Jerusalem in Bible Prophecy
Observations by the Editor

Paganism

In 1997 a best selling book by jurist Robert Bork was published entitled, *Slouching Towards Gomorrah*. In this book he bemoaned the increasing degradation of American society due to our abandonment of Judeo-Christian values.

Today, only seven years later, the book would have to be entitled *Arrival at Gomorrah*. The Internet abounds with hard core pornography. Movies continue to escalate the vulgar language and the gratuitous violence. Television has opened the flood gates of filth into our living rooms. Gambling is touted as a civic virtue. Abortion continues unabated, as does the homosexual plague.

We are surrounded by signs of our descent into moral chaos and the anarchy it always breeds. Two of those signs of paganism are current fashion fads that have even invaded the Church — tattooing and body piercing.

About two years ago I received a letter from a professing Christian in which he told me that he had decided to get a tattoo “that would bring honor and glory to the Lord.” He said he thought a Bible verse tattooed across his back might be the thing to do. He asked me if I would suggest a verse.

I thought of a very appropriate verse immediately, and I informed him of it. The verse was Leviticus 19:28 — “You shall not make any tattoo marks on yourselves.”

A year later I was conducting a weekend conference at a church in California when I was approached by a young man who started telling me that his hope was to become an evangelist. I could hardly pay attention to what he was saying because I was so shocked by all the metal he was wearing on his head. He had rings through his ears, eyebrows, and lips. He had metal studs on both sides of his nose and through the area below his lower lip. And he had a large ring hanging from his nostril, like you would see on a bull! I wondered if this fellow had ever read that same passage in Leviticus which says “You shall not make any cuts in your flesh.”

Dr. David R. Reagan

What’s even worse is that everywhere I go these days to preach I run into couples who come up to talk with me, and when I ask how long they have been married, they nonchalantly reply, “We’re not married, we just live together.” It’s as if they have never heard a sermon about the sin of fornication. And most of them probably have not, because so many pastors today are reluctant to speak out boldly against sin for fear of not being “seeker-friendly.”

It reminds me of a letter I received several years ago from a fellow who was complaining about God not answering his prayers. He said he had been trying to convert the girl he was living with, but she always mocked his faith by pointing to the fact that God never answered his prayers. He asked me what he could do to remedy the situation.

I responded by asking him why he expected God to answer his prayers when he was shackled up in a state of fornication in open rebellion to God’s Word. I reminded him that God cannot be mocked or deceived.

The moral fabric of our society is coming apart at the seams. We are allowing sin, and it has penetrated the Church to the core. We have become desensitized to the evil that surrounds us, and in the process, we have become participants in it.

There is an overwhelming need for revival in America, but it must start in the Church and among Christians. That will be the theme of our next issue of this magazine.
Dr. David R. Reagan

On September 25th of 1995, a very special Jewish new year began. It was the year designated by the government of Israel as the 3,000th anniversary of the conquest of the city of Jerusalem by King David.

The City's Significance

There is no other city on the face of the earth as important as the city of Jerusalem. All the other great cities of the earth — New York, London, Moscow, Paris, and even Rome — pale by comparison. What other city can claim to be "the city of God" or "the city of the Great King"? (Psalm 48)

God loves Jerusalem, and He intends to dwell in it eternally. Psalm 68:16 says that God has desired the mountain of Zion "for His abode" and that He intends to "dwell there forever." Psalm 132:13-14 contains a similar promise: "The Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His habitation. "This is my resting place forever; here I will dwell, for I have desired it."

When you read these kinds of statements, you can understand why Jerusalem is identified in Ezekiel 5:5 as "the center of the nations" and in Ezekiel 38:12 as "the center of the earth."

Jerusalem is where the Son of God shed His precious blood. It is where Jesus ascended into Heaven. It is where Jesus will return to be crowned King of Kings. It is the city from which Jesus will reign over all the nations of the world.

And Jerusalem will be the scene of history's last battle when Satan rallies the nations at the end of the Millennium and leads them in revolt against the Lord. Finally, Jerusalem is where God Himself will come to reside eternally with the Redeemed.

It is no wonder that Jerusalem has always been an important topic of Bible prophecy.

The City in History

But before we look at Jerusalem in prophecy, let's briefly remind ourselves of its history.

The first mention of Jerusalem in the Bible is probably found in Genesis 14:18 where we are told that Abraham paid tithes to the King of Salem, Melchizedek. (This was about 2,000 years before the time of Jesus.) Although we cannot know for certain that this is a reference to Jerusalem, it seems likely because Abraham was in that geographical area, and the city's name, Salem, is the root word of the city's later name, Jerusalem.

Later, we are told that Abraham went to Mt. Moriah, just north of ancient Jerusalem, to offer his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice (Genesis 22:2). That mountain was later incorporated into the city of Jerusalem during the time of Solomon, becoming the Temple Mount.

The first mention of the city by the name of Jerusalem is found in Joshua 10:1 where we are told that the city's
Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, in the city of our God, His holy mountain. Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion in the far north, the city of the great King.

— Psalm 48:1-2 —

Also warned that Jerusalem would be destroyed (Jeremiah 7:12-15). Speaking for the Lord, Jeremiah declared, “I will make Jerusalem a heap of ruins, a haunt of jackals; and I will make the cities of Judah a desolation, without inhabitant” (Jeremiah 9:11).

When the people refused to believe his words and even sought to kill him as a traitor, Jeremiah reminded them of the previous prophecy of Micah (Jeremiah 26:18). But the people still refused to repent, and the prophecies were fulfilled in 587 BC when Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the city and its temple.

Consider one of the saddest statements in the Bible:

And the Lord, the God of their fathers, sent word to them again and again by His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place; but they continually mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people, until there was no remedy.

— 2 Chronicles 36:15-16

Gentile Jerusalem

After 70 years of captivity in Babylon, the Jews returned to Jerusalem and rebuilt their temple and their city. But they refused to receive their Messiah, and so the Lord gave a second group of prophecies relating to a period of time when Jerusalem would fall under Gentile control.

Jesus Himself delivered these important prophecies during the last week of His life. As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives talking with His disciples, He pointed at Jerusalem and its temple and said: “As for these things which you are looking at, the days will come in which there will not be left one stone upon another which will not be torn down” (Luke 21:6).

Later, in the same discourse, Jesus stated that the city would be surrounded by armies which would proceed to desolate it (Luke 21:20). Referring to the Jews in the city at that time, He said, “they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the na-
truly been like a “flaming torch among sheaves” in war after war.

Israel became the focal point of world politics in 1973 during the Yom Kippur War. When the West came to the aid of Israel, the Arabs pulled an oil boycott (remember those long gas lines?), bringing the Western nations to their knees. The result was that all the nations of Western Europe withdrew their support from Israel and either took a neutral position or else lined up with the Arabs in their determination to annihilate the Jewish state.

Concerning the last prophecy cited above, in just the past few years, all the nations of the world, including the United States, have come against Israel, forcing her into a suicidal appeasement policy of trading land for peace.

