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# The Remnant of Christ's Ecclesia

in opposition to the Dogmas of  
Papal and Protestant Christendom

A WITNESS TO THE TRUTH

and a warning against the deception in the last days  
foretold by Christ

**"Take heed that ye be not deceived"**

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**"AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD"**

**"NEITHER SHALL THE FRUIT THEREOF BE CONSUMED"**

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AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD

THE ARK AND JORDAN

In recent readings, we have been with Israel as they were led by Joshua toward the land promised by the LORD. In their travels they came to the river Jordan which was overflowing its banks (Joshua 3:15). It was an obstacle to their entering the land. How could they cross it in its flood stage? It was not an obstacle for God:

“And it came to pass after three days, that the officers went through the host; And they commanded the people, saying, When ye see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it.

Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed this way heretofore.

And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD will do wonders among you.”

Joshua 3:2-5.

The ark belonged in the most holy place of the tabernacle, along with the mercy seat and the cherubim, where God’s Presence was among His people. The Almighty led Israel out of Egypt to Mount Sinai, where He gave them the plans for His tabernacle - His dwelling place with His people. When the cloud by day or the fire by night went up from among their camp, the priests carried the ark in the midst of His people, as He led them in His way.

As Joshua and Israel stood at the Jordan river, He led them across in a miraculous way. When the ark of His Presence was carried by the priests to the brink of Jordan, when their feet “dipped in the brim of water”:

“... the waters which came down from above stood and rose up upon an heap very far from the city of Adam, that is beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, even the salt sea (the Dead Sea), failed, and were cut off: and the people passed over right against

Jericho.

And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan; and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan," Joshua 3:16-17.

The Presence of God seen in the ark caused the Jordan to stand still until all the Israelites were safely across. We are told that the Jordan flowed "very far from the city of Adam," down to the Dead Sea, which was the salt sea, because there was no outlet, as it was approximately 1,300 feet below sea level. When we look at maps of Israel, we cannot find a city called Adam, or Zaretan. The river that began at Adam and flowed into the Dead Sea, reveals God's judgment upon all mankind (as the word "Adam" means). Because of their disobedience in the Garden of Eden, He caused Adam and Eve to:

"... return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

Genesis 3:19.

As a result, all men - Adam and his seed - have become dying creatures! God in His mercy did promise Adam and Eve the seed of the woman - the Lord Jesus, who would wound the serpent (adversary) in the head, thus providing a means of redemption for those descendants of Adam who have submitted to God's purpose, to become a people for His Name.

As Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground, passing by the ark - which blocked this river of death flowing from Adam to the Dead Sea - they would look with fear at the wall of water. If it were to collapse, it would destroy them! They would be plainly shown God's mercy in His delivering Israel from this river of death by the Presence of the ark, a type of Jesus Christ, His Son, who never sinned, though He was subject to death because he was a man - an Adam. He never failed, though tempted, and became the Victor as He died on the cross. He brought salvation to His people - those who have striven to keep God's covenant, and seek redemption from the sure death which is required of all men.

As we perceive how God revealed His purpose to Israel, as

they crossed the Jordan and entered the promised land, it would remind them, and us, that all men are sentenced to die. However, there is a people who will be saved from that death by God's Presence through the Lord Jesus as their Saviour, as seen in the ark. God, in His knowledge of men's failures, provided a means of remembrance - lest we forget! We read;

"... When all the people were clean passed (completed) over Jordan, that the LORD spake unto Joshua, saying,

Take you twelve men out of the people, out of every tribe a man,

And command ye them, saying, Take you hence out of the midst of Jordan (meaning to "descend" - as we all do, to the Dead Sea), out of the place where the priest' feet stood firm, twelve stones, and ye shall carry them over with you, and leave them in the lodging place, where ye shall lodge this night.

That this may be a sign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean ye by these stones?

Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off, and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever."

Joshua 4:1-3,6-7.

These twelve stones taken out of the river Jordan, according to all the tribes of Israel, were to be a memorial, lest they or their children forget the wonder of God's deliverance of Israel from the river of death - descending in flood stage to the Dead Sea. A memorial is to bring to mind, even as Jesus said at His last Passover feast with His apostles:

"... this do in remembrance of me"

Luke 22:19.

