure by our government and citizenry will very shortly end in agonizing bankruptcy for both — our nation and each individual.

Money and pleasure combined is the god of this generation — the god of mammon! Matthew 6:24. Beloved, our time is coming to its end swiftly — the times of the Gentiles, for we are now entering the Time of the End. The final chapter to our biographies, God's record of our last hour in this age, is now being penned by God's angels. There is no better way for you to have your Finest Hour recorded in God's book than to help us get this essential, vital message and Holy Ghost warning to God's elect everywhere. Don't save your money — invest it in the coming Kingdom of Jesus Christ. You don't have to be especially smart, or sensitive to God's Spirit to discern readily the difference between this message and ministry from others. This message and ministry is totally unique among many — this is a true voice, not an echo! God's people must get these warnings that are from the Lord — it's a matter of life and death — a matter of defeat or victory in the rising persecution and sorrows that with severity will cause great panic and shock among Christians everywhere.

May God catch your heart in the grip of divine power and persuasion — May your ears be opened to hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches, and understand and ACT! NOW! Amen!

The End.



## NEW WINE IN OLD BOTTLES

What an illuminating illustration used by Jesus to introduce His teaching on one of the most important doctrines of the Word of God — New Wine in Old Bottles! Subject: Godliness and holiness! Jesus said, “No man putteth a piece of new cloth into an old garment, for that which is put in to fill it up taketh from the garment and the rent is made worse. **Neither do men put new wine into old bottles:** else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved.” Matthew 9:16-17. This reply was evoked by a question put to Him by the Pharisees: “Why do we and the disciples of John fast oft, and thy disciples fast not?” and Jesus said unto them, “Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the **bridegroom** is with them? but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and **then shall** they fast?” The Bride is forewarned by Christ, the bridegroom, that they will fast and mourn for His return — and, they must be filled with the new wine of the Spirit to be identifiable as His Bride at His unannounced return.

### PARABLE OF THE NEW WINE

Jesus' reference to new wine is a mighty inference to the Baptism of the Holy Ghost — the outpouring of the Spirit that began on the Day of Pentecost. Acts 2:1-4, 13. Our Lord makes it obvious that keeping full of the new wine and the exercising of the power that comes to the believer through the mighty infilling of the Holy Ghost is contingent upon fasting and mourning for the bridegroom's (Christ's) return.

### WHAT IS THE BOTTLE?

The new bottle in this parable of Christ is our body — any real Christian's body! “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God (your body) is holy, which temple ye are.” I Corinthians 3:16-17. A sinner's body is not the temple of God. A true Christian's body, a new bottle, is God's temple, and if a Christian defiles that temple with idolatry, God says, “I'll destroy it!” What a grave warning! “For we have this treasure in earthen vessels.” II Corinthians 4:7.

Again, God lays claim to our sanctified bodies: “What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost (a new bottle, i.e.), which is in you (the new wine, i.e.), which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: **therefore glorify God in your body**, and in your spirit, which are God's.” I Corinthians 6:19-20. Now remember this, Jesus is speaking about the Christian's body as being God's temple — and He warns that it belongs to God, He bought it, He has paid for it, and God must be glorified in it at all times or the Christian will be severely judged. “Know ye not that **your bodies** are the members of Christ?” I Corinthians 6:15. This grave warning no doubt compelled the Apostle Paul to cry out, “But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.” I Corinthians 9:27.

Knowing God's threat of severe judgment upon a Christian who desecrates his body with idolatry and world-conformity, the Holy Ghost pleads with the



believer: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present **your bodies** a living sacrifice, **holy, acceptable unto God**, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world . . ." Romans 12:1-2. God will not accept our body as His temple, as a bottle to be filled with the new wine of the Holy Ghost, unless we present it to Him in complete holiness! "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from **all filthiness of the flesh** and spirit (the outside of the body, i.e.), perfecting holiness in the fear of God. II Corinthians 7:1.