Zechariah lists some other end time prophecies regarding Jerusalem that have not yet been fulfilled. These exciting prophecies are contained in Zechariah 12:8-10. They state that the Lord will defend Jerusalem against its enemies and that the result of all the end time battles will be the repentance of a great remnant of the Jews “who will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him, like the bitter weeping over a firstborn” (Zechariah 12:10). In response, the Lord will save this remnant by opening a fountain of salvation in Jerusalem “for sin and for impurity” (Zechariah 13:1).

In chapter 14, Zechariah describes in detail how the Lord will rescue Jerusalem at the last moment when there appears to be no hope: “then the Lord will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle” (Zechariah 14:3). He will speak a super-

natural plague that will kill all the enemy soldiers in their tracks (Zechariah 14:12). Verse 9 tells us that the outcome of this momentous day will be the coronation of Jesus as “king over all the earth.”

This wonderful promise introduces us to the fourth category of prophecies that relate to Jerusalem.

Millennial Jerusalem

A glorious day is coming for Jerusalem, for when the Lord returns, He is going to reign over all the world for a thousand years, and His reign of peace, righteousness and justice will be based in Jerusalem: “For from Zion will go forth the law, even the word of the Lord from Jerusalem” (Isaiah 2:3 and Micah 4:2).

Jerusalem will be the political, economic and religious center of the world (Micah 4:1-7).

The city will be very different from the one we know today. The great worldwide earthquake that will occur when Jesus returns will radically change the earth’s topography, including that of Jerusalem (Isaiah 40:4, Revelation 6:12 and Revelation 16:18). The Bible indicates that Jerusalem will be greatly expanded in area and will be lifted up higher, perhaps becoming the highest point on the earth (Zechariah 14:10).

The city will be considerably enlarged and greatly beautified, and the most magnificent temple in history will be built in the midst of it under the personal supervision of the Messiah. That temple is described in detail in chapters 40-48 of Ezekiel.

The glory of Jerusalem in those days is best summarized in Isaiah 62:1-7 where we are told that the city will be “a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord” (verse 3). The prophet also says the city will be “a praise in the earth” (verse 7). For the first time in its long bloody history, it will be a refuge of peace (Joel 3:16-17 and Zephaniah 3:14-20).

It will also be the greatest wonder on the earth. Think about it — it will house the Prince of Peace and will contain His temple. It will also serve once more as the home of God’s spectacular Shekinah glory. But that glory will not be con-
tained within the Holy of Holies. Incredibly, Isaiah says that the Shekinah will hover over the whole city of Jerusalem as a cloud by day and a fire by night, providing a canopy to protect the city from heat and rain (Isaiah 4:5-6).

Zechariah says the nations of the world will send delegations to Jerusalem each year to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. And the last verse of Ezekiel says that in that day the name of the city will be changed from Yerusalem to Yahweh-shemmah, meaning "The Lord is there" (Ezekiel 48:35).

Eternal Jerusalem

Finally, the prophets tell us that the millennial Jerusalem will be replaced by a new Jerusalem which Jesus is preparing in Heaven now.

At the end of the Millennium, after the earth has been renovated by fire, the new Jerusalem will be lowered down to the new earth, and the Redeemed, in their new glorified bodies, will live in this new city in the presence of Almighty God, who will come down from Heaven to live forever with His children (Revelation 21:1-3). This very clear teaching from the book of Revelation comes as a shock to a lot of Christians who have always been taught that they will live eternally in an ethereal world called Heaven.

What an amazing city this new Jerusalem will be! The Apostle John devotes 24 verses to its detailed description in Revelation 21 and 22. It will be a 1,500 mile cube with 12 foundations made of precious stones — each one named for one of the 12 apostles. Likewise, there will be 12 pearly gates, one named for each tribe of Israel. The walls will be made of jasper. The city itself will be pure gold, like clear glass.

Have you ever stopped to think about the shape and size of this phenomenal city? For example, why will it be 1,500 miles high? The reason, of course, is that in our glorified bodies, we will be immune to the laws of gravity. We will thus be able to utilize all the space of the city, and not just the ground floor.

And how much space will we have? Will there be enough for all the Redeemed? Henry Morris, founder of the Institute for Creation Research, has calculated the space that would exist for each person, assuming that at least 50% of the area would be used for common purposes (streets, parks, recreation centers, etc.) and assuming that 20 billion people have been saved in the course of human history. The result is astounding: each person would have a cube with 75 acres on each surface! That’s certainly more space than most of us have now.

But the best part of this city will not be its beauty or its spaciousness. The best part will be the personal presence of Jesus our Lord and Almighty God, His Father. Revelation 22 says we will eternally serve God in this city and that we will “see His face.” I think that means we will have intimate, personal fellowship with our Creator eternally. And that causes me to stand in awe.

The Message for Us

What does all this mean for you and me?

First, it means that God is faithful. Just as He has fulfilled prophecies about Jerusalem in the past and is doing so now, we can be confident that He will continue to do so in the future. There is going to be a millennial Jerusalem and there is going to be an eternal one, and we, the Redeemed, are going to be richly blessed by both beyond anything we can imagine.

Second, the record of Jerusalem in prophecy means that God is sovereign. He is in control. Even when everything seems to be out of control here on earth, we can be assured that God has the wisdom and power to orchestrate all the evil of Mankind to the triumph of His will in history.

Third, God is calling you and me to live with an eternal perspective. In Hebrews 11 we are told that Abraham lived by faith as “an alien” in this world, “looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God” (Hebrews 11:9-10). Isn’t that interesting? Abraham did not consider his arrival in the Promised Land to be the fulfillment of God’s promises to him. Rather, he lived yearning for his ultimate reward, namely, life with God in an eternal city — the new Jerusalem.

In Hebrews 11:13 it says that all the heroes of the faith who are listed in that chapter lived their lives as “strangers and exiles on the earth” because they desired the city which God had prepared for them. The book of Hebrews concludes with a reminder to us that in this world we do not have a lasting city. Instead, we are to seek “the city which is to come.”

Jesus is adding rooms to that city right now to accommodate the members of His body (John 14:1-4). Let us therefore live as aliens and strangers in this world, never becoming comfortable with it. Let us live looking for the coming of the Lord (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

And let us live praying for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6), realizing that in doing so we are really praying for the return of the Lord, for Jerusalem will never experience true peace until the Prince of Peace returns.

Maranatha! ♦

This message is available on cassette tape for $5. Ask for the tape entitled "Jerusalem 3000."
False Prophets

THE JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES: FALSE PROPHECY GONE TO SEED

Dr. David R. Reagan

The Jehovah’s Witnesses are the undisputed world champions of false prophecy.

Formally known as The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, the organization was founded by Charles Taze Russell in 1879. Its doctrines were originally based on some bizarre teachings which Russell revealed in his six volume series of books called Studies in Scripture.

Russell denied the doctrine of the Trinity and argued that Jesus was a created being who was, in fact, the archangel Michael. He also denied that the Holy Spirit was a person, arguing instead that He is an “impersonal, invisible, active force.”