Being flesh, we often need to be reminded of God's great mercy in the hope granted of deliverance from eternal death. We might, as did Israel, look with fear at the wall of water held back by the ark. Yet God in His kindness and grace does deliver from that fear by His healing, strengthening, and reminding that yes, we are dying creatures, but have the blessing of the Almighty of life eternal

through the Lord Jesus, the **Ark**, in whom dwells the Spirit of God. Let us remember His words:

“... if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

For the Son of man (Jesus, the **Ark**) shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.” Matthew 16:24-25,27.

How merciful is the God of heaven who has granted the provision of the **Ark** - His Son - as a means of entering His covenanted land to be the restored nation of Israel, ruled over by Jesus Christ as King in Jerusalem! The prophet Isaiah helps us regarding God’s purpose:

“... It shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD’S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord.” Isaiah 2:2-5.

Today, almost 3500 years have passed since the river of death was stopped by the **ark**, enabling His people to enter the land covenanted to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Soon, we believe, the Lord Jesus will come to establish God’s kingdom on this earth. Let us, as Israel did, keep in mind the memorial of the twelve stones taken out of the river Jordan, as Joshua (Jesus) said:

“... When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean these stones?  
Then ye shall let your children know, saying, Israel came over this Jordan on dry land.  
For the LORD your God dried up the waters of Jordan from before you, until ye were passed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up from before us, until we were gone over:  
That all the people of the earth might know the hand of the LORD, that it is mighty: that ye might fear (revere) the LORD your God for ever.”  
Joshua 4:21-24.

There are signs in the earth today that help us watch and wait for His coming, to establish God’s purpose for this earth. As that day approaches, let us heed Jesus’ words:

“... then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.  
And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.”  
Luke 21:27-28.

J.A.DeF

**"Neither Shall The Fruit Thereof Be Consumed"  
Ezekiel 47-12**

The above reference is from a recent study of Ezekiel's vision wherein he describes the temple of the Lord to be built in the Kingdom age. He continues in the twelfth chapter to explain that waters will flow from under the altar of this temple towards the east. It starts as a little stream and the further it flows it becomes deeper until it is a great river:

"...and it was a river that I could not pass over: for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over."  
Ezekiel 47:5.

If we drew a line on a map from the city of Jerusalem directly east, it would lead us to the Dead Sea and Ezekiel goes on to write that these waters will flow through the desert, travelling east until finally emptying into the Dead Sea. This body of water will be healed of its saltiness by the living waters from under the altar. Today there is no life in the Dead Sea, but after being healed by the waters from under the altar, it will be cured and abound with fish and marine life:

"Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed.

And it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they shall be healed; and every thing shall live whither the river cometh.

And it shall come to pass that the fishers shall stand upon it from Engedi even unto Eneglaim; they shall be a place to spread forth nets; their fish shall be according to their kinds, as the fish of the great sea, exceeding many."

Ezekiel 47:8-10.

Zechariah the prophet was given a glimpse of this same vision as he wrote of the coming day of the Lord:

"And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out

from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be.

And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one."

Zechariah 14:8-9.

The "former sea" spoken of by Zechariah is the Dead Sea while the "hinder sea" is the Mediterranean. Therefore we are told that waters also from the Mediterranean will also flow into the salt sea, making it abound again with fish, once healed by the living waters from the altar.

Going back to Ezekiel's prophecy, he saw this healing river and also trees lining the bank:

"And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine."

Ezekiel 47:12.

These trees are a symbol of the healing sustenance provided in the Kingdom age. Looking at the word "fruit" in the above reference, we find it comes from a prime root meaning "to increase". While "consume" means "to make an end of". What is being said is not that these trees will not be partaken of, but rather that their fruitfulness will never cease. The bounty of their fruit will overtake those used as food, and will not be diminished. Such will be the abundance of the Kingdom age - more than enough food for all.

John in Revelation also speaks of the healing power of these waters and the bounty and blessings provided for those with Christ in the Kingdom age:

"And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river,

was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:"

Revelation 22:1-3.

This is the same vision seen by Ezekiel and Zechariah - special healing waters, sanctified because of their source from under the altar. In a world which has been dead because of sin and corruption now has the hope of life in the Kingdom age, just as the Dead Sea in type is changed into a life giving body of water.

From the time of man's fall in the garden to the present, there was no way opened unto the tree of life because of man's sinful nature. Only through the Lord Jesus is there a hope of this way being made possible for those that believe in Him and are covered by His sacrifice.

All that is necessary, both spiritually and temporally, will be provided in this Kingdom - so much bounty it cannot be consumed because there is more than enough provided.

The gathering of manna in the wilderness by the children of Israel, was a foretaste of this future bounty promised:

"And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground.

And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat.