### SANCTIFICATION

Here's a warning from the Word of God and from the Holy Ghost: The Holy Ghost will not live in an unclean temple — the body that is — the bottle must be clean inwardly and outwardly. Now beloved, don't be fooled by pretenders or mimickers of the blessed Holy Ghost baptism. **The devil has a clever counterfeit — a phony Holy Ghost baptism.** You can see portrayals of this on TV programs, in so-called Full Gospel club meetings, and even in the Full Gospel churches. If they testify to having the Holy Ghost but live like the world, it's phony! The world and the Holy Ghost won't co-exist in the same temple. Many thousands go for the upper room experience, but by-pass Calvary; that's sanctification. "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might **sanctify** the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp (outside the church, i.e.) **bearing his reproach.**" Hebrews 13:12-13. "Sanctify" means to set apart unto holiness for God's use — that was Calvary's redemptive propitiation through the blood of Jesus' cross. Professing Christians will sing His praises, but refuse to live holy, thus escaping the bearing of His reproach, and cross.

The Holy Ghost says this about our bodies: "Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace **sanctify you wholly** (i.e. 100%); and I pray God your **whole spirit and soul and body** be **preserved blameless** unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, **who also will do it.**" Praise God! He will if you desire and seek to be sanctified. I Thessalonians 5:22-24. **Your body! Your body!** That is your eyes, your ears, your hands, your feet, your mind, your mouth, your hair, your knees, your stomach, your lungs, your heart! The God of the Bible commands, "Be ye holy, for I am holy." I Peter 1:16. This is not a request — it's an order! The "new bottle" is a sanctified temple for the Holy Ghost to dwell in, but He will surely depart when His dwelling place becomes defiled with lust-filled appetites and idolatrous practices in the believer's life-style. Like Samson (Judges 16:20), many followers of Christ today shake themselves but soon discover that the Spirit of God has left them.

### A WARNING

Jesus said, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, **that he may abide with you forever**; Even the Spirit of truth whom the world cannot receive . . .". John 14:16-17. It is God's will for the Holy Ghost to abide with a born-again believer for ever, but, it is conditional — contingent upon continued obedience! The Apostle exclaimed: "And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath



given to them that obey him (i.e. continually)." Acts 5:32. God also warns: "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." Ephesians 4:30. This is a warning to Christians — not sinners! If any man defile the Holy Ghost's temple (your own body), him shall God destroy, remember! I Corinthians 3:17. A rebellious Christian can blaspheme the Holy Ghost and He will depart. The Holy Ghost will depart from His temple when it is defiled — He will depart from His temple when it is disrespected — He will depart when He is grieved sorely. These departings can be temporary as was Samson's experience. However, to blaspheme the Holy Ghost, there is never forgiveness, and His departure is final and fatal. Matthew 12(31-32).

Here is a sober warning of the Holy Ghost that should put the fear of God into any Christian: "For it is impossible for those **who were once enlightened**, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come. If they shall **fall away** (i.e., depart from the faith or from obedience to God's Word — be rebellious), **to renew them again unto repentance**; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame." Hebrews 6:4-6. You ought to read that again and ponder that warning of the Holy Ghost soberly!

## TWO EXAMPLES

In the Old Testament, God used two men as vivid examples of Spirit-filled Christians — Samson and Saul. Samson was born a Nazarite; Saul was listed among the prophets. Judges 16:5, 25; I Samuel 10:6-11. Both were filled with the Spirit of God. The Apostle Peter declared that "the Spirit of Christ was in them." I Peter 1:11. The scriptures declare that Samson became worldly and the Spirit of God departed from him, and the enemy put out his eyes and bound him in fetters of brass — and he did grind in the prison house of the enemies of God. Months later, with humbled heart and afflicted body, the Spirit of God returned — but he died amid the destruction of his enemies. He defiled his body and he paid dearly — his body was destroyed. Judges 16:20-30.

Now notice, Saul suffered a worse fate: "**But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul**, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him." I Samuel 16:14. My God, how pitiful — a man who was once a powerfully anointed man by God's Holy Spirit! Why? Rebellion against the Word of God from the Prophet Samuel! "And Samuel said (to Saul), 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. 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 rejected thee from being king. And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord, and thy words: because **I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.**" I Samuel 15:22-24. And the Holy Ghost will leave a rebellious or stubborn Christian today, who refuses to obey the word of God completely. "For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries." Hebrews 11:26-27. And, an evil spirit will come into a rebellious



person and deceive him as was Saul. I Samuel 18:10-12. That evil spirit could prophesy (through Saul) and imitate the Spirit of God. The New Testament scriptures call these spirits who enter into rebellious Christians, seducing spirits. I Timothy 4:1-2. These are religious, making the possessed person religious, but they will not live holy nor respect God's Word that demands a separated, holy, sanctified life, which rejects worldliness and idolatry. II Corinthians 6:16-18.