A Series of Strong Leaders

When Russell died in 1916, he was succeeded by Joseph F. Rutherford who proved to be a strong leader and a prolific author. The result was phenomenal growth. In 1928 the organization had 44,000 members. When Rutherford died in 1942, the membership had more than doubled to 115,000.

Nathan H. Knorr took over in 1942. He streamlined the organization and developed a worldwide outreach strategy. It was also under his leadership that the New World Translation of the Bible was published. This translation, which was issued in six volumes between 1950 and 1960, ignores all accepted rules of translation. Basically, it constitutes a re-wording of all passages that contradict Watchtower doctrines.

When Knorr died in 1977, the Watchtower had over 2.2 million members. Under the leadership of Frederick W. Franz, the fourth president, the Watchtower reached a total membership of over 4 million members. With the death of Franz in 1992, the current president, Milton G. Henschel, took the helm.

A Dismal History of False Prophecies

From its inception, the organization has been characterized by false prophecy. Originally, the prophecies were issued in the name of the president — first, Charles Taze Russell and then Joseph F. Rutherford. But since Rutherford’s death in 1942, the prophecies have been issued in the name of the organization’s governing body which is headquartered in Brooklyn, New York.

The first date the organization set for the Lord’s Second Coming was for the year 1914. It was later narrowed down to October of that year. Listed below are just a few of the prophecies that were issued over the years pointing to the date of October 1914.

1880 — “We need not here repeat the evidences that the seventh trumpet began its sounding in 1840 and will continue until the end of the time of trouble, and the end of the times of the Gentiles in 1914.” (Zion’s Watchtower, November 1880, page 1)

1888 — “…the full end of the times of the Gentiles, i.e., the full end of their reign of dominion, will be reached in 1914… at that date the Kingdom of God… will obtain full, universal control… and it will then be set up, or firmly established, in the earth on the ruins of the present institutions.” (The Time is at Hand, 1888, pp. 76-77)

1889 — “…the setting up of the Kingdom of God has already begun… and the battle of the great day of God Almighty (Revelation 16:14) which will end in 1914 with the complete overthrow of earth’s present rulership, is already commenced. Remember that… the Gospel age harvest will end October, 1914, and that likewise the overthrow of ‘Christendom,’ so-called, must be expected to immediately follow.” (Studies in the Scriptures, vol. 2, 1889, pp. 101 and 245)

1894 — “We see no reason for changing the figures… nor would we change them if we could. They are, we believe, God’s dates, not ours. But bear in mind that the end of 1914 is not the date of the beginning, but for the end of the time of trouble.” (Watchtower, July 15, 1894, p. 266)

1897 — “Complete destruction of ‘the powers that be’ of this present evil world” — political, financial, ecclesiastical — [will occur] about the close of the “time of the Gentiles” in October 1914.” (Studies in the Scriptures, vol. 4, 1897, p. 622)

1902 — “In view of this strong Bible evidence concerning the Times of the Gentiles, we consider it an established truth that the final end of the kingdoms of this world, and the full establishment of the Kingdom of God, will be accomplished by the end of 1914.” (The Time is at Hand, 1902 edition, p. 99) Note: this same statement was contained in the 1908 edition of the same book.

1904 — “According to our expectations, the stress of the great time of trouble will be on us soon, somewhere between 1910 and 1912, culminating with the end of the ‘Times
of the Gentiles’ in 1914.” (Studies in the Scriptures, vol. 6, 1904, p. 579)

Covering Their Tracks

As you can readily see from the statements quoted above, the date of October 1914 was no casual slip of the tongue. Furthermore, the date was declared to be “God’s date, not ours.” When October 1914 came and passed without anything of consequence taking place, the Watchtower leaders issued an incredible statement denying that they had ever “positively” stated that 1914 would be the year! Here’s how they put it:

Studying God’s Word we [predicted] October 1914 as nearly as we were able to reckon. We did not say positively that this would be the year. (Watchtower, November 1, 1914, p. 325)

Resuming the Charade

The next year, the Society’s president, Charles Taze Russell, issued a bold prophecy about World War I. He stated:

The present great war in Europe is the beginning of the Armageddon of the Scriptures (Revelation 19:16-20). It will eventuate in the complete overthrow of all the systems of error which have so long oppressed the people of God and deluded the world. (Pastor Russell’s Sermons, 1915, p. 676)

In the same year (1915), the Watchtower boldly proclaimed a new date for the Lord’s return:

In view of this strong Bible evidence concerning the Times of the Gentiles, we consider it an established truth that the final end of the kingdoms of this world and the full establishment of the Kingdom of God will be accomplished near the end of 1915. (The Time is at Hand, 1915 edition, p. 99)

A year later in 1916, the 1915 date had been forgotten and an attempt was being made to salvage the original date of 1914:

We see no reason for doubting therefore that the Times of the Gentiles ended in October 1914; and that a few more years will witness their utter collapse and the full establishment of God’s Kingdom in the hands of Messiah. (Watchtower Reprints, vol. 6, p. 5950, September 1, 1916)

Setting a New Date

A year later in 1917, undeterred by all their failures, the Society issued a new date for the Lord’s return — namely, 1925: “There will be no slip-up . . . Abraham should enter upon the actual possession of his promised inheritance in the year 1925” (Watchtower, October 15, 1917, p. 6157). Before he died in 1916, Russell personally stated: “. . . there is evidence that the establishment of the Kingdom in Palestine will probably be in 1925, ten years later than we once calculated” (Studies in the Scriptures, vol. 7, p. 128).

In the years following, the 1925 date was reconfirmed over and over again — in 1922, 1923, and 1924. Again, there were no “ifs, ands, or buts.” The date was firmly established:

The period must end in 1925 . . . [This date] is definitely fixed in the Scriptures. Every thinking person can see that a great climax is at hand. The scriptures clearly indicate that the climax is the fall of Satan’s empire and the full establishment of the Messianic Kingdom . . . Therefore, it can be confidently said at this time that millions now living will never die. (Golden Age, January 4, 1922, p. 217)

Once again, as with the 1914 date, the revelation was attributed to God:

This chronology is not of man, but of God. Being of divine origin and divinely corroborated, present-truth chronology stands in a class by itself, absolutely and unqualifiedly correct . . . (Watchtower, July 15, 1922, p. 217)

Yet, despite such absolute predictions, when 1925 came and passed without the return of the Lord, the Watchtower leaders had the audacity to blame the error on their over-zealous followers:

Some anticipated that the work would end in 1925, but the Lord did not state so. The difficulty was that friends inflated their imaginations beyond reason . . . (Watchtower, 1926, p. 232)

Focusing on Armageddon

Following the disappointing failure of the 1925 prophecies, the Watchtower shifted its prophetic focus to predictions about the timing of the battle of Armageddon, the battle that would usher in the Messianic Age.