This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded, Gather of it every man according to his eating, an omer for every man, according to the number of your persons; take ye every man for them which are in his tents.

And the children of Israel did so, and gathered, some more, some less.

And when they did mete it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over and he that gathered little had no

lack; they gathered every man according to his eating."  
Exodus 16:14-15-18.

How greatly the earth needs His cleansing, for everything that man has touched is tainted. This good earth which man was given in stewardship has suffered under his hand. The rivers and oceans are polluted, large industrial centers foul the air with noxious fumes, while various animal species have vanished from the over hunting or man's encroachment, and no longer exist. Yet all these assaults upon God's creation will be healed at the end of His purpose when His Son returns to establish the Kingdom of God from Jerusalem.

Jerusalem will then be known as an eternal city of peace - the capital of a new world where the waters from under the altar will cleanse all aspects of this earth. The world will no longer suffer under man's greed and lust for another's land, but will rejoice in the righteous judgment and government of Christ and His saints:

"And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

Micah 4:2-3.

In a measure we too are given that water of life today through His word - life giving help to help us turn from the sinful intentions of our flesh and take hold of the spirit of righteousness which His Son embodied. Those that endeavor to walk after the Lord Jesus' example, believing in His covering, look forward to partaking of that river of life, which brings life eternal.

M.C.S.

## DECLINE OF YOUNG PEOPLE

“ - - - Disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy.”  
(2 Timothy 3:2)

At the time of writing, the following report was in the news media:-

“A child of eleven has been shot dead on his way home from playing football, prompting an outpouring of grief from the local community and the observation from some quarters that, with the numbers of gangs running wild on the streets, this was almost to be expected.

This dreadful scene is replicated throughout the country: gun crime in Britain’s biggest cities is rocketing; some parts of society seem to be descending into near anarchy and many inner-cities are now no-go areas after dark.”

What a lament this is, and as things go worse, people in Authority are looking for a solution. One Manchester politician made the following observation:-

“Anyone entering Manchester’s schools should be searched at the gates for guns - - - . Firearms are finding their way into some of the city’s schools and colleges, with a combination of drugs and FEAR, leading gang recruitment of pupils - - - . Sixteen and seventeen year-olds go in and they are showing off guns, at the same time they are distributing drugs - - - there needs to be a real focus by the police on stopping the import of these arms - - - .”

What a cacophony this is of evil! Politicians are debating what to do!! Many overlook the true position. It is a fulfilment. These are the last days, and Christ is to be the Deliverer; a wonderful comforting promise!

Another aspect of moral deterioration amongst some of the young is referred to in the following:-

“Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good.”

(2 Timothy 3:3)

A member of the British Government voiced a plan to “beat crime in Britain - - - make more vandals, and underage drinkers, and

joyriders, PROMISE to behave in future". Guidance for local authorities was being given, covering criminal damage, threatening behaviour, begging, prostitution and kerb crawling. Contracts for young were for them to seek such terms as "I will not set fire to things", "I will not verbally abuse passers-by", "I will not climb on public or private property" and "I will not damage property". The Authorities say:-

"People (should) stand up to their responsibilities and make sure children are not out on the streets causing trouble."

But consider the following statistic. Is the force of law and order having any great success? For 2006 (September to December) the figures are:-

"Robbery up eight per cent.  
Drug offences up three per cent."

The Operational Director of "Victims of Crime Trust" made a very significant observation:-

"We believe that three out of four robberies are not reported."

A scriptural warning, and its prophecy is considered; do we not see a special message in it for our time? The only real hope is in the Truth of the Eternal God, contained in His holy word.

**A BIBLE CLASS**

**"THE WOMAN TO HAVE POWER  
ON HER HEAD BECAUSE OF THE ANGELS"**

**I Corinthians 11:10**

Paul wrote to his brethren in Corinth, desiring them to know:  
"... that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the  
woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God"

I Corinthians 11:3.

God is the head of all, the ruler, the creator of all things. Christ as the Son of God, the Victor over His fleshly nature, is subject to God, His Father, and is the head of every man. The man is the head of the woman, according to God's word in the beginning, because of Eve's eating of the forbidden tree:

"Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee."

Genesis 3:16.

In obedience to this decree of the Almighty, Paul instructed his brethren in Ephesus:

"Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing."

Ephesians 5:22-24.

Paul also instructed the husbands regarding their responsibilities:

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

... I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.”  
Ephesians 5:25-27,32-33.