### DESCRIPTION: OLD BOTTLE

God is not looking for old bottles as collectors' items, but He seeks old bottles that He can break and remold into purity and beauty. The Prophet Jeremiah was taught a lesson of the worth of old bottles in the hands of God at the house of the potter. Jeremiah 18:1-6. The marred bottle was broken and reworked by the potter into a bottle of usefulness and beauty. After Jeremiah had witnessed this transformation, the Lord commanded him to speak to backslidden Israel: "O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the Lord. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel." Our wills must be broken — not resisting the Holy Ghost for His work of the perfecting of holiness in our lives to be fully accomplished. II Corinthians 7:1.

What was our condition when God found us — an old bottle in the refuse dump? Here is the Holy Ghost's graphic description: "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one (an unregenerate person): There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God . . . Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways: And the way of peace have they not known: There is no fear of God before their eyes." Romans 3:10-18. This describes the wretchedness of each Christian before Jesus saved him. Worthless! That old bottle could not be filled with new wine! God does not clean up the old bottle — He makes the bottle new, with divine design! No patches in the old garment — they would rip out! No reformation! The old bottle would burst! God makes us into a completely new bottle, a clean vessel, a holy temple, for the Holy Ghost to dwell in. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature (new bottle or vessel): old things are passed away; behold, all things become new." II Corinthians 5:17. "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess **his vessel** (i.e., your body) in sanctification and honour." I Thessalonians 4:3-4.

### DESCRIPTION: NEW BOTTLE

"All things become new," vividly describes the new man or bottle that will be God's house in which to dwell. But God warns: "What agreement hath the temple of God (your body) with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. (Now note carefully the conditions by which our bodies become God's temple.) Wherefore come out from among them (idolators and the worldly, i.e.) **and be ye separate**, saith the Lord, **and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you**, And will be a Father unto you,



and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord almighty." II Corinthians 6:16-18. Now, the next verse: "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh, and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." II Corinthians 7:1. Now God is not going to take the cigarettes away from you, or make you dress modestly like the Bible commands, or keep you off the beach almost nude, or take that beer or cocktail out of your hand, or wash your mouth out for your filthy talk, or take that Jezebel-type make-up and jewelry off you worldly women — you must give those things up — clean up yourselves (i.e., your bodies), if you expect God to continue to dwell in you, and walk in you. There's no choice — worldly, pagan, immodest and idolatrous customs and life-styles must go quickly or the Holy Ghost will depart. He will not live in an unclean temple.

### THE GENIE IN THE BOTTLE

Jesus said of the Holy Ghost, "He shall glorify me." John 16:14. The Holy Ghost is given to holy men and women to glorify Jesus Christ through the use of their bodies. I Corinthians 6:20. "Glorify" means to give magnificence to. The Holy Ghost represents Jesus in our lives — His presence is as if the very Saviour himself were present. John 14:18. The only way possible for the world to see Jesus in you and me, not ourselves, is to be sanctified (i.e. crucified with Christ) and Spirit-filled — our bottle clean inside and out. As the Apostle reveals, "Knowing this, that our old man (old nature) is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin." Romans 6:6. He also proclaims **this** victory to the believers: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless **I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me:** and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20. Praise God! Christ could be seen living in Paul's body (the bottle, the temple) — not Paul!

There is a fable that relates the story of a man with a magic bottle having a genie inside. The man would rub the bottle and the genie would appear and perform the request of the bottle's owner. Well, the genie in our bottle is Jesus, and He demands to be seen in our bottle — not you nor me! Most

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### IS THE OFFENCE OF THE CROSS CEASED

(Gal. 5:11)

Let a person arise and proclaim by tongue or pen that he is a Christian, that he is pardoned, that he enjoys the witness of the Spirit, and not a ruffle or disturbance is created. But let him declare in assembly or in the columns of a religious periodical that Christ has sanctified his soul, and then comes the storm. For making such a claim Madam Guyon was imprisoned. For asserting we could be sanctified instantaneously by faith, John Wesley was assailed on every side. There is something about the doctrine that seems to arouse the antagonist. Satan cannot endure it, nor does he propose that the Church shall come into the possession of the lost blessing of Pentecost.

