

REVELATION 12

A WOMAN CLOTHED WITH THE SUN



GOD'S REMEMBRANCERS

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...in other words, if you reject one point of truth, or take one step aside into one point of error - unless you repent immediately and get back to the light - you will take more and more steps into erroneous beliefs, and one by one give up the points of TRUTH you had seen and accepted...

- Herbert W. Armstrong -

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1

A Great Red Dragon

The vision of Revelation chapter 12 has baffled many students of Bible prophecy for centuries and they have varied interpretations of the symbolism that were used therein by the apostle John. They will never ever come to understand the hidden meanings thereof unless God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ will unveil it. Much of that understanding has been revealed by God through an end-time Elijah who "restored all things to God's Church" (Matthew 17:11). Let us consider what Mr. Gerald Flurry has written about the Revelation 12 prophecy:

A Great Red Dragon

At the beginning of Revelation 12, God describes a woman and a dragon. "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars" (verse 1). The context here, along with other scriptures, show that this woman represents the true Church of God. God clothes and honors her as only God can!

"And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads" (verses 2-3).

upon plagues—and then, at the end of that day of wrath, it climaxes in Jesus Christ returning to this Earth!

Verse 11 starts talking about “the seven churches,” which are, prophetically, the seven eras of the New Testament Church. It began during Jesus Christ’s earthly ministry, and it has continued for two millennia to the present day.

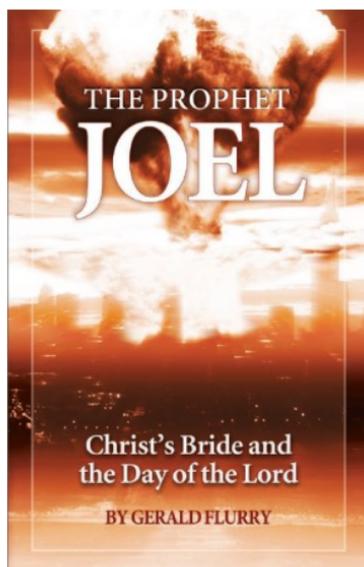
Christ has an important message for each of these seven eras. He is alive. Verse 13 shows that He is right in the midst of the seven churches, deeply involved in them. Christ personally guides and directs His Church, era by era. He explains our responsibilities, and guides us to help us fulfill them.

The world has never understood these messages. They are not intended for the world. Christ addresses them specifically to the seven eras of His Church. He is addressing us.

In his booklet *The Key to the Book of Revelation*, Mr. Armstrong wrote, “The second and third chapters contain the messages to the seven churches. These represent the Church in its seven successive stages through the age, and also the seven characteristics to be found in the Church all through the age—the Ephesian condition dominating at the beginning, the Laodicean condition at the end.”

He then wrote, “You should study, and apply to yourself, these messages.” Each of us should take that advice to heart. (p. 2, *Royal Vision* September-October 2012)

Notice that even the book of the prophet Joel has a message like that in the book of Revelation - it is all about Christ's Bride and the Day of the Lord:



2

A Woman Clothed with the Sun

Going back to verse 1: “And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars.” Again, the woman here represents the true Church of God. But what does the SUN represents?

The SUN which gives light represents God's TRUTH:

The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple." (Psalms 119:130, NIV)

Jesus said that He is the TRUTH since He is the Word of God personified; He is also the SUN of Righteousness (John 14:6; Malachi 4:2)

“The path of the righteous is like the morning sun, shining ever brighter till the full light of day.” (Proverbs 4:18, NIV; see also Psalms 37:6; Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 6:23)

Once the SUN has spread out its light, “there is nothing hid from the heat thereof” (Psalms 19:5-6).

“Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. **But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light,** so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done

in the sight of God.” (John 3:20-21)

The SUN could also pertain to God's more sure word of prophecy:

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto **a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:**” (2 Peter 1:19; Psalms 19:1, 4-7; Revelation 19:10)

Here is what Mr. Gerald Flurry wrote about this verse in 2 Peter chapter 1:

The Day Star

“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts” (verse 19). Your hearts, Peter wrote. He is making this very personal.

What did he mean by saying “a more sure word of prophecy”? Remember, it is in the context of his reminiscing about that vision on the mountaintop.

