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A Harvest Most Abundant

This past winter seemed especially long. One person quipped that they were looking forward to the end of winter so much so that they could hardly wait for their very first mosquito bite. When the grass finally greens up, even the appearance of the first few dandelions is lovely in its own way.

During the Feast of Tabernacles, when most of us frequent restaurants more than any other time of year, we come across the term “as available in season” as we peruse menus. This can apply to various species of fish, for instance. More often than not, it applies to various types of fruits and perhaps even vegetables.

Usually, one of the first edible items from the garden in the spring of the year is the first few delightful sprigs of chives. They lend themselves as something

green and piquant and a tasty addition to mashed or baked potatoes. Beyond that we can anticipate freshly picked lettuce and radishes. Also available are the hefty vitamin C laden stalks of rhubarb. Who doesn’t love rhubarb crisp or rhubarb pie in the spring of the year!

How wonderful the first few carrots, peas, beans, tomatoes and potatoes taste. To go to the garden, supermarket or road side stand and acquire some fresh produce and prepare it at home impacts the palate in a wondrous and memorable way.

Strawberries make their appearance early in the season and are well received by those anticipating them. Then we partake of raspberries. Among the very earliest fruit that ripens are apricots which some people treasure as their very favorite tender fruit. Soon after that we can partake of peaches, pears and

nectarines. Last of all, we rejoice in the arrival of an array of succulent apples. What is your favorite variety of apple? Today there are only a dozen or so varieties of apples available at the supermarket. However, not long ago, orchardists used to grow literally hundreds of varieties of apples which are all but forgotten today.

We observe, however, that the season of fruits and vegetables is terribly short. How tasty are those first few radishes but in a short while they are no longer available. How tasty are those first few apricots, but after a brief time, they are no longer available. How tasty are those first few cherries, but before long they are no longer available. We enjoy each crop as it ripens, partake with gratitude (Acts 14:17) and then resign ourselves to the reality of



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United News Canada

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Curiosity—Good and Bad

One of the many traits humans were given at creation was the ability to be curious. Curiosity means the desire to know, to see, to touch and to feel. Every little child has this as a vital tool for their development. Their little fingers reach out to anything that is near. Often what they reach goes into their mouths as they taste, touch and feel to discover everything about them. Curiosity is a very important part of living, but it can be dangerous. We seem to have a deep need to satisfy a curiosity, but, all too often, we act hastily not gaining all the information we may need.

Adam and Eve were given clear instructions from God Himself about one tree in the beautiful Garden of Eden. They were told not to touch nor eat its fruit (Genesis 3:3).



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It is amazing what instructions like that do to humans. We get curious. What is wrong with touching the tree? Why should we not eat of the fruit when it looks delicious (Genesis 3:6)? With a whole garden filled with trees and plenty of food, one would wonder why Eve needed to eat from that tree. How did she

know it was good for food? In actual fact, she was curious. Added to that, she was told that God did not tell them the whole truth – and that in fact if she did eat of the fruit, her eyes would be opened and she would be like God (Genesis 3:5).

Curiosity is a necessary and wonderful gift that God has given to us.

Curiosity is a necessary and quite wonderful gift that God has given to us. It takes character for a person to properly satisfy a curiosity without getting into danger. Children do not have the understanding or character to recognize danger or to know when to control their curiosity. Adults have the responsibility of helping them make wise choices and so that they grow in wisdom and character.

The Bible is the word of God and in it we find instructions that are inspired by God for our good. It is God's hope that we will develop His nature as we go through life (2 Peter 1:4). The path He has given us includes allowing us to make mistakes – to choose to listen to Satan. Proverbs informs us that it is a folly and shame to answer a matter before you hear or fully understand it (Proverbs 18:13). We also read that the heart of the prudent acquires or gains knowledge and the ear of the wise seeks it – that is, we strive to get all the information before we do something stupid (Proverbs 18:15).

When we think about religion and our concerns about eternal life, we enter an arena in which we are often ill equipped. Paul wrote about his concerns for people he loved. He states that there is one church – the Body of Christ that has the

responsibility to teach people to withstand the devious and dangerous situations into which our curiosity might lead us. The church is to help us all grow in character and wisdom so that we cannot be deceived any longer. It speaks of the

trickery and cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting (Ephesians 4:11-14). The church is to speak the truth in love to help its members know when to avoid and run from areas of danger to which curiosity leads them – and when it is safe to look and seek. We are to continue to grow in knowledge (I Corinthians 1:5).