— Beverly Carradine



Christians I know project a poor image of Jesus because they do not cleanse themselves from all filthiness of the flesh (body) and spirit — and they don't perfect holiness in the fear of God! God says, you keep the outside of the bottle clean (your body) so the world can see the genie in the bottle — Jesus Christ. He is our master, we are His slaves in contrast to the genie and owner of the magic bottle. Jesus will cleanse the inside of the bottle if we will keep the outside holy. The genie did the will of the bottle's owner, calling him "Master." The genie in our bottle, Jesus, is our master — we bow to His perfect will and are assured of His continued presence and help.

### BORDERLINE EXPERIENCE

God demands us to be "filled with the Spirit." Ephesians 5:18. Jesus commanded His **saved** disciples: "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with **power** from on high." Luke 24:49. Being saved, or just born again is not being filled or baptized with the Holy Ghost. The apostles and disciples of Jesus were saved and baptized, but as John prophesied, "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I . . . he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire." Matthew 3:11. Praise God! Being simply justified by faith or saved is to be added to the church or body of Christ. Acts 2:47. Also, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body." I Corinthians 12:13. We are saved through the work of the Spirit (I Corinthians 12:3), baptized into the body of Christ by the Spirit (I Corinthians 12:13), sanctified by the Spirit (Romans 15:16), and baptized or filled with the Spirit (Holy Ghost). A saved person receives Christ in their hearts: "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith." Ephesians 3:17. The scriptures also declare, "If any man have not the **Spirit of Christ**, he is none of his." Romans 8:9. The prophets and holy men of the Old Testament had the Spirit of Christ in them (I Peter 1:11) but the New Testament scripture reveals that before the Day of Pentecost, "The **Holy Ghost** was not yet given (i.e., poured out) because Jesus was not yet glorified." John 7:39. The baptism of the Holy Ghost is a different and **fuller manifestation** of the Spirit of Christ. A saved person receives the earnest of the Spirit's fulness — not a filling, nor the baptism of the Holy Ghost as revealed in Acts 2:4. "(God) hath also sealed us, and given the **earnest of the Spirit** in our hearts." II Corinthians 1:22. The Holy Ghost seeks to fill your body; and your whole body becomes His temple when you are baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire — a saved person truly has the Spirit in his heart — but what a difference! It is borderline in comparison!

Being just saved or born again brings us into the kingdom of heaven. "(God) hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son." Colossians 1:13. Being sanctified, and baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire brings us into the kingdom of God: "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the **Holy Ghost**." Romans 14:17. So, Jesus commanded us: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness." Matthew 6:33. Jesus foretold his apostles that the kingdom of God would come **with power** in its outward manifestation. Mark 9:1. It came at Pentecost in fulfillment to His promise: "But ye shall receive **power** after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you," (Acts 1:8), for He had unveiled this mystery earlier in his ministry thusly: "For,



behold, the kingdom of God is within you." (Luke 17:21) — Holy Ghost power! Praise God! The subject of the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of heaven is hardly understood by most Christians — I have written a booklet on the subject for a complete study, "The Bride of Christ." Write and request it.

### IDOLATRY

What mars or impairs the usefulness of the bottle as the temple of God? The body or bottle may be offered to the Lord, but, rejected because of idolatry: "Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say." I Corinthians 10:14-15. The Holy Ghost has commanded us: "Cleanse yourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." II Corinthians 7:1. And, He is not just requesting you or me to do this — God orders us to do this or we'll become idolators. So quit stalling, rebelling, or alibiing — **perfect holiness in the fear of God**, in your body and spirit! — For, "Many are called, but few are chosen." Matthew 22:14.

(1) **Filthiness of the Spirit:** What is it? Well, first we must know that Jesus said that pride, evil thoughts, adultery, murder, covetousness, blasphemy, foolishness, hatred, etc. comes from the heart of man. Mark 10:20-23. Only Jesus' blood can cleanse our heart, and soul — but we must sanctify ourselves through complete obedience to the Word of God. John 15:3; I Peter 1:2. Jesus prayed, "Father, sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." John 17:17. If God will "sanctify us wholly . . . soul, body, and spirit," (I Thessalonians 5:23-24), why don't we let him?