When Peter saw that image of God's Kingdom, he didn't have God's Holy Spirit in him. He is saying that when the Spirit of God comes into you and gives you revelation, then that is the most sure, certain word of prophecy there is—having God directly inject it into your mind via the Holy Spirit!

He says that we should “take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn”—which day? The sunrise of the wonderful World Tomorrow! That is what we live for. The Second Coming is the living hope

Peter talked about.

But notice: It doesn't end there, with Christ ruling the Earth. Then comes something even more spectacular: "and the day star arise in your hearts."

Hearts refers to the center of our spiritual lives—and this is the center: Revelation 22:16 calls Christ "the bright and morning star." Revelation 2:28 says that God will give the overcomer "the morning star," speaking of our becoming the Bride of Jesus Christ and shining as He does! This occurs after "the day dawn." Christ will return, He will meet His saints in the air— and then the day star will rise in our hearts! Christ in us will rise in our hearts, and in a sudden change we will be sons of God who look like Christ, and we will be the Bride! (pp. 34-35, *The Epistles of Peter: A Living Hope* 2011 edition)

Therefore seeing the WOMAN being clothed with the SUN would mean God's Church has been clothed with God's truth and a more sure word of prophecy. And those TRUTHS from the Ephesus era to up to the Laodicean era were then taught to God's people as the TRUE DOCTRINES OF JESUS CHRIST.

What Is a "Doctrine"?

A doctrine is just one more point of truth about the purpose and plan of God.

A "doctrine" is not an utterly disconnected "idea" or philosophy about some completely irrelevant and vague sounding sanctimonious something!

A doctrine is not a cherished argument — a weapon one uses with which to fight against some other doctrine!

A doctrine is a simple truth from God's Word. It is a fact, a truth, which further explains the

whole purpose of God, and the great plan He is using to work out that purpose here below!

John wrote: "Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed" (II John 9-10).

"This doctrine" is the doctrine of Christ; it is not various doctrines about Christ — quaint little "stories" and traditions about His birth, or sentimental teachings using His name for window dressing — but the very truth which He brought!

Christ is the Word. "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake ill time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son... by whom also he made the worlds" (Hebrews 1:1-2). He is the Bible, personified.

The real truth, then, the true doctrine of Christ, is the truth which He reveals through His Word — not a pagan superstition, ancient tradition, or "idea" about Christ or the Bible manufactured by men.

God says: "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith..." (Ephesians 4:4-5).

One Faith — meaning one body of beliefs, one set of doctrines, one perfectly harmonious truth believed and practiced by the true Church of God. Unless a point of truth you may believe fits perfectly and harmoniously into the whole of the doctrine of Christ — unless each truth you have

learned only further serves to elucidate, clarify and further explain the whole of the plan of God — then it may not be a "truth," but error. (pp. 29-30, Seven Proofs of God's True Church)

Again, by letting the Bible interpret itself, the WOMAN being clothed with the SUN would simply mean: God's Church has been clothed with the TRUE DOCTRINES OF CHRIST which includes the SPIRIT OF PROPHECY that "further explains the whole purpose of God, and the great plan He is using to work out that purpose here below!" - i.e., "Christ will return, He will meet His saints in the air—and then the day star will rise in our hearts! Christ in us will rise in our hearts, and in a sudden change we will be sons of God who look like Christ, and we will be the Bride!"

3

And the Moon Under Her Feet

Now let us consider the MOON: What does it represent? To better understand what it symbolize, let us first consider where it gets its brilliance:

You know that Earth would be a dismal place without its bright, shining neighbor — the sun. But did you know that the moon would also be just another dull orb if not for the sun's rays?

The moon shines because its surface reflects light from the sun. And despite the fact that it sometimes seems to shine very brightly, the moon reflects only between 3 and 12 percent of the sunlight that hits it.