1940 — “The year 1940 is certain to be the most important year yet because Armageddon is very near.” (Informant, April 1940, p. 1)

1941 — “Armageddon is surely near . . .” (Children, 1941, p. 366)

1942 — “Now, with Armageddon immediately before us . . .” (Watchtower, April 1, 1942, p. 139)

1946 — “The disaster of Armageddon . . . is at the door.” (Let God be True, 1946, p. 194)

1955 — “In the light of the fulfillment of Bible prophecy, it is becoming clear that the war of Armageddon is nearing its breaking-out point.” (You May Survive in God’s New World, 1955, p. 331)

1966 — “Armageddon is, in fact, very close indeed.” (Watchtower, October 15, 1966, p. 629)

As you can see, for twenty-six years Jehovah’s Witnesses were told repeatedly that they were living on the threshold of the Tribulation. All the prophecies proved false.

Then, in the mid-Sixties, the focus of Watchtower prophecy-
cies shifted again. All the organization’s publications began to teach that the six thousand years of Man’s existence since the time of Creation would end in the fall of 1975, and that the Seventh Millennium, marking the beginning of the reign of Jesus, would begin at that time. (See All Scripture is Inspired of God and Beneficial, 1963, p. 286, and Life Everlasting in Freedom of the Sons of God, 1966, pp. 29-30.)

In July of 1969, President Nathan H. Knorr addressed 81,000 Witnesses at Dodger Field in Los Angeles. “Why are we looking forward to 1975?” he asked. And then he answered his question by stating, “It is firmly maintained that by the autumn of the year 1975, the battle of Armageddon will have been fought and God’s new world will have been established” (Los Angeles Herald Examiner, July 21, 1969).

When 1975 came and passed, the faithful were once again berated by the Watchtower leaders for “thinking that Bible chronology reveals the specific date of the Lord’s return” (Watchtower, July 15, 1976, p. 440).

The Inevitable Conclusion

I could continue ad nauseam, but I think the point is clear: the “prophets” of the Watchtower are false prophets. They fail the biblical test of accuracy (Deuteronomy 18:22), and they fail to pass the test which they themselves have established in their own words:

True, there have been those in times past who predicted an “end” to the world, even announcing a specific date. Yet, nothing happened. The “end” did not come. They were guilty of false prophesying. Why? What was missing? Missing from such people were God’s truths and the evidence that He was using and guiding them. (Awake, October 8, 1968)

So, how do the Watchtower leaders justify their many false prophecies? Incredibly, they argue that because they admit they have been wrong, they cannot be false prophets because “false prophets do not admit to making mistakes” (Watchtower, November 1972, p. 644).

The continuing growth of the Jehovah’s Witnesses despite their long and sordid history of false prophecies is a testimony to the gullibility of fallen Man. Let us pray for the eyes of their very sincere but deceived followers to be opened to the truth of the Gospel.

Good Internet sources about the Jehovah’s Witnesses:


Rutherford’s Great Scam

In 1929, during the Great Depression, the president of the Jehovah’s Witnesses, Joseph F. Rutherford, built himself a beautiful villa in San Diego which he used as his winter palace.

While most people were suffering greatly from the economic devastation of the Depression, Rutherford lived like royalty. He drank imported liquor, smoked big cigars, and drove a Cadillac.

Rutherford combed his Witness followers into believing that he had built the house for the soon returning patriarchs, judges, and kings named in Hebrews 11. He named the mansion “Beth Sarim,” which in Hebrew means the House of Princes. In an interview with Time magazine in March of 1930, Rutherford said, “I have purposely landscaped the place with palm and olive trees so that these princes of the universe will feel at home.”

At the time he built the house, Rutherford was predicting that any moment God would kill every man, woman and child on planet earth except faithful Jehovah’s Witnesses. The biblical heroes of Hebrews 11 would then return to earth, and under the leadership of King David, they would use Beth Sarim as their headquarters to rule the world.

Most Jehovah’s Witnesses today know nothing about this scam. The property was quietly sold in 1948, and the teaching that David and the patriarchs would soon return was dropped in 1950. Since that time, the Watchtower leaders have gone to great lengths to cover up this hoax.

You can find a copy of the deed to the property on the Internet at http://watchtower.observer.org. In the deed it specifies that Joseph F. Rutherford is entitled to use the property as he sees fit until “the appearing of David or some of the other men mentioned in the Eleventh Chapter of Hebrews . . .” The deed goes on to specify that when King David appears, he must “prove or identify” himself to the officers of the Watchtower Society before he can take possession of the property.
An Insightful Book about the Jehovah’s Witnesses

Jean Eason was born and raised a Jehovah’s Witness, and for many years she believed that she was a member of the one and only true church.

When I was baptized into the Watchtower organization, I believed with my whole heart, soul and mind that I was becoming a foot-stool-follower of Christ Jesus. I believed that Armageddon, the end of the world as we know it, was approaching and that I would be living in a renovated earth within a few months or years. Little did I realize that in fact I had only joined a human organization.

In her book, A Jehovah’s Witness Finds the Truth, she describes how she found her way to the true Jesus. In addition to her moving testimony, the book contains a very concise summary of JW doctrine.

The book runs 137 pages. It costs $8 plus $2 for shipping. You can order a copy by calling 1-800-705-8316.

Jean’s book was first published in 1983. This is the second revised edition that was published in 1999 by College Press.

A Fascinating Book About the Revival of the Hebrew Language

This classic of Jewish history was first published in 1952. It presents the enthralling story of how God raised up a man born in Lithuania in the 19th Century to revive biblical Hebrew.

Most people are not aware of the fact that when the Jews were dispersed from Israel in 70 AD by the Romans, they stopped speaking the Hebrew language. The Jews who were scattered throughout Europe mixed Hebrew with German to produce a new language called Yiddish. Their counterparts in the Mediterranean basin also developed a new language called Ladino. It constituted a mixture of Hebrew with Spanish.

The Bible prophesies in Zephaniah 3:9 that in the end times God will restore a “pure speech” to the Jewish people. The man God chose to fulfill this prophecy was Eliezer Ben Yehuda (1858 - 1922).

The book, Tongue of the Prophets, tells the story of how this remarkable genius worked tirelessly and obsessively to revive the Hebrew language from the dead, accomplishing what no other person has even tried to do.

The book also chronicles the history of the Zionist Movement leading up to the re-establishment of the modern state of Israel.

The author, Robert St. John summarizes the book in these words: “It is the story of a faithful fanatic who had two great love affairs, made enemies of his best friends, went to prison for his beliefs, was always on the verge of death from TB, yet fathered 11 children and gathered the material for a 16 volume dictionary unlike any other philological work ever conceived.”

Ben Yehuda’s life will enthral you and inspire you. It is an incredible story of prophecy in the making. 377 pages. $10 plus $2 for shipping.
A Voice from the Past

Dr. Charles G. Trumbull

Dr. David R. Reagan

I was born in 1938. The previous year a book was published by the Fleming H. Revell Company in New York that was titled, Prophecy’s Light on Today. The author was Dr. Charles G. Trumbull who served for many years as the editor of a publication called “The Sunday School Times,” which was headquartered in Philadelphia.

I had heard about this book for years through several sources, but I had never been able to find a library that had a copy. Recently, I got on the Internet and quickly found an almost pristine copy for very little cost at a great out-of-print site called Abebooks (www.abebooks.com).