Self-will, stubbornness, rebellion, self-pity, anger, and guile are the paramount vices of the spirit and they are filthy. God says, "Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry, for anger resteth in the bosom of fools." Ecclesiastes 7:9. God further declares, "Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity (rebellion), and in whose spirit there is no guile (i.e., deceit, duplicity, or a double-standard)." Psalms 32:2. Praise God! The Holy Ghost warns, "For **rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.**" I Samuel 15:23. If we become rebellious against God's word and will not perfect holiness in the fear of God — i.e., cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, the Holy Ghost will leave you or me empty and rejected. "Thus saith the Lord, stand ye in the ways (the broad and narrow ways, i.e.), and see, and **ask for the old paths**, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said (stubbornly), we will not walk therein . . . Reprobate silver shall men call them, **because the Lord hath rejected them.**" Jeremiah 6:16, 30. Jesus warned us: "Wide is the gate, and **broad is the way** (i.e. a way in which you can do as you please), that leadeth to destruction, and **many** there be which go in thereat. Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way (i.e., the way of holiness that has restrictions), which leadeth unto life, and **few** there be that find it." Matthew 7:13-14. What a heartbreaking situation in our sick society — the self-will, stubbornness, and rebellion against God's holiness as taught in His Word are causes for church members and professing Christians to be rejected by the Holy Ghost, and they blindly follow the broad way into destruction — rejecting the old paths of true holiness!



This appalling situation of our sick society caused the Holy Ghost to cry out prophetically to God's end-time saints: "Walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind. Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the **ignorance** that is in them, because of the **blindness** of their heart: (This next verse is the condition of most professing Christians today) **Who being past feeling** have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all **uncleanness** with greediness." (Now listen carefully to this): "**But ye have not so learned Christ**; If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: That ye put off concerning the **former conversation** (this means your former life-style) the old man . . . And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and **true holiness** (i.e., new life-styles completely unlike the worldly ones)." Ephesians 4:17-24. Beloved, beware! There is a worldly "holiness" and a true holiness! "Follow peace with all men, and holiness (true), without which, no man shall see the Lord." Hebrews 12:14.

(2) **Filthiness of the flesh**: What is it? The bottle (our body, i.e.) must be kept holy and free from idolatry or the Holy Ghost will move out! God is not kidding you and me about this grave matter — perfect holiness in the fear of God. Don't just be barely holy, but make it perfect! II Corinthians 7:1. God's temple must not be unclean nor pagan — our bodies must be holy and offered unto God a living sacrifice. Romans 12:1-2. They cannot be dressed by world conformity to Hollywood styles of clothing, nor decorated with pagan fashions of jewelry, paint, or short hair styles on godly women. I Corinthians 11:14-15. The Holy Ghost means that "every one of you should know how to possess his vessel (your body or bottle) in sanctification and honor . . . for God hath not called us unto uncleanness, **but unto holiness. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God**, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit." I Thessalonians 4:4-8. God states here that if you reject this message and hate it, you don't hate me, but you hate Him.

I hate living in an unclean house, motel room, church, etc. So much more, the Bible reveals, does the Holy Ghost hate uncleanness. I hate to breathe in a smoke-filled room or car, etc. The Holy Ghost will move out of that temple of yours if you continue to smoke, my brother or sister in Christ. Read this: "And they that are Christ's have (notice, they already have) crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts." Galatians 5:24. The love (appetite) for worldly, fleshly things will not co-exist in the same temple with the love (appetite) for holy, spiritual things. These fleshly appetites war against the soul. I Peter 2:11. "If any man love the world (lusts of the flesh, etc.) . . . **the love of the Father is not in him.**" I John 2:15-16. The Holy Ghost won't live in the same body (or temple or bottle) with alcohol, dope, adultery, or other uncleanness. This is idolatry! It is putting self, and fleshly desires above Christ — the body becomes an idol, exalting its desires above Christ's desires. Our whole body, soul, and spirit must be **preserved** holy and blameless unto the day of Christ. I Thessalonians 5:22-24. How can a new bottle have new wine and old wine in it at the same time? Impossible! A clean bottle can only have that which is holy in it — a defiled bottle would burst and the new wine would be lost; and the bottle perish, Jesus warned. Matthew 9:17.