The perceived brightness of the moon from Earth depends on where the moon is in its orbit around the planet. The moon travels once around Earth every 29.5 days, and during its journey, it's lit from varying angles by the sun. (<http://www.livescience.com/45979-why-does-the-moon-shine.html>)

Since the MOON is just getting its BRILLIANCE from the SUN by reflecting the light coming from it, thus the MOON in the apostle John's vision corresponds to the COUNTERFEIT

DOCTRINES and DECEPTION that has been injected into God's Church by the GREAT DRAGON, Satan the devil (Revelation 12:9). Those COUNTERFEIT DOCTRINES which is pictured by the MOON got its BRILLIANCE from the TRUE DOCTRINES OF CHRIST as represented by the SUN. Satan was able to deceive many of God's people through Simon Magus and his minions, and they became successful in infusing counterfeit doctrines beginning with the Pergamos era (Revelation 2:14). As the apostle Peter and Jude has warned us through their epistles that these Simon Magus group was able to creep in unawares as they did in the past eras from Ephesus to Philadelphia, and is prophesied to be so even today, the Laodicean era.

“The epistle of Jude speaks of these followers of Simon Magus: “For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ” (Jude 4). Mr. Armstrong explained that these “certain men ... ungodly men” were Simon’s disciples, infiltrating the Church. Their doctrine was to turn God’s grace into lawlessness!”(p.5, Royal Vision, September-October 2012)

As further explained by Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, this counterfeiting scheme has started as early as the 1st century by Satan through the church that was started by Simon Magus in A.D. 33

Counterfeit Gospel

By the sixth decade of the first century, much of the Middle East had turned from the true gospel to a counterfeit (Galatians 1:6-7). As late as the 90s A.D. the apostle John was still living. He wrote the book of Revelation on the Isle of Patmos.

A little later the church started by Simon in A.D. 33 was trying to turn the true Christian Passover (Christ had changed its form from that of sacrificial lambs to unleavened bread and wine) into Babylonian ceremony, now called, in English, “Easter”—named after the goddess Astarte or Ishtar (pronounced “Easter” in some Semitic dialects).

After the death of the apostle John, a disciple of his, Polycarp, waged a controversy over the Passover-Easter question with the bishop of Rome, by then leader of the church started by Simon. Still later, another disciple of Christ’s true Christianity, Polycrates, waged a still hotter controversy over the same Passover-Easter question with another bishop of Rome.

This theological battle was called the Quartodeciman Controversy. Polycrates contended, as Jesus and the original apostles taught, that the Passover should be observed in the new Christian form introduced by Jesus and by the apostle Paul (1 Corinthians 11), using unleavened bread and wine instead of sacrificing a lamb, on the eve of the 14th Nisan (first month in the sacred calendar, occurring in the spring). But the Rome church insisted that it be observed on a Sunday. (p. 41, *Mystery of the Ages*, 2009 edition)

Mr. Gerald Flurry even further emphasized A GREAT PLOT that Satan has enacted through Simon Magus over God’s Church.

SATAN THE DEVIL HAS ENACTED A GREAT PLOT over the centuries to cover up the history of God’s Church. We need to understand this plot because it is a WARNING to God’s people today. Throughout history, God’s

people have had to battle to hang on to the truth. The Apostle Paul repeatedly warned God's people against turning to another gospel – a gospel of men rather than the gospel of God (2 Corinthians 11:4; Galatians 1:6). Jude spoke of the same danger. 'Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints' (Jude 3). ... 'For there are certain men crept in unawares,' verse 4 says, 'turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness,' or lawlessness. Men who were not converted were creeping into the Church and causing serious problems...

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG SHOWED HOW THESE PROBLEMS IN THE CHURCH AT THAT TIME, WERE LARGELY SIMON MAGUS'S DOING. **Mr. Armstrong proved how Simon Magus was at work in the Corinthian church, and how Paul's, John's, Jude's and Peter's writings show that all these apostles had to battle this man's influence...**

There was a pattern: It was the same group of people basically causing all the problems. This powerful Simon Magus kept right on coming, and rebels kept growing and multiplying and continually causing problems in God's Church. ...We need to understand this because it makes it so much more clear what God's Church is dealing with today. MR. ARMSTRONG'S INSTRUCTION IN THIS IS REALLY CRITICAL. (The True History of God's Church Part 2, November-December 2012 issue, page 1)

4

A Crown of Twelve Stars

The woman or God's Church has upon her head a crown of twelve stars. What could be the twelve stars being shown in the apostle John's vision in Revelation 12?

"Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." (Matthew 19:27-28)

Upon the head of the woman is a crown of twelve stars which signifies that she is under the guidance of the 12 apostles who will be judging the 12 tribes of Israel thus indicating that this crown of twelve stars is directly connected to the throne of God's glory. Therefore, it points us to this conclusion that every doctrine of the Church will have to revolve around the foundational teachings of the 12 apostles of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:19-20; 3:3-5). (Note: The number 12 also signifies God's government.)

Here is what *Matthew Henry Commentary* wrote:

As having on her head a crown of twelve stars. That is, the doctrine of the gospel preached by the twelve apostles, which is a crown of glory to

all true believers

Why did God inspire that the 12 stars be specifically placed upon the HEAD of the woman? That is so, in order to constantly REMIND His Church about the TRUE DOCTRINES of Christ (the SUN) through the 12 original apostles, so that she will be able to PUT the COUNTERFEIT DOCTRINES of Satan (the MOON) that were injected into God's Church through the ages UNDER HER FEET! In God's perspective, it is ONLY BY WAY OF REMEMBRANCE that God's Church can overcome Satan's deception!

Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, **to stir you up by putting you in remembrance**; Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease **to have these things always in remembrance. For we have not followed cunningly devised fables**, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty." (2 Peter 1:12-16)

Apparently, there were people then who have *followed cunningly devised fables*"- **COUNTERFEIT DOCTRINES being symbolized by the MOON!** Let us take a brief look at what the end-time Elijah wrote about how the true doctrines of Christ have been replaced with counterfeit doctrines through the ages.

Seven Church Eras

The book of Revelation records seven messages to seven churches that existed in Asia Minor toward the end of the first century A.D.

These churches—Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea—were located along one of the mail routes of the old Roman Empire.

Riders would follow the route—carrying messages from town to town. The messages to the seven churches have words of both encouragement and correction and they clearly show the dominant characteristics of each of the congregations at that time.

But these messages were intended for a wider audience than the Christians in these small towns. They are a series of remarkable prophecies, by which the future of the true Church was foretold in outline form, from the day it began on *Pentecost, A.D. 31, until the Second Coming of Christ.*

The history of the Church would fall into seven distinct eras—each with its own strengths and weaknesses and its own special trials and problems.

Just as a message could pass along the mail route from Ephesus to Laodicea, so would the truth of God be passed from era to era.

It was like a relay race—in which the baton is passed from runner to runner, each one doing his part, until the finish line is reached.

Some time during the early decades of the second century, the baton was passed from the Ephesian era to the people that God had called to the Smyrna era of his Church.

Powerless, often persecuted, and rejected as heretics, the world lost sight of them. Instead, there emerged from the lost century a church that was steadily growing in popularity but growing

further away from the gospel that Jesus taught. Persecution continued at various times under the Romans until the fourth century, when Constantine recognized the degenerate Church of that period as an official religion of the empire.

But the Church that he recognized was by now very different from the Church that Jesus founded. **The doctrines and teachings that he had taught his apostles were now buried amid the trappings, ceremonies, mysteries and rituals of a church that called itself by the name of Christ.** It was essentially the Babylonian Mystery religion, now being called Christian, accepting the doctrine of grace but turning it into license. In other words, it was the old pagan Babylonian Mystery religion wearing a new cloak: "Christianity."

Once Constantine recognized them, this Church threw renewed energy into taking its message to the world. Teachers and preachers went to all parts of the Roman Empire with a message about Christ. Thousands— maybe millions—heard this gospel and believed it. But it was not the gospel Christ preached—his prophetic message of the coming kingdom of God. (pp. 218-219, *Mystery of the Ages*, 2009 edition)

Although throughout all the Church eras, from Ephesus to Laodicea, Satan may have tried so hard to inject his false and counterfeit doctrines to God's Church, yet as God has promised that "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18). This enmity between the woman and Satan has been prophesied even as early as the Garden of Eden:

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his

heel. (Genesis 3:15)

And even with just the first verse, we can already see what the apostle John saw - the outcome of the WAR between God's Church and Satan:

“And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars” (Revelation 12:1).

