



"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all the nations; and then shall the end come." – Matthew 24:14

October 26, 2009

Dear Members, Co-Workers and Friends:

Many of you who observed this year's Feast of Tabernacles have told us how thankful you were for being able to participate in this meaningful occasion. Individual comments included the following:

Our Feast was very fulfilling. There wasn't enough time for close visits with everyone, but, then again, perhaps next year!

The Feast was excellent! It was so good seeing everyone and all the messages were fantastic. One of our best Feasts ever!

We are back home safe and miss you all!! It's amazing how fast the Feast went by.

Indeed, it is a privilege to be able to *understand* the truth, as revealed through God's annual Holy Days, and to obey the truth by keeping God's Feasts. When we do, we truly ENJOY the spiritual and physical blessings, which are associated with Feast observance. (For more information, please read our free booklets, "*God's Commanded Holy Days*," "*The Meaning of God's Spring Holy Days*," and "*The Meaning of God's Fall Holy Days*.")

To elaborate on this, note the following Feast report from Brian Gale in England:

For the tenth year, the Global Church of God in the UK held the Feast of Tabernacles at Chatsworth House in beautiful rural Derbyshire. It is difficult to find new superlatives to describe this outstanding Feast site and it has to be seen and experienced to fully appreciate how millennial it is. With deer freely roaming the grounds and sheep in abundance, it is easy to visualize this as the sort of area as one where "the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them," as Isaiah 11:6 so strikingly portrays.

New visitors were warmly welcomed, along with many who have become regular attendees who never tire of the beauty and tranquility that is a feature of this particular Feast site. Everyone enjoyed and appreciated outstanding messages. While the spiritual food is the reason for attending the Feast, many other activities were arranged and enjoyed by all. As in previous years, the Feast dinner was again a highlight, with everyone enjoying good food and great company.

The Feast was over all too soon and time to return home. Those who attended will remember for a long time this unique site with all its beauty, peace, serenity and camaraderie with others of a like mind. We are all now waiting for it to become reality!

The following Feast report was received from Dave Harris in the USA:

Each year of observing the Fall Feast Days is marked by experiencing a deeper understanding

of God's Will for His people. Several individuals have said that this Feast was personally moving and inspiring. And there seems to be a carry-over as we have all returned home. More than ever, the lessons learned are providing opportunities for personal growth and a revitalized commitment to the Church of God and to fulfilling our priceless calling.

The meeting facility in San Diego, California, the rooms and so many accessible services all contributed to an outstanding environment in which to observe the Feast of Tabernacles and Last Great Day. To be able to rejoice with brethren in such a setting was truly outstanding. Especially the Dinner Banquet and Dance, as well as the Talent Show, constituted social highlights during the Feast.

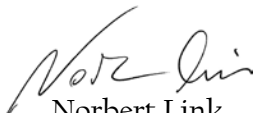
Another very special highlight was the attendance of our German brethren, Thilo and Anita Hanstein, and their Church marriage during the Feast. Their joy of "first love" for God's truth and His people was contagious, and helped make this time all the more rewarding. Additionally, everyone seemed to display extraordinary cooperation, and this attitude of willing service was what is so memorable of our time together.

Pages could be filled describing the specific Feast activities, sermonettes and sermons, as well as the opportunities of social fellowship at both Feast sites. Feast sermons are posted on the Web (www.etalnalgod.org, under "Audio"), and they are also available, upon request, in the form of CDs.

But the Feast of Tabernacles 2009 is now over. What have we learned during the Feast? And how should we live now, having returned to our daily challenges? We are including Norbert Link's recent Editorial with this member letter, titled, "Very Soon..." This article addresses the status quo of world affairs today, where they are leading, and what they mean in the light of God's promise to send back His Son to establish the Kingdom of God on this earth.

The Feast of Tabernacles portrays what we will soon experience. In the meantime, let's make every effort to overcome this world, Satan the devil, and our own carnal desires, so that we WILL become born-again sons and daughters in the very Family of God. And when we let Jesus Christ live HIS LIFE in and through us, we WILL succeed.