The tongue must be bridled in the temple of the Holy Ghost — our body! The apostle accuses professing Christians: "Out of the same mouth proceeds



blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be . . . no fountain can both yield salt water and fresh." James 3:10, 12. Also, "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers." Ephesians 4:29. Further, "**Let it not be once named among you as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting.**" Ephesians 5:3-4. God said the old nature is full of **cursing** and bitterness" (Romans 3:14), but He doesn't accept this out of us who are the temples of the Holy Ghost! Read Colossians 4:6!

### EVERYTHING NEW!

If we are in Christ, "**all things** have become **new!**" II Corinthians 5:17. God has given each Christian a new heart and a new spirit: "Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols (idolatry), will I cleanse you. **A new heart** also will I give you, and **a new spirit** will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes (commandments), **and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.**" Ezekiel 36:25-27. Praise God for this prophetic promise which is fulfilled by the work of Calvary and the Holy Ghost in the lives of God's true saints under grace. "That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Romans 8:4. Hallelullah! I walk in God's righteousness through the power of the Holy Ghost in a clean temple! Be sure to read Hebrews 10:15-22, a New Testament confirmation to us of Ezekiel 36:25-27!

We are also designated a "**new lump**" by the Holy Ghost (I Corinthians 5:6-8) upon the condition that as God's saints, "we purge ourselves from the old leaven of malice and wickedness . . . using the **new leaven of sincerity and truth.**" Sincerity is not enough — obedience to the truth (God's Word) must accompany our sincerity in seeking God's will, and then walking in it.

Remember, God orders our vessel (body) to be kept in sanctification and honor — rejecting world conformity. Concerning modesty the Holy Ghost commands: "Whose adorning (women who are saints, i.e.) let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair (i.e., decorating the hair), **and of wearing of gold**, or of putting on of apparel (decorative clothes, i.e.); But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time (i.e., all through Bible history) the holy women who trusted in God, **adorned themselves**, being in subjection unto their own husbands." I Peter 3:3-6. God's Word says that throughout the Bible record, all holy women dressed modestly, without jewelry (i.e., without painted faces and eyes, pearls, earrings, rings, etc.) and were in subjection to their (godly) husbands. The ungodly, rebellious women in recorded Biblical accounts, dressed idolatrously, like the heathen and their pagan gods, or idols. Jezebel is a symbol. II Kings 9:30.

### IT IS A MATTER OF LOVE

Chastity and submission will be the identifying character of the Bride — **it's a matter of love!** We must take heed and live by every Word of God, said



Jesus. Luke 4:4. Love and obedience are synonymous with The Bride of Christ. "Jesus answered, and said unto him, **If a man love me, he will keep my words:** and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings." Read this all — John 14:21-26! Jesus commanded His disciples to go to the upper room in Jerusalem and to tarry until they were filled with the Holy Ghost. Luke 24:49. We must be baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire (Acts 1:5) to be filled with God's presence. I John 4:12-13. "**The love of God** is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." Romans 5:5. Who are truly baptized with the Holy Ghost? "And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that **obey him.**" Acts 5:32; Acts 2:38; Ephesians 5:18.

The Holy Ghost is seeking to purify a people to be in the Bride of Christ. Millions of Christians who live in the flesh and not in the Spirit are unprepared for Christ's coming. We cannot let the world, friends, nor seducing spirits beguile us into rejecting this message. "Fear not little flock; it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom," Jesus said in Luke 12:32. The Bride of Christ will be numerically small among the whole body of Christ, but listen: "And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and **not be ashamed before Him at his coming.**" I John 2:28 and I Corinthians 15:34. Even the prophets of old warned of letting others hinder us to our shame: "Hear the Word of the Lord, **ye that tremble at his word;** Your **brethren** that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the Lord be glorified: but he (Christ) shall appear to your joy, and **they shall be ashamed.**" Isaiah 66:5. Read that verse again! Most Christians will not like you when you live holy and sanctified — when you reject the world and its fashions — they will call you fanatic or old-fashioned — but don't let it get the best of you — that is part of the suffering you must do for Christ's sake to be in the Bride and be delivered out of the Great Tribulation! Look at

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### A GREAT DIFFERENCE

MAX JUKES lived in the state of New York. He did not believe in Christian training. He married a girl of like character. From this union they have studied 1,026 descendants. Three hundred of them died prematurely. One hundred were sent to the penitentiary for an average of 13 years each. One hundred and ninety were public prostitutes. There were 100 drunkards, and the family cost the state \$1,200,000. They made no contribution to society.