This is indeed a great wonder in heaven: The WOMAN or God's Church has been clothed with the SUN – the TRUE DOCTRINES and a more sure word of prophecy that has been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, of which Christ Himself is the chief cornerstone (Ephesians 2:19-20; 3:3-5). Although Satan through his Simon Magus group has attempted to lure the woman with the BRILLIANCE of the MOON which is the COUNTERFEIT DOCTRINES; she was still able to put the MOON UNDER HER FEET because of the CROWN OF TWELVE STARS UPON HER HEAD that serves as a constant REMINDER wherein everything has to revolve around the government of God implementing and teaching ONLY the TRUE DOCTRINES of Christ which He set through His apostles and prophets! God's Church is being admonished by the chief apostle Peter **NOT to follow cunningly devised fables** - like the EDSTONE campus acquisition!

"Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance; Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance. For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made

known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty." (2 Peter 1:12-16)

But what if there are men under Mr. Gerald Flurry who has esteemed him as a potter's clay in their hands and they were able to introduce *cunningly devised fables*? What do you think could possibly happen?

5

The Last End Joshua and His Fellows

The supposedly new and last phase of God's Work in Edstone, Warwickshire England may seem to have some BRILLIANCE because the 25 leading ministers of the PCG are promoting it. In reality, the Philadelphia Church of God is now in the very midst of this specific prophecy:

*“Woe unto him that saith to the **wood (Bricket Wood)**, Awake; to the **dumb stone (Edstone)**, Arise, it shall teach! Behold, it is laid over with gold and silver; and there is no breath at all in the midst of it. (Habakkuk 2:19)*

These 25 leading ministers of the PCG first tried to AWAKEN the Bricket WOOD estate, but failed to do so. Now they have tried to establish Edstone in a grandiose way (“Behold, it is laid over with gold and silver”) to become a college campus (“Arise, it shall teach!”), yet it does not have God's blessing on it through His signet, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong. In their deceived minds, they think that by using the namesake of the end-time Elijah on the college campus would make the Edstone Hall valid in God's eyes. Instead, what they are actually doing is that, they are putting a branch in His nostrils! “They are trying to cut off the life of God's Church!” (Mr. Gerald Flurry, *Ezekiel* booklet, p. 57).

They may continue to put the Edstone work in a pedestal, yet you cannot compare it with the BRILLIANCE coming from the WORK in Jerusalem which the Eternal has chosen. Now look closely at how Stephen Flurry has described this campus in England through his twitter account: "**Beautiful start to the day on God's land.**"



Wait a minute! What has happened to Stephen Flurry? Is he in his right frame of mind? He has now called Edstone, GOD'S LAND! That description was supposed to have been accorded FOR Jerusalem of all places on this earth, but it was given to Edstone, Warwickshire, England instead! Even Edmond where God's house (Armstrong Auditorium) has been built was not associated with being such. What do you think does God feel? It's an ABOMINATION ON TOP OF ABOMINATION! Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong even wrote of this specific prophecy concerning our time today:

Listen! God was showing the Prophet Ezekiel the sins of His people in a vision — a prophecy for today! "Turn thee yet again," said God, "and thou shalt see greater abominations than these [Ezekiel had just been shown, in vision, idol worship among professing people of God]. And he brought me

[in vision] into the inner court of the Eternal's house, and behold...between the porch and the altar, were about five and twenty men, with...their faces toward the east; and they worshipped the sun toward the east. Then he said unto me, Hast thou seen this, O son of man? Is it a light thing...that they commit the abominations which they commit here?...Therefore will I deal in fury: mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: and though they cry in mine ears with a loud voice, yet will I not hear them"! (Ezek. 8:15-18.) **Do you grasp what this most abominable thing is?** (p. 11, The Plain Truth About Easter)

Again as Mr. Armstrong asked, "**Do you grasp what this most abominable thing is?**" Some in the PCG might say, "That prophecy is not for us. Anyway we are God's people. We are God's Church and we are doing God's Work." But here is what Mr. Gerald Flurry said:

It's one thing to be God's people. It's another to be doing His Work. The big question is not "Are we God's Church?" **It's "Are we doing the CONTINUAL Work of God?"** (Daniel Unsealed At Last, p. 7, 2012 printed edition)

With Edstone being chosen over Jerusalem, let us ask ourselves: "Are we doing the CONTINUAL Work of God in Edstone?" and "Is it really God's land as Stephen Flurry claims?" We ought to be honest with ourselves and answer these questions on our knees praying to God for understanding. Consider this *Key of David* episode where Mr. Gerald Flurry said:

THE BIBLE SAYS THAT GOD HAS CHOSEN JERUSALEM. Now, why would God choose Jerusalem? And surely if God chooses a city, Himself, you'd think that would

be, well, pretty impressive news in this world.
BUT NOT MANY PEOPLE PAY ATTENTION TO THAT, and yet we are to become perfect, as our Father in heaven is perfect (Matthew 5:48), **SO IF HE CHOOSES JERUSALEM, THEN THAT STRONGLY TELLS US WE SHOULD CHOOSE IT, AS WELL.**" (Why You Must Watch Jerusalem, Feb.11, 2015)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mtmPrA4O9bw>

Yes"**GOD HAS CHOSEN JERUSALEM...BUT NOT MANY PEOPLE PAY ATTENTION TO THAT**" including his own son, **STEPHEN** and the other **PCG leading ministers**. God calls them the drunkards of Ephraim. Now, we can have all sort of justification about the Edstone work regarding what Mr. Gerald Flurry himself has written about a man from the PCG specifically from the tribe of Judah who will sit on David's throne at the Place of Safety as indicated in the prophecy in Isaiah 16:5 -

*"And **IN MERCY** shall the throne be established: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging, and seeking judgment, and hastening righteousness."*

But why do you think God inspired the prophet Isaiah to write

that the throne will have to be established in MERCY? Why is there a need for MERCY in the first place? To know the answer, let us elaborate on this subject by quoting Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong in one of his sermons:

“Now I want to show you what David went through, **in the 51st Psalm. Here is a prayer of David when he woke up and finally realized what had happened.** Most people would say that any man that’s done those things, he’s no good. God couldn’t use a man like that, and yet I think they must sit in judgment of God, calling a man like David a man after God’s own heart.

Well here’s why David’s a man after God’s own heart. Look at this prayer. He was crying out to God, he said, “**Have mercy upon me** Oh God according to thy loving kindness, **according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies** blot out my transgressions.” **Now he’s beginning to admit his transgressions. He’s admitting how wrong he was.** “Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquities,” MY iniquity, “cleanse me from MY sin,” now he’s confessing it. “**For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.**” And then, notice verse 10, I won’t read all of it, but just notice in this prayer. Verse 10 it says, “Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.” He confessed his sins and David never did it again.”(Source: March 4, 1982 sermon - PASSOVER EXAMINATION)

Did we get it? God only gives His mercy to those people who repent towards Him. And we only seek God’s mercy if we have sinned against Him. Now going back to the question, why is there a need for MERCY in Isaiah 16:5 for the throne of David to be established? Because the man who **is supposed to sit on**

that throne until Christ will take over it at His return has greatly sinned against God! Who is he? He is none other than Stephen Flurry who actually fulfills the last end Joshua and NOT Mr. Gerald Flurry. Let's further elaborate on this: we were first taught that the Joshua prophecy in Zechariah chapter 3 has been fulfilled by Joseph W. Tkach.

“And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan; even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?” (Zechariah 3:1-2)

Let's discuss this even further so we can have a clear picture:

§ Mr. Joseph W. Tkach has long been gone since his death on September 23, 1995, so can you explain how can this prophecy of Joshua being plucked out of the fire (or Great Tribulation) be fulfilled? So this Joshua has to refer to someone else and NOT Joseph W. Tkach.

§ This Joshua has sinned against God and the context of his great sin revolves around choosing another place while God chose Jerusalem. Let us consider this carefully and open our eyes to the cold truth: In the *Trumpet Weekly Newsletter*, June 22, 2012; Stephen Flurry was so ecstatic and filled with great excitement over the work in Jerusalem. He even announced that he has already found a place in Mizpah to be used as the regional office there. But what happened after only six short months when on December 2012, the idea of a work in Ireland and England came on the picture through a scripture which was injected by Wik Heerma to Mr. Gerald

Flurry, (i.e., Jeremiah 4:15 “For a voice declareth from Dan, and publisheth affliction from mount Ephraim.”). Notice again this verse: “And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him”

This shows there was a struggle between an angel of God and Satan over which work to choose – whether a work in Jerusalem or a work in England and Ireland. But now it is for everyone to see that the latter has been chosen with Edstone Hall being bought on November 12, 2014. Now the theme being proclaimed inside the PCG is that “VICTORY is in the air!” Yes indeed it is VICTORY – VICTORY for the GREAT DRAGON, Satan the devil! This last end Joshua is now calling Edstone, God's land!