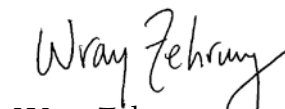
In Christ's service,


Norbert Link


Dave Harris


Rene Messier


Brian Gale


Wray Zehrung

Very Soon...

by Norbert Link

Editorial from Update 415, October 22, 2009

For eight days, God's Church observed God's festivals of the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day. While temporarily leaving behind the troubles and misery of this present evil world, we focused on and foreshadowed God's time of peace, happiness, true freedom and joy for all of mankind. But now we are back IN the world—and even though not OF the world, we are still forced to observe, interact with and counteract its many hopeless victims who are caught in the clutches of the ruthless “god” of this world.

Satan—the ruler of this world and the prince of the power of the air—is having a field day. He is busy focusing the world's attention on his demonic festivals, such as Halloween—and later in the year, on pagan holidays like Christmas, which an unsuspecting and ignorant “Christianity” celebrates “in honor of” Jesus Christ.

At the same time, it is becoming obvious to us that this world is winding down. A new and better world is coming—and it is coming very soon. In the meantime, politicians and governmental leaders propagate and declare their willingness and ability to change our lives and living conditions for the better—but in just focusing on the United States, a reality check shows how much worse off we are now than—let's say—a few years ago. The downfall of the United States is inevitable—and no “politically correct” wishful thinking or sugarcoating of the truth will be able to change the facts.

We are bombarded constantly with grandiose deceptive words of emptiness—and no wonder, because the god and ruler of this world is a master of propaganda. Satan wants to keep us in the dark—he does not want you to know how soon his rule will end. But the facts speak for themselves.

Gerald Celente of Trends Research recently said that the USA is facing “the beginning of the greatest depression.” Peter Schiff, president of

Euro Pacific Capital, said that Ben Bernanke “could be the Fed chairman who brought down the whole thing.” The dollar has lost its reserve status, and Arab nations and Iran are contemplating, or have begun to exchange the euro for the dollar for their oil transactions. The FDIC insurance fund has fallen into the red. And while 99 banks have already failed in 2009, the number of additional US problem banks jumped to 416. The US federal budget deficit for 2009 is \$1.42 trillion—more than the national debt for the first 200 years of the Republic, and the biggest deficit since World War II. In September alone, our government spent \$46.6 billion more than it took in. And much of our debt is in FOREIGN hands. For instance, China holds more than \$800 billion.

At the same time, Europe is uniting. For all practical purposes, the Lisbon Treaty is a done deal, and we will soon see a powerful President of Europe. The Financial Times pointed out that the EU can now move forward with its plan for “world domination.” The Telegraph reported that the EU is drawing up secret plans to establish itself as a “world power.” Der Spiegel wrote that only Germany can lead Europe and that “a European army would be a good place to start.”

The Bible shows us that when the last revival of the ancient “Holy” Roman Empire has been accomplished in Europe and when ten European core nations or groups of nations give their authority to a political and military leader (the “beast”), Europe will ATTACK militarily and ENSLAVE a powerless and subdued America. By that time, America will be without effective leadership and will have weakened itself through its irresponsible fiscal policy and other unwise political measures, as well as through its entanglement with useless or inexpedient wars such as Iraq, Afghanistan and possibly Iran and North Korea. It will be in no position to defend itself against the enemy. But Europe will only rule for a very short time—the indication is, for perhaps about 3 1/2 years. And THEN Christ WILL return to usher in the wonderful world tomorrow.

We are already seeing the birth pangs of the new world to come. In fact, the whole creation groans

and labors with birth pangs together until now, awaiting the deliverance from the bondage of its corruption or decay (compare Romans 8:21-22).

Time is short indeed. While we groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for our sonship—the redemption of our body; the transformation into a glorified being; and the conformation to the very image of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:23, 29)—we need to be careful that this current world does not induce us to follow in its path. And when we see “signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men’s hearts failing them from fear and expectation of those things which are coming on the earth” (Luke 21:25-26), then we are to look up and lift our heads, because our redemption has drawn near (verse 28).

Our God of peace WILL crush Satan and his present evil world under our feet shortly (Romans 16:20). This present age with its false promises of self-serving politicians and leaders WILL soon end.

GOD’s Kingdom will come to this earth and replace ALL the kingdoms of this world (Revelation 11:15). YOU can possess and be IN God’s Kingdom (Daniel 7:22, 27). YOU can sit with Christ on His throne here on earth to rule the nations (Revelation 3:21; 5:10). Not now—not quite yet—but very soon!

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