JONATHAN EDWARDS lived in the same state. He believed in Christian training. He married a girl of like character. From this union they have studied 729 descendants. Out of this family have come 300 preachers, 65 college professors, 13 university presidents, 60 authors, three United States congressmen and one vice-president of the United States. The difference in the two families: "Christian training in youth and heart conversions." The Bible-based Sunday school offers this to the youth of our nation.

— The Convention Herald



Revelation 16:15, NOW!: "Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and **keepeth his garments** (white, i.e.), lest he walk naked, and they see his shame." The Bride is compared to "a lily among thorns" in the midst of other Christians. Songs of Solomon 2:2.

### A HOLY REMNANT

"Whether, therefore, ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." I Corinthians 10:31. To do that, it surely is a matter of love for Christ, the Bridegroom. If any man loves this world — the lusts of the flesh — the lusts of the eyes — the pride of life — **the love of God is not in him.** I John 2:15-17. "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. **Set your affections on things above**, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory." Colossians 3:1-4. Read verses 5 through 23 for a detailed listing of qualifications for the Bride of Christ.

Saints of God who desire to enter the Kingdom of God and will strive to be in the Bride, must be careful what they listen to. Jesus said, "**Take heed what ye hear**; with what measure you mete, it shall be measured to you: and **unto you that hear shall more be given.**" Mark 4:24. Jesus was speaking of the Kingdom of God to His disciples, dropping this warning, "Be sure you hear correctly what I'm saying about the Kingdom and you will have a better reward." In verse 23 He had warned: "If any man have ears to hear, let him hear." Oh, how the Holy Ghost needs to open the spiritual ears and eyes of God's people everywhere to understand and to obey these revelations of the Word of God. To prepare for being in the Bride of Christ, a saint of God must set all his affections on things in heaven — devoting his time, energy, mind, soul, and body in striving to meet the Bridegroom's approval. There must be no time for idleness, worldliness, or yielding to the lusts of the flesh — **these must be overruled. It's a matter of love!** Every lackadaisical effort will be rewarded with shame.

God has had a **holy remnant** in every generation. "Remnant" means "what is left over" from a larger piece or group. "Even so then at this present time also there is a **remnant** according to the election of grace." Romans 11:5. The Apostle Paul reminds the church (verse 4) that in Elijah the prophet's day, there was a remnant of 7,000 who had been faithful to God! In Noah's day the **remnant** of holy people had dwindled to just 8 souls! In our day, Jesus said

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**Winston Churchill** once said: "If you will not fight for right when you can easily win without bloodshed; if you will not fight when victory will be sure and not too costly; you may come to the moment when you will have to fight with all odds against you and only a precarious chance of survival. There may be even a worse case. You may have to fight when there is no hope of victory, because it is better to perish than live as slaves."

— Sawdust Trail



conditions would be as it was in Noah's day, indicating that a small holy **remnant** will be in the Bride of Christ. In Babylon (Daniel 1), the Lord had a **holy remnant** who would not eat the meat nor drink the wine that was dedicated to the pagan god of the idolatrous king, thereby jeopardizing their lives! The other church members compromised and lived like their heathen captors. Beloved, God has a small remnant of church members in America today who are not going to bow to the god of this world and defile themselves with world-conformity. They will not dress in its fashions nor indulge themselves in its sinful worldly pleasures. Daniel and the three Hebrew children purposed in their hearts not to defile themselves with the idols of Babylon. Daniel 1:8. After three years the king found them to be ten times better and wiser in knowledge and understanding than all the others who did not remain faithful to God. Daniel 1:19-20. Those Christians who are accepted as God's jewels, the Bride, will not compromise with satan and conform to this present evil world. Galatians 1:4 and Romans 12:1-2. **It is a matter of love — the Bride for the Bridegroom.** Jesus said that his disciples were not of this world and they should not conform to it. John 15:18-20; 17:14-16.