All knowledge is not good knowledge. Trial and error is not always the best answer to satisfying curiosity. Using wisdom, gathering information and controlling what we do is much safer and satisfying. That comes when character is developed so that we are able to make wise choices and follow them. God did say He had put things in this world under the control of the human race (Hebrews 2:8). That does not mean that we do not have to search, study, explore and develop our knowledge and understanding.

It may be very hard for us to comprehend that humans have lived about 6,000 years on earth and the development of control over our environment has been minimal during that time. Part of the reason is that humans did not take the time to put to investigate and understand God's laws of science. Many were superstitious, occupied with work and family or just with the heavy work needed to survive.

See "Curiosity" on page 11

Correction

In the spring issue of the UNC, the article on the historical ministerial conference inadvertently left out some of the elders and wives from Canada who attended (Dan and Fern Berendt, Richard Berendt, Robert and Valerie Berendt). The article also stated that someone was in attendance from Peru when the country meant was Chile. We apologize for these errors.

“Harvest” from page 1

having to wait for another entire year before we can sample freshly picked produce which tastes so delicious.

The Feast of Tabernacles is one of the highlights of the year for Christians who faithfully observe the annual festivals. Deuteronomy 16:13-15 describes the Feast in the following way: “You shall observe the Feast of Tabernacles seven days, when you have gathered from your threshing floor and from your winepress. And you shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant and the Levite, the stranger and the fatherless and the widow, who are within your gates. Seven days you shall keep a sacred feast of the Lord your God in the place which the Lord chooses, because the Lord your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you shall surely rejoice.”

Clearly the Feast of Tabernacles is associated with the harvest season. It correlates with the time of au-

tumn threshing and bringing in the sheaves when godly people express rejoicing with gratitude for the provision of Providence. Through the years it has not been uncommon for stage decorations

As enjoyable as the fruits seasons are, in this world they are very short and we must wait another whole year to enjoy the fresh produce we so much anticipate and that expires all too quickly.

at the feast to have a harvest motif with a cornucopia tumbling out all kinds of produce depicting God’s blessing and bounty.

As enjoyable as the fruits’ seasons are, in this world they are very short. Then we must wait another whole year to enjoy the fresh produce we so much anticipate then expires all too quickly. There are many things each of us anticipates in the coming millennial rule of Jesus Christ on this earth. One of the changes I personally am looking forward to is described in Ezekiel 47:7-8, 12, “When I returned, there, along the banks of the river, were very many trees on one side and the other. Then he said to me: ‘This water flows toward the eastern region, goes down into

the valley, enters the sea. When it reaches the sea, its waters are healed. Along the banks of the river, on this side and that, will grow all kinds of trees used for food, their leaves will not wither, and their fruits will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because their water flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, their leaves for medicine.”

Can you imagine trees that bear fruit once a month, every month all year round! No longer will we have to wait for an entire year for a tree to yield our favorite produce. It will become a regular occurrence – every 30 days, like clock work. The wonderful world tomorrow will be truly wonderful and exceed all expectations on every front.

This phenomenon is a precursor of what is described in Revelations 22:1-3 where a similar provision is described with the operative term being: “And there shall be no more curse.” The Feast of Tabernacles is only a few short weeks away. We should all anticipate reaping an abundant spiritual harvest at every site we attend, including staying at home if necessary. Let us pray for God to bless the produce which will be bequeathed to us that we may bring a sufficient number of bushel baskets to bring the produce back home with us to see us all through the winter season until the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Anthony Wasilkoff



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Newest Member of the National Council

John Erickson, a third-generation Christian, is the fifth child born to pioneer members of the Church of God in Prince George. His parents, Wilfrid and Mary Erickson, and grandmother, Elsie Bowyer, came into contact with Herbert W. Armstrong through the Radio Church of God. John has five brothers and three sisters. His twin, Morris, lived only a few short days.



Colette and John Erickson
(photo by Angie Erickson)

John married Colette Ellington on December 21, 1975, shortly after graduating from high school. They have three children and seven grandchildren: Karl and Sara Erickson, grandson, Noah (age 11), granddaughter Thea (age 8); Carmella and Jim Cartwright, grandsons Malachi (age 9) and Isaiah (age 6), granddaughters Azalea (age 3) and Alyssia

(2 months); and Synnove and Robert Teetaert, grandson Scott (20 months).

For 38 years, John has worked for Canfor – Polar Division for 38 years and is currently working as their shipper. The marketing board sells the lumber and he is responsible for its safe and timely delivery. Colette works full-time in the home care industry.