A Thought-Provoking Introduction

The first thing that impressed me was the introduction which was written by a man named Howard A. Kelly of Baltimore, Maryland. He stated that he was raised in the 1870’s in the Epiphany Episcopal Church in Philadelphia which was pastored by a Messianic Jew named Dr. Richard Newton. He said that Dr. Newton preached constantly about how the Jews must one day return to their homeland in fulfillment of Bible prophecy. But, he said, no one in the congregation ever paid much attention to these sermons because they could see no evidence that such prophecies would ever be fulfilled.

At this point in his introduction, Mr. Kelly, suddenly shifted gears and, writing in 1937, said, “And now what? Presto, all is changed! The Jews are flocking . . . back in unbelief . . . and the land is being miraculously transformed” (page 7).

Mr. Kelly concludes his introduction by observing that although he had believed in the Lord’s Second Coming all his life, he can look back and see now “it was only a documentary belief like the things we sometimes recite in a creed in church on Sunday mornings.”

Reactions

The first thing that struck me about this exceptional introduction was the fact that the author had grown up in a Bible-believing Episcopal church in the 19th Century — the same church that 100 years later has just thrown God’s Word out the window by ordaining a homosexual bishop. How quickly we can lose our spiritual moorings!

The second thing that impressed me was something that has not changed — and that is the average Christian’s attitude about the return of Jesus. As was the case then, most Christians today believe with their heads that Jesus is returning, but that belief is not embedded in their hearts nor is it reflected in the way they live.

The Nature of the Book

The book itself is primarily an overview of the signs of the times that point to the fact that the people of the late 1930’s were living in the season of the Lord’s return. The author, Dr. Trumbull, correctly observes that the very first tangible sign of the end times (and the Lord’s Second Coming) was the Balfour Declaration of November 1917 (page 67). This was the proclamation in which the British government announced its intention to create a homeland for the Jewish people in the area of the Ottoman Empire called Palestine. Dr. Trumbull makes the biblical observation that “God’s surest sign through the ages has been, and will continue to be, the Jew” (page 67).

One of the book’s strongest chapters is entitled, “Is Modernism the Great Apostasy?” (pages 87-100). Keep in mind that the German School of Higher Criticism had invaded American seminaries in the 1920’s, and at the time Dr. Trumbull was writing (1937), the mainline denominations were being ripped apart by a debate over the inerrancy of the Scriptures. The position of the German School was that the Bible is not the revealed Word of God; rather, it is Man’s search for God, and is therefore full of myth, legend, and superstition.

Writing with great fervor and insight, Dr. Trumbull attacks Modernism as “anything but modern” (pages 92-93). He points out that it is nothing more than just “the old expression of Man’s sin in rejecting God and substituting himself. It means blindness instead of vision, darkness for light, death instead of life” (page 93). In Modernism, Dr. Trumbull observes that “man is the final basis of religious authority.” He calls this truth “the subtle heart of Modernism” (page 92), and he concludes that the advent of Modernism marks the onslaught of the Great Apostasy of the end times which the Bible predicts will characterize the season of the Lord’s return.
Reactions

As I read these great insights written so many years ago, I was reminded of an incident that occurred in my ministry in the early 1980's. After preaching a sermon in which I tried to show that the signs of the times point to the fact that we are living in the season of the Lord's return, a man came up to me and said, "Son, what you are saying is nothing new. When I was growing up in the church in the 1920's and 1930's my preachers were saying the same thing. What else is new?"

He delivered these words with a sneer on his face. He intended to belittle me. But I was not about to be put down by a scoffer. I came right back at him: "I praise God you grew up in Bible believing churches. The fact is that your preachers were right because we have been in the season of the Lord's return ever since November of 1917."

The fact that we have now been in that season for over 80 years does not bother me in the least. The Bible says the only reason Jesus has not yet returned is because "God does not wish that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9). Furthermore, I keep thinking about Noah who preached for 120 years that people were living in the season of the pouring out of God's wrath. People laughed and scoffed and ridiculed — even more so as each year passed. Some continued to laugh until they could tread water no longer!

A Surprising Discovery

Near the end of Dr. Trumbull's book I ran across an item that really caught me by surprise (page 154). In speaking of spiritual signs of the times, he pointed out that some Christian leaders were beginning to publish tracts for those who would be "left behind" at the Rapture of the Church. In view of the current popularity of the Left Behind series of novels, it occurred to me that there is really nothing new under the sun.

Dr. Trumbull describes one of the leaflets in detail (page 154). It was titled, "A Guide after the Rapture." It was actually addressed "To those who are left." It explained the Rapture and then warned that the church remaining on earth would not be the true church, but would be the apostate church of Laodicea (Revelation 3:16). Unbelievers were urged to turn to the Bible for answers and to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior. The author urged Christian readers to put copies of the tract in their safe deposit boxes, together with their wills. "If you don't need it," he wrote, "others left behind will."

Reaction

God in His grace and mercy never pours out His wrath without warning. The Second Coming of Jesus will be a time of unprecedented wrath. Presidents, Prime Ministers, and Kings will crawl into holes in the ground and cry out for mountains to fall on them (Revelation 6:12-17).

God is warning the world that we are living on borrowed time, that we are on the threshold of the Tribulation, that God's wrath is about to fall. He has been raising up people like Dr. Trumbull to issue these warnings for 90 years now. I am reminded of the words of the prophet Nahum: "The Lord is slow to anger...[but] the Lord will by no means leave the guilty unpunished" (Nahum 1:3).
Summary of Outreach Activities
During the Year 2003

1) Media
Broadcast 52 weeks of Christ in Prophecy TV programs on one national network, one regional network, and one independent station.
Produced 32 new Christ in Prophecy TV programs, including four programs shot in Israel.
Maintained and expanded an extensive website reaching people all over the world (www.lamblion.com).

2) Video and Audio
Produced four video programs: “Revelation Revealed,” “Worship in Prophecy,” “Jerusalem through Spiritual Eyes,” and “India 2003: A Report by Dennis Pollock.”
Videotaped a major presentation by Randall Bane to be released in 2004.
Purchased and integrated DVD duplication and printing equipment.
Purchased and integrated DVD authoring software.
Duplicated and distributed 11,844 video tapes.
Produced and distributed 1,740 DVD video programs.
Posted eight video programs on the ministry’s website.
Produced 5 Prophecy Update audio tapes.
Distributed 7,161 cassette tapes, many free of charge.

3) Communications
Processed 10,400 letters.
Processed 6,500 telephone calls.
Processed 8,100 email messages.

4) Preaching and Teaching
Conducted 7 extended meetings at churches.
Conducted 17 weekend conferences.
Presented 6 one day sessions at churches.
Spoke nightly at a week long VBS.
Spoke daily at a week long youth camp.

5) Publications
Produced 6 issues of the Ministry’s magazine, The Lamplighter.
Published a calendar with a Holy Land theme.
Completed preparation of a new book about Bible prophecy.

6) Israel
Provided extensive relief funds for Jewish refugees.
Gave financial assistance to six ministries in Israel.
Raised emergency relief for the Garden Tomb Association.