The women who worshipped pagan gods, all through recorded Bible history, dressed like their idol — with painted eyes and face, jeweled hair, ears, neck, and even the legs. God has always abhorred idolatry and has always commanded godly men and women to dress modestly — unlike the pagan idolaters about them. Of Jezebel, an idolatress, it is written: "**She painted her face, and tired her head.**" II Kings 9:30. Are you ladies who profess Christ going to obey the Bible or some pantywaist husband or preacher? Are you going to model your styles after Sarah, a godly woman, or Jezebel, a harlot and idolater? Do you idolize the movie stars or Christ?

The prophet of old, in the Word of the Lord rebuked the women who professed to be godly: "Thou didst wash thyself, **painted thy eyes, and decked thyself with ornaments** (this includes those old crosses hanging around people's necks) . . . And the **righteous men will judge them** after the manner of adulteresses (this judgment is the responsibility of righteous men of God) . . . Thus saith the Lord, I will bring up a company upon them . . . and the company (God's judgment) shall stone them with stones . . . and shall slay their sons and their daughters, and burn their houses with fire. Thus will I cause lewdness to cease out of the land, **that all women may be taught not to do after your lewdness.**" Ezekiel 23:40-49. Why aren't women taught what lewdness is? Answer: Today's pantywaist preachers are moral cowards — many are blind, and most of the others are not even born again, much less Spirit filled!

God says for us as saints to be an example to the believers! I Timothy 4:12. These world conforming ones are examples but what terrible examples they are! **Most professing Christian women lead other women further from God**

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Every day in the United States over 2,000 families are dissolved, either through divorce or separation of the father and mother. Sad to say, some of these situations are found even among Christians, despite God's solemn warning in Proverbs 11:29.



**and the truth by their example.** God needs more godly examples and less big mouths!

God commands saints to dress modestly at all times, publicly. But alas, the church today is full of ungodly women dressing in immodest attire! Short dresses, no sleeves, low necks, tight dresses, and pants! God says, "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth (resembles men's styles, i.e.) unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are **abomination** unto the Lord thy God." Deuteronomy 22:5. Pants and pantsuits on women defile the body with the delineations and silhouette it exposes — **you don't see the lady — you just see a body!** It's idolatry! Immodest!

Here's the New Testament order further: "I will that **men** pray everywhere, lifting up **holy hands**, without wrath and doubting. In like manner also, that **women adorn themselves** (i.e., pretty up themselves) in **modest apparel, with shamedfaceness** and sobriety; **not** with broided (i.e., gold woven in) hair, or gold (rings, jewelry) or pearls, or costly array (exorbitantly expensive clothes); But which become women professing godliness with good works." I Timothy 2:8-10. That scripture needs to be run by again and again. "Modest apparel with shamefacedness" certainly means that swimming or sun bathing in scanty clothes, exposing the body, is an abomination with God. The Holy Ghost will be grieved into departing from a Christian who becomes lewd in his or her dress — thus defiling God's temple.

All professing Christians need to take a hard look at this discerning scripture: "But in a great house (i.e., the church) there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honor, and some to dishonor. If a man therefore purge himself from these (i.e., that which dishonors God's temple, your body) he shall be a vessel unto honor, **sanctified**, and meet (worthy) for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work." II Timothy 2:20-21.

(3) **In Conclusion:** "**Keep thyself pure,**" the apostle exhorts the expectant disciple of Christ, "**Neither be partaker of other men's sins.**" I Timothy 5:22. The wisdom of God cries out in a sober warning to His young saints: "Let not thine heart envy sinners (i.e., what they do lewdly): **but be thou in the fear of the Lord all the day long.** For surely there is an end; and thy expectation shall not be cut off." Proverbs 23:17-18.

Beware of soothsaying preachers who reject these warnings from the Bible and the Holy Ghost. "**These things teach and exhort.** If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and **to the doctrine which is according to godliness;** He is proud, **knowing nothing**, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, **Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth,** supposing that gain is godliness: **from such withdraw thyself.**" I Timothy 6:2-5.

Remember, the Holy Ghost will not dwell in an unclean or defiled temple. Keep the new bottle holy! Amen!

The End.