§ This last end Joshua has his own fellows as indicated in verse 8: “Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at (or more appropriately MEN OF SIGN). This clearly is referring to Stephen Flurry and NOT to Mr. Gerald Flurry for he does not have any fellows to begin with, moreover, he is being esteemed as a potter's clay in the hands of this elite group of PCG ministers. This group doesn't want anyone from the Church lay members to get to him.

So have we already seen WHY there is a need for MERCY for the throne of David to be established? Because this last end Joshua committed INIQUITY!

“For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone shall be seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the Lord of hosts, and **I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.**” (verse 9)

And because of this iniquity being found INSIDE God's Church, He has to remove "the nail in the sure place" (Mr. Gerald Flurry) to fulfill the duality of the 70 weeks prophecy in Daniel chapter 9. And WHEN (NOT IF) this last end Joshua repents, God will extend His mercy unto him because he was only swayed by Satan's men inside the PCG to choose the Edstone work over the Jerusalem work. Now consider this prophecy in Zechariah chapter 6 which Mr. Gerald Flurry has not taken into account on how that throne of David will be established:

"Then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and **set them upon the head of Joshua** the son of Josedech, the high priest; And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The Branch; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord: Even **he shall build the temple of the Lord; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne:** and the counsel of peace shall be between them both." (Zechariah 6:11-13)

In God's mercy and upon the repentance of this last end Joshua by accepting God's strange work involving a BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE, David's throne shall indeed be established in MERCY. Stephen Flurry has to clothed himself with the SUN and he has to put the MOON under his feet so he can wear THE CROWN OF TWELVE STARS on his head by way of REMEMBRANCE.

"And the angel of the Lord protested unto Joshua, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by."

(Zechariah 3:6-7)

Well, some in the PCG may say, "Surely God will not allow Stephen Flurry and the ministers of the Philadelphia Church of God to lead God's people astray. We cannot be deceived by Satan, they may add." But we must remember that the context to the whole chapter of Revelation 12 revolves around Satan's GREAT DECEPTIVE POWERS (Revelation 12:9). Now notice what Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong said about the process of being led away from the LIGHT of God's truth:

You take one such false step, accept one false "truth" and refuse to REPENT of it at once, and turn from it, you will then go into more and more error.

For 54 years now, I have seen this happen - all too often to those I have loved. If people mourn and weep over a loved one who dies, HOW MUCH MORE have

I had to MOURN and suffer over the SPIRITUAL loss of a brother or sister in God's Church!

Let me illustrate. One is walking along in a thickly wooded forest on a moonless pitch-dark night. But just ahead of him is an experienced guide with a lighted lantern. If he follows that lighted lantern, he will be led safely out of the woods. But if he turns aside a step or two and hesitates, the light continues on out of his sight. Then he is really lost. If one turns aside from God's truth on just one point, or one doctrine, and does not quickly repent, the light of God's truth moves on. In his self-centered effort to find the light of truth, he now walks blindly in wrong directions. He takes more and more steps in the

wrong direction. That is, he proceeds into more and more error, all the while losing more and more of what truth he had.

God's Word, the Holy Bible, is "a lamp unto our feet" to guide us out of the darkness of error and into the daylight brightness of TRUTH. The oil that produces the light in the lamp or lantern, causing it to light up to our understanding, is the Holy Spirit (of Psalms 119:105, Matthew 25:1-13).

So comprehend the illustration. We all were lost in the dark woods of sin. On first realization of it, with repentance and belief, we received the first portion of God's Holy Spirit. The Bible begins to light up. It is as many as are led by the Spirit of God that are the begotten sons of God . (Romans 8:14) The Spirit of God, by lighting up the Bible leads us a step at a time, into more and more truth. And a step at a time out of error and sin. But if and when you reject one point of truth, it is like stepping aside in the dark woods. You are no longer being led by the Spirit of God opening the Bible to right understanding. The light - the Spirit of God - leaves you. God's TRUTH marches on! It leaves you behind. You are in darkness again. Lost again in the darkness of sin! You stumble around in the thick dark woods trying to find the lighted lantern. But every step you now take is taking you farther away from the lighted lantern proceeding on the SURE path out of the woods.