7) Missions
Shipped Bible study materials and Bibles to individuals and missions in many different foreign countries.
Raised $19,149 for Hands of Luke Ministries in Juarez, Mexico to provide care for orphans, food for the homeless, medical care for the poor, and evangelistic outreach to prison inmates and others.
Financed the publication of translations of several of the ministry’s publications in India and Pakistan.
Spent a total of $119,046 on missions (10% of expenditures).

8) Conferences
Held a conference for Prophecy Partners.
Participated in 6 prophecy conferences sponsored by other ministries.
Presented three lectures at the North American Christian Convention.

9) Finances
Received 12,158 gifts from 3,830 donors.
Received re-certification as a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.
Ended the calendar year with all bills paid in full for the 24th year in a row.
Financial Summary for 2003

We rejoice to report that the ministry ended the year of 2003 with all its bills paid in full for the 24th year in a row. All buildings, vehicles, and equipment are paid for. In short, the ministry has no debt obligations whatsoever except for leases on some mailing equipment and copiers. We are particularly pleased to announce that all our very expensive video equipment is completely paid for.

Our total income for 2003 was $1,156,344. That income was derived from the following sources:

- Sales — $122,602 — 11%
- Meetings — $51,748 — 4%
- General Donations — $255,024 — 22%
- Prophecy Partners — $709,113 — 61%
- Other Programs & Misc. — $17,857 — 2%

Our expenditures came to $1,155,249 and were distributed as follows:

- Administration — $192,180 — 17%
- Fund Raising — $50,958 — 4%
- Maintenance — $21,653 — 2%
- Mission Outreach — $119,046 — 10%
- Evangelistic Outreach — $771,412 — 67%

As can be readily seen from these figures, the financial base of the ministry is its 1,300 Prophecy Partners. We need to expand that base this year to 1,500, if at all possible. That would enable us to keep expanding our television outreach.

Our debt-free status is a great blessing that God has provided through our Prophecy Partners and other donors.

We invite you to become a Prophecy Partner. The requirement is that you make a commitment to donate to the ministry a minimum of $20 per month for one year (a total of $240). For further information, please call 1-800-705-8316. Thanks!

An Effective New Ministry Tool

This past year, through a generous donation from a couple in Florida, we bought all the software and hardware that is required to produce DVD video programs in house. We are now in the process of translating all our VHS video programs into the DVD format.

This process entails much more than what it would appear. That’s because our DVD software enables us to insert very sophisticated menus on each DVD program.

Let’s take our VHS program, “Israel in Bible Prophecy,” for example. Our media associate, Larry Watts, has just completed the conversion process to make this a DVD program. Now, in addition to watching the 70 minute program all the way through, as you would with a VHS tape, you can also watch it section by section, just like you were reading chapters in a book. A menu that appears automatically when the DVD is inserted into a player gives you a number of options.

You can, of course, select the option to watch the program all the way through from start to finish. But you can also choose program content by topic, by geographic area, by a Scripture index, or by a prophecy index.

Let’s say you decide to watch the whole program, but when it is finished, you want to return to a particular segment for review. Instead of having to rewind and search by constantly starting and stopping, all you have to do is go to the menu section and click on the segment you want to watch again.

One menu lists the 11 prophecies that are covered in the program — topics like, “The Dispersion of the Jewish People,” “The Persecution of the Jews,” “The Regathering of the Jews to the Land of Israel,” “The Re-establishment of the State,” and “The Revival of the Language.”

Another menu provides instant access to various topics mentioned in the program. Examples include: “Why the Eastern Gate is Closed,” “A Geography Lesson on the Land of Israel,” and “A Modern Day Kibbutz.”

A geographic menu enables you to find footage of New Jerusalem, the Old City, Tel Aviv, the Sharon Valley, and the Judean Wilderness, among other areas.

And, finally, there is a remarkable Scripture index that will provide you with instant access to every Scripture passage mentioned in the video. This index also provides a cross-reference to the same Scripture in Dr. Reagan’s Christ in Prophecy Study Guide.

We anticipate that before long we will be producing all our video programs exclusively in the DVD format.

To order a copy of “Israel in Bible Prophecy” on DVD, call 1-800-705-8316. It sells for $17.
**DayStar Television Network Coverage**

**Broadcast Times**

Regular Broadcast:  
Wednesday at 6:00pm (Central time), 7:00pm (Eastern), 5:00pm (Mountain), and 4:00pm (Pacific).

Replay: Monday at 12:30am (Central time) and 1:30am (Eastern). Also on Sunday at 10:30pm (Pacific) and 11:30pm (Mountain).

**Television Stations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Time Zone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apex</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>WACN 34</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raleigh</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>WWIW 66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma City</td>
<td>OK</td>
<td>KOCM 46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>PA</td>
<td>WHEL 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knoxville</td>
<td>TN</td>
<td>WDTT 38</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memphis</td>
<td>TN</td>
<td>WJRT 59</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashville</td>
<td>TN</td>
<td>WIW 14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>KDTN 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>KLTV 22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Antonio</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>KQVE 46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>KWOK 56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charleston</td>
<td>WV</td>
<td>WTSF 61</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Rock</td>
<td>AR</td>
<td>KKAP 36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoenix</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>KDTP 39</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tucson</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>KPCE 29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modesto</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>KACA 61</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stockton</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>K52CK 52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>KRJR 47</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>CO</td>
<td>KRMT 41</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tampa</td>
<td>FL</td>
<td>WSVT 18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>GA</td>
<td>WDTA 53</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gainesville</td>
<td>GA</td>
<td>W28CD 28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macon</td>
<td>GA</td>
<td>WDMA 31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honolulu</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>KWBN 44</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>WYDN 48</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
<td>NV</td>
<td>KTVY 67</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>WDTB 39</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Station numbers will be different on cable. So, if you are on cable, consult your TV guide for the proper channel number.

**Cable Systems**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Channel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kansas City</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shreveport</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satellite Systems</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DirectTV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dish Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sky Angel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMC-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotbird 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ThaiCom-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Family Vision Network**

Our program is also available over the Family Vision Network in Southern Louisiana. It is broadcast on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm and on Monday mornings at 8:30am over three stations:

- KAJN-TV (Ch. 40) in Lafayette
- KAGN-TV (Ch. 65) in Crowley
- KFAM-TV (Ch. 58) in Lake Charles

**KAZQ TV 32 in Albuquerque, NM**

- Tuesdays at 9:30pm
- Fridays at 12:30pm

KAZQ is also available on the Dish Network on channel 8817 and on the following cable channels: Comcast Cable (22), Comcast Cablevision (32), Cable One (9), USA Media (22), GST Home (78), and Chamesa Future Vision (22).

**Internet**

To access the program live over the Internet, go to the DayStar website (www.daystar.com) and click on “Watch Live!”

---

**Television News**

In late January we aired a special program called “An Update on the Middle East Crisis.” It featured an interview with Clarence Wagner, the international director of Bridges for Peace.

Bridges for Peace is a multi-purpose Evangelical Christian ministry in Jerusalem with satellite offices all over the world. One of the ministry’s purposes is to assist the resettlement of Jewish refugees. The ministry also seeks to help Christians understand their Hebraic heritage and the fulfillment of Bible prophecy in the land of Israel today.