To “reverence” as used here is to fear, to be subject, to be in awe. The wife is in reverence to her husband, as the husband reverences Christ, and Christ is reverent to God.

Again, Paul helps us, as he wrote to his brethren in Colosse concerning the responsibility of wives, husbands, children, fathers, and servants:

“... in singleness of heart, fearing (reverencing) God:  
And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily (from the heart), as to the Lord, and not unto men;  
Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ”

See Colossians 2:18-25.

How does this requirement of God’s word apply to our subject? Paul, in speaking of the woman, has shown us her position - as a sign of her submission to the man, as the church is to Christ:

“Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head.  
But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven.

For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered.”  
I Corinthians 11:4-6.

The covering of her head is a sign of her submission to her husband, reverencing him, even as the husband reverences Christ, as he prays or prophesies with his head uncovered (I Corinthians 11:4). Paul further clarifies this:

“For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels.”  
I Corinthians 11:10.

The word “angels” is often used as messengers. Paul wrote concerning Titus or his brethren.

“Whether any do enquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellow-helper concerning you: or our brethren be enquired of, they are the messengers (angels) of the churches, and the glory of Christ.” II Corinthians 8:23.

The brethren are the “sent-out ones” - messengers of God.

With this in mind, the woman has power or authority, as she enquires of the brethren. Their long hair and the covering of the head during a time of prayer or prophesying, such as in formal ecclesial meetings, signifies her submission to the authority of the brethren, even as the brethren submit to the authority of Jesus Christ, and He submits to His Father, the Almighty.

Paul exhorts his brethren in Corinth:

“Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. I would have you know that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.” I Corinthians 11:1,3.

As we strive to follow after the Lord Jesus Christ and after the brethren, let us remember Jesus’ words to His apostles:

“... If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.” Matthew 16:24.

How blessed we are, brethren and sisters, that we have the covering name of Jesus Christ. Let us rejoice in this covering provided by God, submitting to His power and authority. The Apostle John wrote:

“... as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons (and daughters) of God, even to them that believe on his name.” John 1:12.

J.A.DeF.

## COMPLETE IN HIM

In Paul's letter to the church at Colosse, he writes in praise of their faith and love for the brethren - those joined through the love of Christ, scattered throughout the known world at that time:

"For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;" Colossians 1:9-10.

Although separated in place and time from those at Colosse - this too must be our goal - to increase daily in wisdom and spiritual understanding from God's word, that we may grow more like His Son, who perfected that word in every aspect of His life.

Paul goes on to speak of that perfection that was in Christ describing Him as:

"... the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence

For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell." Colossians 1:18-19.

This word "fulness", comes from a prime root meaning "to accomplish or complete". It pleased God that the Lord Jesus completed His purpose, for without His perfect sacrifice of obedience, there would be no hope of life for mankind:

"For in him (Christ) dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:" Colossians 2:9-10.

The thought of the "Godhead bodily", refers to the divinity of the Almighty, of which Christ is now a part, for it was the Lord Jesus who fulfilled God's purpose created from the beginning, becoming the Savior from the seed of the woman for the sake of His

brethren. Can we allow our minds to comprehend the overwhelming task set before Him, which he fulfilled perfectly?

Paul writes of this fulness of God to his brethren at Ephesus, explaining how they might come to know and value it as provided through the love of Christ:

“That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,  
May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;  
And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.”

Ephesians 3:17-19.

Paul’s message allows us to see as well today, what it is God has provided and to comprehend the entirety of this purpose accomplished through the love of Christ. It was Jesus’ love of the Father and for His brethren, that enabled Him to fulfil the task set before Him.

That love was revealed in a dramatic manner to Paul on the road to Damascus, for until that time, he was blinded to the truth of that understanding through Christ and had become a persecutor of His church. His eyes being opened, he then became a faithful witness to that love and a doer of it as he spread the gospel as a minister of Christ:

“No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.”

I John 4:12-13,15,17.

Both John and Paul’s remarks help us to grasp that understanding more perfectly as we endeavor to make our spirits at one with God and His Son. “Because as he is, so are we in this world” helps us to remember that being of the seed of the woman,

Jesus shared our nature and knew our sorrows and struggles to submit. Yet he did submit in obedience, fulfilling God's word perfectly thus becoming the head of God's church and granted the ultimate blessing of God:

"... he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,  
Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:  
And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,  
Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all."  
Ephesians 1:20-23.