Although John has lived in the Summit Lake/Prince George area his entire life, he enjoys transferring to international festival sites. When he was a child he travelled to Squaw Valley with his family to the Feast of Tabernacles. Due to finances, he and his siblings only accompanied their parents every two or three years to Vancouver to observe the weeklong observance of the Days of Unleavened Bread. John remembers when thousands assembled together beneath the huge “tent” in Penticton. Since that time he has also travelled abroad to sites in New Zealand, Jamaica, Hawaii and Alaska.

When he is not working, John enjoys the outdoors, hunting and fishing. He jokingly added “staying alive” as one of his hobbies.

Rainer Salomaa ordained John a deacon on the Day of Atonement in 2005. When asked about his goals, he replied, “The Kingdom - like everyone else.” After some thought he smiled and added, “I would like to live long enough to retire.” John is amongst the many that have battled and survived cancer.

As one of the pillar members in Prince George, John has faithfully served for many years with song leading, sermonettes, sermons, set-up, take-down, the sound system, and organizing socials. Many church socials are held in John and Collette’s home, which is located on a farm on the outskirts of Prince George halfway between Salmon Valley and Summit Lake. John carries with him an optimistic attitude and sense of humor along with a dedication and love for family.

Although a little apprehensive, he is looking forward to serving on the National Council in Canada. He says he will “find out what all is involved and see what contribution he can make.” John and Colette attended their first National Council meeting in Toronto on June 22-23.

Angie Erickson

“Curiosity” from page 5

The driving force for our advances in science and control over our world is our curiosity. We want to know how and why things work. But we also realize that we grow older and life on this earth will eventually end.

The future lies in eternity – and though we live now, we do need to think a thousand years ahead. There is no greater or more important area for us to consider and wonder about than our Creator and eternal life.

Oddly enough mankind gives very little time and effort to this study. It seems our curiosity is limited. We tend to lose interest and grow weary of too much study and mental effort. Perhaps it is that God has seen fit to keep mankind blind for His own reasons (2 Corinthians 3:14-18). He encourages us to look and wonder. He tells us to seek Him and we will find Him. This is the best pursuit we could have. Curiosity is a frame of mind that ought to be involved in all we do.

With the present conditions of the world, it is high time for us to seek our Creator and answer the questions about life. Why are we here? What is the purpose of life? How about our curiosity – do we thirst for knowledge in this vital area? If not, we will wish we had.

May this year’s Feast sermons be good stimulation for your curiosity!

Robert Berendt



“Noah” from page 16

God saw that wickedness was great, and that man’s thoughts were evil (“worldly”). Today we read the headlines and watch nightly television news. What do we see? We see a world very similar to that described in the book of Genesis.

Notice, Noah was warned! “By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith” (Hebrews 11:7).

We are also warned through biblical teaching and prophecy. Do we heed the warning? Do we have the kind of faith that Noah had? Are we willing to build our spiritual ark in the midst of the wilderness desert of this world? These are questions we need to assimilate in our minds as we observe the Feast of Trumpets, a special holy day that represents the end of a horrifying event on this earth called the great tribulation, a time when Christ returns and cuts short the war that would otherwise destroy the human race (Matthew 24:21-22).

If the end of the world will be as it was in the days of Noah, what do we learn from the story of the flood? We learn that it was not sudden, it did not happen overnight. God through Noah’s preaching gave the pre-flood world 120 years. How long will God allow the gospel to be preached today before this world experiences His wrath?

The prophet Isaiah compares the time of Noah to the time of the end. “So shall they fear the name of the

Lord from the west, And His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood” (Isaiah 59:19).

The apostle Peter made comparison to the days of Noah and the End time by referring to scoffers in the last day who scorn the idea of the return of Christ, saying these people are ignorant of the fact that the earth was destroyed by a flood (2 Peter 3:3-4). However, Peter also reminds us that God is very patient. “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is long-suffering toward us, not willing that

any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3: 9).

The apostle Paul may have desired to have Christ return during his time, however he was also inspired to tell the church at Thessalonica “But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. The Son of man comes at a time when you think not” (1Thessalonians 5:1-2).

God revealed to Noah what He was going to do. Paul made it clear to those in his day, and the warning message is still relevant for us today. “But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. You are all children of light and children of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be

sober” (1Thessalonians 5:4-6). We are to be aware of what is happening around us.