The interview began with a focus on Yasser Arafat. Clarence was asked why Arafat appears to be untouchable. As Dr. Reagan put it, “How can we demand the capture of Osama bin Laden and Saddam Hussein ‘dead or alive,’ and then tell the Israelis to keep their ‘hands off’ Arafat?”

The interview then shifted to the “peace process.” Clarence was asked, “What motivates the Israeli leadership to pursue a policy of appeasement toward the Palestinians?” He was also asked, “Do you believe a Palestinian state should be created? And, if so, when and on what conditions?”

This fascinating discussion of Middle East politics is available on DVD for a cost of $10. To obtain a copy, call 1-800-705-8316 and ask for “The Middle East Update Video.”
Meet the Lamb & Lion Trustees

Henry Halff

Shortly before this issue of the *Lamplighter* was sent to the press, Henry Halff was called home to be with his Lord.

Henry was born on June 10, 1935 in El Paso, Texas, and died on February 9, 2004, at age 68. He was a fifth generation Texan and a lifetime resident of Richardson, Texas. At the time of his death, he and his wife, Shirley, were still residing in the farmhouse that had been in his family for more than 75 years.

Henry was a graduate of Richardson High School and Texas A&M University where he majored in engineering. He served the city of Dallas for 20 years as a civil engineer. He also served for 20 years in the National Guard as a helicopter pilot.

He and his wife, Shirley, were married for 40 years and raised four children — three daughters and a son.

Henry was a Messianic Jew who loved his Messiah with all his heart. He served as one of the elders of Central Christian Church in Richardson. He made several missionary trips to Russia and one to Guatemala. He went to Israel with Dr. Reagan three times.

Henry had the gift of giving, and many individuals and organizations were blessed by his overwhelming generosity. He was particularly active in supporting the Richardson YMCA, the Lost Boys of Sudan, Kurdish refugee families, and various ministries in Israel.

Henry loved deep sea diving, traveling, rock collecting, and the study of history and Bible prophecy.

Shortly before his death, Henry told Dr. Reagan that his favorite verse in the New Testament was Revelation 19:9 which reads: “Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” Because of his faith in Jesus, Henry had an engraved invitation to this dinner. What a glorious day it will be when all the saved sit down with Jesus to celebrate this great heavenly feast. *Maranatha!* ☮

Richard Carpenter

Birth place and date: Dallas, Texas. 1963.
Current residence: Norman, Oklahoma.
Wife’s name and years married: Paula, 16 years.
Number of Children: Four — two boys and two girls ranging in age from 4 to 9, all adopted from Korea. Paula homeschools them.
Education: B.S. in Atmospheric Sciences from the University of California at Davis. M.S. and Ph.D. in Meteorology from the University of Oklahoma.
Occupation: Meteorologist.
Number of years a Christian: 17.
Years of service on the Lamb & Lion Board: 2.
Church membership: Trinity Baptist Church, Norman, Oklahoma. Serves as an English tutor in the church’s Chinese fellowship.
Spiritual gifts: Knowledge and Teaching.
Favorite Bible character: Melchizedek.
Favorite Christian book: *Mere Christianity* by C. S. Lewis.
Favorite hymn: “This is My Father’s World.”
Favorite movie: “It’s a Wonderful Life.”
Favorite pastimes: Storm chasing, rock collecting, and fresh water aquariums.
Unfulfilled fantasy: Visiting all the National Parks and Monuments in the United States at a leisurely pace. ☮
Check Out Our Website!

You will find the Lamb & Lion website at www.lamblion.com. Some of the features of the site include the following:

- A total of 131 articles. Sixty-nine concern various topics related to Bible prophecy. Additionally, there are 25 articles about social issues, 19 on religious issues, and 18 concerning doctrinal issues.
- A powerful search engine that will enable you to find articles on the site using key words like Rapture, Armageddon, Antichrist, Catholic, New Age, etc.
- A translation feature called "Babel Fish" which enables you to instantly translate any article into one of eight different languages.
- A monthly question and answer about some important issue in Bible prophecy such as "What is Preterism?" and "Who are the 144,000 in Revelation?"
- Copies of the ministry's basic message, "Jesus is Coming Soon!" in written form and in audio form in a variety of languages.
- The last two years of radio programs produced by the ministry. You can listen to these while performing other tasks on your computer.
- A monthly "Prophecy Update" audio report that relates Bible prophecy to national and international affairs.

The Best Film Available About The Life of Jesus

Mel Gibson’s new film about Jesus, called The Passion of the Christ, focuses on only the last hours of Jesus’ life and is R rated because of its depiction of extreme violence.

A far better film, and one appropriate for the whole family is the movie, Jesus, which was released by Warner Brothers in 1979. This remarkable film is biblically based from start to finish.

It was conceived by Dr. Bill Bright, founder of Campus Crusade International. In 1947 he was seized with the vision of producing a film on the life of Christ that could be used for worldwide evangelism. Thirty-two years later the dream came true when this movie was filmed.

The film was in pre-production for five years as a team of 500 Christian scholars and leaders worked together to ensure that it would be archaeologically, historically, and theologically accurate. Following this careful research and preparation, filming occurred at more than 200 locations in the Holy Land. Special workshops turned out reproductions of First Century pottery, tools, and clothing. The script was taken entirely from the Gospel of Luke.

Since its release, this movie has become the most watched film in history. It has been translated into more than 800 languages and has been shown in every country of the world. Over five billion people have seen it, and more than 175 million have indicated decisions to accept Jesus as their personal Savior and Lord. At this moment there are 2,512 mission teams showing the film in over 100 countries.

Keep in mind that in the world today there are more than 1.5 billion people above the age of 15 who cannot read. It is the goal of the Jesus Film Project to reach these people with this visual story of Jesus.

The film has just been released on DVD. It runs 93 minutes in length. You can acquire a copy on either VHS ($9.95) or DVD ($12.95) by calling 1-800-432-1997. You can also place an order through the website at www.jesusfilm.org. Copies are not available through Lamb & Lion Ministries.
TV Programs

All our television programs are available for purchase. They sell for $10 each, including the cost of shipping.

The programs are excellent resources for group study. Each program runs 28 minutes and 30 seconds in length, including the commercials at the end. By cutting off each program when you get to the commercials, the running time will be about 27 minutes, leaving plenty of time for discussion in a 45 minute to one hour class format. The programs are currently available only on VHS tape. To order, call 1-800-705-8316.