In other words, if you reject one point of truth, or take one step aside into one point of error - unless you repent immediately and get back to the light - you will take more and more steps

into erroneous beliefs, and one by one give up the points of TRUTH you had seen and accepted.

Take the example of some ministers who left God's Church. Some tried to incorporate new "churches" of their own. But they were not GOD'S churches. These men had all rejected one or more points of truth, or Church doctrine. They almost immediately began to add new points of false doctrine of their own - not of God. Soon they began rejecting points of TRUTH. Perhaps it was tithing. Perhaps healing. Perhaps voting in this world's governments. Perhaps it was God's Government in the Church. Soon they were rejecting God's annual Holy Days and Feasts. Soon they were rejecting more and more of GOD'S TRUTH and turning to more and more FALSE doctrines and errors. THEY, PROFESSING TO FOLLOW CHRIST in their new way, WERE GOING FARTHER and FARTHER AWAY FROM HIM. They were going closer and closer to Satan and Satan's WAY. (p. 1, Worldwide News, 8th Dec 1980 , "SATAN DECEIVE AND USE ME? - NEVER!!")

Did you get that? For emphasis, as Mr. Armstrong said that if "you reject one point of truth, or take one step aside into one point of error - unless you repent *immediately* and get back to the light - you will take more and more steps into erroneous beliefs, and one by one give up the points of TRUTH you had seen and accepted."

Did it happen to the Philadelphia Church of God ministers? First, the ministers have taken one step aside into one point of error by introducing Mother's Day, then cremation, then a little step further by infusing Irish dance, and another step farther

away with the Turnabout; now the final step away from the light was the re-opening of the work in England with the Edstone campus at the helm under the assumption that it is a NEW LIGHT. We must remember that Mr. Armstrong has closed the Bricket Wood college campus on May 1974 and he has never re-opened it since then.

When the top WCG ministers introduced the counterfeit doctrines after Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong died, how did God empower His Church to put the MOON under her feet? By holding on to the TRUE DOCTRINES of Christ restored by the end-time Elijah through the way of REMEMBRANCE with the little book, Malachi's Message!

Now that the 25 leading PCG ministers have introduced counterfeit doctrines like Irish dance, Mother's Day, cremation, Turnabout and just recently, the Edstone work; how has God empowered His Church to put the MOON under her feet this time? Again, by way of REMEMBRANCE through The Last End – A Book of Remembrance! This is how God's Church will be able to be delivered from Satan's great deception in this last end (Revelation 12:14).

God has shown the apostle John such a great wonder in heaven – **A WOMAN CLOTHED WITH THE SUN and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars!** What a majestic and awesome revelation we have been given by the **FATHER OF LIGHTS!**

ADDITIONAL READING

The A.R.K. of God Foundation produces many informative and interesting publications that you may want to request.

Here are a few you might consider:

REVELATION 12: THE GREAT RED DRAGON AND THE THIRD OF THE STARS

The persecution of the third Era of God's Church Pergamos was a precise fulfillment of the prophecy recorded in Revelations 12:4. This was the era where Satan successfully infiltrated the church and introduced false doctrines. Christ called them the Doctrine of Balaam and the Doctrine of the Nicolaitans. Why did Christ made sure that this prophecy is recorded? Find here an amazing truth and understand the shocking connection of this end time Laodicean condition.

REVELATION 12: THE WOMAN BROUGHT FORTH A MAN CHILD

Satan's intense persecution in destroying the work of God left the Sardis era exhausted and with works incomplete. It was about this time that the Church gave birth to a Man Child, an End Time Elijah who will restore all things preparing for the second coming of Jesus Christ. For years, Herbert W. Armstrong repeatedly said that He fulfilled this office. Mr. Armstrong restored precious knowledge and has set as an example to the many holding fast to the truth. He was a true shepherd to his flock in the Philadelphia Era. Even world leaders attest to his legacy.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To Reach the A.R.K. of God Foundation, to order literature or to request additional information.

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