The body of the Lord Jesus is His church - His brethren and sisters permitted a knowledge of the gospel and in embracing it, endeavor to reflect its love daily in their living after His example. To the world the hope of the Kingdom - the fulfillment of God's word, is a mystery, but one openly revealed to those called to conform in obedience to the example of His Son - who is the fullness and perfection of God's glory.

What a wondrous blessing we know in having this hope revealed to us through the gospel and love of Christ. Yet knowledge alone is not enough - only by submitting our self will and fleshly tendencies in obedience to God's word can we hope to become part of that fulness when Christ returns.

M.C.S.

## SIGNS OF HIS COMING

“And they shall look unto the earth;  
and behold trouble. - - - ” (Isaiah 8:22)

It is a troubled time. Media comments focus our minds on the world situation among the population. The following is an example:-

“Community life is breaking down across the country, say nine out of ten Britons - - - family splits are threatening our traditional life-styles. But fear of crime is the number one concern, found new research. The nationwide survey - - - revealed more than half of local residents think crime undermines the sense of community where they live. - - - For many a happy family creates a strong community. The breakdown of marriage and the splitting-up of a family unit was seen to be the second most important factor in damaging community spirit. - - -

The third biggest cause of community breakdown was seen to be television, with more than forty per cent of Britons concerned about how our couch potato culture slows activity and communication. - - - These findings make stark reading -they show that people feel traditional community life is slipping away. Things we have been taking for granted for centuries -.”

This lament makes sad reading, but we see from Isaiah's prophecy it is a fulfilment of what was pronounced from long ago. However, through His holy word, the Most High reveals how He condescends to look down upon World affairs and there is to be a “Day of the LORD”! In considering the media comment quoted, note the following scripture:-

“For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low - - - AND UPON ALL PLEASANT PICTURES (Hebrew: ‘pictures of desire’)- - -.”  
(Isaiah 2:12-16)

The pride of man that emerges in various programmes of the media which was spoken of by God's prophet, and is for us to take note of, is certainly a sober warning to us from all those years ago!

Isaiah's prophecy has been certainly preserved through the years to be a help and a guide to us.

As we consider this time of trouble the following statistics are very revealing:-

"--- We are no longer safe on our streets."

Violent crime (British Crime Survey)	up five per cent.
Robbery (recorded)	up three per cent.
Vandalism (British Crime Survey)	up ten per cent.
Overall crime (British Crime Survey)	up three per cent.
Drug offences (Recorded)	up nine per cent.
Death by drink driving (Recorded)	up seven per cent.

Along with this list came the media comment:-

"More than a million people were attacked by drunken yobs last year as violence on our streets increased with the advent of twenty-four-hour drinking."

Another media remark reads:-

"--- robberies and vandalism (are) rising month by month ---."

A further media comment reads:-

"--- muggings are committed on our streets every day--- (and) the operational director of Victims of Crime Trust, said recorded muggings were just the tip of the iceberg."

Looking then at this trouble, what hope is there? The scripture powerfully gives comfort:-

"--- there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a BRANCH shall grow out of his roots:  
And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;  
--- with righteousness shall he judge.---"

(Isaiah 11:1—4)

Christ is rightly described as "Jesus" (saviour); and the promise through Him, at His return, to this good earth is:-

"They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea."  
(Isaiah 11:9)

"We apologize for an error in the make up of the October 2007 Remnant Magazine.

Page 185 should be page 194 and page 194 should be page 185.

We once again apologize and hope it has not been an inconvenience to you."

## NEWS FROM THE ECCLESIAS FOR NOVEMBER 2007

Hamburg, NEW YORK, Corner Southwestern Blvd. & Pleasant Avenue.

Sunday: Breaking of Bread 11:30am

Sunday Afternoon Class: 1:45pm

Midweek Bible Class: Forestville, Hamburg & Fredonia

Every Third Week: Revelation Study

Much gratitude has been felt for the prayers and thoughts of brethren and sisters in recent illness. In response to their loving care, help has been granted in healing. The hand of the "Great Physician" has helped in many ways.

The summer and autumn has passed with floods, fires, earthquakes and tornadoes, which caused great destruction and loss of life. This makes us think of Jesus' words:

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;

Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

Luke 21:25-28.

J.A.DeF.

## MANCHESTER

Sundays: Breaking of Bread 11.00 a.m.

Thursdays: Bible Class 2.00 p.m.

We are grateful for the recovery of those in illness. What a comfort and blessing that we have a merciful Heavenly Father to seek to when in need.

As the Ecclesial work continues, though it is a day of "small things", what a wonderful provision it is, that a work does continue, to the great encouragement of each one.