Rapture 1: The Meaning of the Rapture
Rapture 2: The Rapture vs The Second Coming
Rapture 3: The Timing of the Rapture
Rapture 4: The Aftermath of the Rapture

Signs 1: The Nature of the Signs of the Times
Signs 2: Panel Discussion of the Signs, Part 1
Signs 3: Panel Discussion of the Signs, Part 2
Signs 4: Modern Day Signs of the Times

Sermons 1: Hosea: God’s Prophet of Love
Sermons 2: Jehovah-Jireh: The Lord Our Provider
Sermons 3: Jehovah-Jireh: Learning How to Trust the Lord

Interviews 1: The Hands of Luke Ministry
Interviews 2: The Jack Hollingsworth Story
Interviews 3: Update on the Middle East Crisis

Israel 1: Prophecies Fulfilled Before the 20th Century
Israel 2: The Regathering of the Jews
Israel 3: Re-establishment of the State & Reclamation of the Land
Israel 4: Prophecies Being Fulfilled Today
Israel 5: Israel as a Sign of the Lord’s Soon Return
Israel 6: The Middle East Crisis in Biblical Perspective

Pilgrimage 1: From Tel Aviv to Tiberias
Pilgrimage 2: From Tiberias to Jerusalem
Pilgrimage 3: The City of Jerusalem
Pilgrimage 4: The Dead Sea and the Garden Tomb

Jerusalem 1: The Via Dolorosa & The Crucifixion of Jesus
Jerusalem 2: The Tombs & The Resurrection of Jesus
Jerusalem 3: The Gates & The Second Coming of Jesus

New Year 1: Getting Out of Debt
New Year 2: Looking for Jesus
New Year 3: Looking Forward with Hope

Easter 1: The Validity of the Resurrection

Xmas 1: The Essentiality and Validity of the Virgin Birth
Xmas 2: Prophecies Fulfilled by Jesus
Xmas 3: The Forgotten Promises of Christmas

Pre-Trib 1: Interview of Tim LaHaye
Pre-Trib 2: The Most Important Sign of the Times
Pre-Trib 3: Secondary Signs of the Times
Pre-Trib 4: The Timing of the Rapture
Pre-Trib 5: The Value of Bible Prophecy
Pre-Trib 6: The Error of Preterism
Pre-Trib 7: The Antichrist in Bible Prophecy
Pre-Trib 8: Biblical Archaeology

World 1: The War in Iraq
World 2: Europe in Bible Prophecy

World 3: The United States in Bible Prophecy
Worship 1: Worship in Bible Prophecy
Worship 2: The Meaning and Nature of Davidic Worship

Revelation 1: Chapters 1-3
Revelation 2: Chapters 4-7
Revelation 3: Chapters 8-12
Revelation 4: Chapters 13-19
Revelation 5: Chapter 20
Revelation 6: Chapters 21-22

Panel 1: The Signs of the Times
Panel 2: The Rapture
Panel 3: The Rapture and the Millennium
Panel 4: The Reign of Jesus

An Inspirational Video

This video program will tug at your heartstrings! Dave Reagan interviews Darlene Cates, one of the leading actors in the blockbuster motion picture, “What’s Eating Gilbert Grape?”

Darlene presents a powerful Christian witness, telling how God transformed her from a 500 pound recluse to a motion picture and television actress.

The program contains dramatic clips from the Gilbert Grape movie, showing Darlene’s incredible acting talents as she plays scenes with Leonardo de Caprio, Johnny Depp, and Juliette Lewis. You will be laughing one moment and crying the next as Darlene details her life-long struggle with weight.

This is an inspirational program that is appropriate for the whole family. 45 minutes. VHS. Special sale price of $10, including the cost of shipping! 

A Video Invitation

In late October we are planning to make a video trip to Israel to shoot several TV programs in the area of the Sea of Galilee. If you would be interested in joining us as a crew member, please call Don Gordoni at 972-736-3567. No previous experience in video production is needed.

The trip will last 10 days and will cost approximately $2,500 per person (including meals). Since this will be a working missions trip, and not a tour, the cost of the trip will be tax deductible.

This is a great opportunity to see one of the most beautiful areas of Israel while helping produce Christian television programs. ✴
Communications

Books — “I have recently read *Wrath and Glory* and *America the Beautiful*; and I must say they are the best prophecy books I have read, and I have read a lot over the past thirty years.” — Wes Kehl in Columbus, Indiana.

Website — “I am writing to encourage you to keep your radio shows on your website. I am doing this because I was saved thanks to those archived broadcasts. When I was a senior in high school two years ago, a Christian friend of mine referred me to your website, and I spent a year listening to your radio programs and prophecy updates. I decided to invite Jesus into my heart, and I have not looked back since.” — Ethan Coleman in Kensington, Connecticut.

Television — “My family and I watched your TV program about Jerusalem and loved it. Having never been to the Holy Land, we always like to see video footage of the sites related to what we read about in the Bible. More, please!” — Kathleen Fowler in Dobson, North Carolina.

Magazine — “As milk feeds my body, the Lamplighter feeds my soul, which belongs to my Savior, Jesus Christ.” — Jeff Blanton in Flat Gap, Kentucky.

Meetings — “I just want to thank you for the time you spent at our church this past weekend. I attended all the services and was so amazed and blessed by what you had to say. Thanks for all the information you shared. And thanks for the energy! I became exhausted just watching and listening to you! I am so blessed to have been there.” — Betty Peterman in Fullerton, California.

Books & Magazine — “Words cannot express the benefits I have received in reading *Living for Christ in the End Times*. I also read *America the Beautiful*, and I was so taken by it that I ordered five additional copies for my family members. I also like the Lamplighter very much. I look forward to your articles about the Jehovah’s Witnesses because I was one of them for 23 years until I was disfellowshipped as an apostate for strongly disagreeing with the Watchtower. I am now a 78 year old born again Christian.” — Janine W. Daniels in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Television — I used to listen to your radio program in Oklahoma City during the mid-80’s, but I’m so glad I now have your television program to watch. Thanks so much for all the wonderful work Lamb & Lion is doing to advance the kingdom of God. May the Lord continue to bless you mightily.” — Linda Winn in Guthrie, Oklahoma.
The Ark of His Presence
New Video ready for release.

As this issue of the Lamplighter went to press, the final editing was being done on a new video program called “The Ark of His Presence.” The program will be ready for distribution by the time you receive this magazine.

This is a spectacular worship video that was shot at a church in the Dallas area. It features Randall Bane and a group of praise dancers drawn from all over Texas. Randall is considered to be the world’s foremost teacher and practitioner of Davidic praise worship. For more than ten years he served as the artistic director of the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem, an event that is sponsored yearly by the International Christian Embassy.

The special new worship experience recorded in this video program blends music, dance, and pageantry to present the ageless story of God’s presence among His people.

Randall was assisted in the presentation by a very talented associate, Jamie Irizarry, of Puerto Rico. The picture on the left shows Jamie with Dr. Reagan.

The presentation actively involves the congregation from beginning to end. It is truly a festival of worship.

The presentation begins with the congregation being invited to enter into the worship of the Holy One before the Ark of the Covenant in the Tabernacle of Moses. They next experience God’s presence between the wings of the cherubim in the Tabernacle of David on Mount Zion. Finally, they celebrate together the resurrection of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit, as the Church is born in Jerusalem on Pentecost.

The program concludes with an agape communion service that brings the body of Christ together at His table.

The running time of the video is approximately 75 minutes. It is available on either VHS ($15) or DVD ($17). There will be no shipping charges if ordered before July 1st. To order, call 1-800-705-8316.

Randall Bane is shown above with a replica of the Ark of the Covenant.