As we observe God’s special holy days, including the Feast of Trumpets let us recognize the importance of watching, not only world events, but keeping watch on our spiritual connection to Jesus Christ and our Father in heaven. “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house (The Church

Jesus built) and gave authority to his servants, and to each one his work, and commanded the door-keeper to watch.

Watch therefore: for you do not know not when the master of the house is coming (the owner who bought and paid for it with His own blood) in the evening, at midnight, or at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning. Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. (involved in the day to day routine of this world) And what I say to you I say unto all, Watch” (Mark 13:32-37).

The Feast of Trumpets, the holy day that looks forward to the return of Christ is also a time for us to reflect and recognize that history is being repeated “But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be” (Matthew 24:37). We are living “In the Days of Noah.” When the time of trouble comes, like a flood signaling Christ’s return at the sound of the last trumpet, let’s hope and pray that we will all be allowed to get aboard the ark!

David Palmer

News From Across Canada

New Brunswick Brethren Enjoy A Spring Sleigh Ride

Laughter and sunshine filled the air on Sunday, March 20 as eleven members of the New Brunswick congregation gathered together at Turtle Creek to experience a fun-filled adventure welcoming the return of spring!



Members fellowshiping on the sleigh (photo by Someone Else)

The day began with the children enjoying the smaller animals while the adults watched in fascination as the driver hooked the sleigh to a team of beautiful horses. Once everyone boarded, the fun began.

The driver took us through the woods where we could see the beauty of God's creation reflected everywhere—from the frozen pond to the sunshine glistening off the snow. The crisp cool wind kept everyone alert and put color in our cheeks.

Some of the many highlights included the laughter shared as all tried to keep seated during the wide turns...and brushing off the hay when unsuccessful, learning about the differences in the horses and how moose like to visit farms. The best part of the adventure was watching the excited looks on the children's faces and the twinkle in

their eyes.

As the ride ended the joy did not. Laughter continued to fill the air as we tried to gather together for a group photo. It was truly a wonderful adventure full of the laughter and joy shared by God's people. A special thank you goes to our elder, Gary Steeves, and Samuel Vautour for making this possible.

Someone

Regina Congregation Sings Every Hymn

UCG-Regina reached a milestone on January 8, 2011!

A couple of years ago members of the Regina congregation were excited to receive personal copies of the updated United Church of God Hymnal – a volume of 191 songs. In flipping through the pages, we could pick out and hum the familiar tunes that have been part of our song-service for so many years – they were like family. However, many pages were skipped during our services. These were songs that were absolutely new. The words were meaningful, but, unless you could read music, you had no idea what they sounded like.

Upon browsing through the names of the composers, it was also exciting to discover songs written by fellow church members. Then came a question, "Would the Regina congregation ever get around to actually singing the new songs when we only meet for services twice a month (on alternate weeks they join services via Internet webcast)?"

Well, we made a start by trying

first one new song, then another, and another. At times it was tough going especially since we are such a small group. If anyone happened to be shy about singing, there was not the volume or number of voices behind which to "hide".

However, what was lacked in sweet harmony was more than compensated for by the determination and encouragement of our song-leader, the patient accompaniment of the pianist and the determination of the congregation to step out boldly and participate in the worship service with a new song.

Now the Regina congregation of 15-plus members is happy to report that, after a concerted team effort, we have completed the Hymnal and have sung each and every one of the 191 songs! We stepped out of our music comfort zone to do so. Along the way discovered a treasure of beautiful, inspirational mini-sermonettes set to music. We encourage you to make the same discovery!

Joan Hleboff

Winter Social At The Moulton's Cabin

Members, along with family and friends, of the Ottawa congregation gathered together at the cabin



Members fellowshiping on the sleigh (photo by Michelle Vautour)

on Joe and Mary Moulton's farm for a winter social in Spencerville, Ontario on February 6, 2011. Despite having had a huge snow storm the night before, many still came to enjoy the social gathering and had a great time.

A potluck brunch was provided by the ladies who cooked fresh pancakes, scrambled eggs and sausages on the wood stoves in the cabin. The delicious homemade meal was enjoyed by all and was accompanied with delightful fellowship.

This social gathering included a range of activities for all ages, including adults playing in the snow with the children, a horse-drawn sleigh ride and a friendly hockey game in the snow. The sleigh ride through the woods was a highlight of the day, enjoyed by many of all ages. It was quite a wonderful adventure going through the snow and taking pleasure in the beauty of God's awesome creation.

Michelle Vautour

Women's Enrichment Weekend

Each year in early March the Seattle and Sedro Woolley UCG congregations hold a women's weekend in the picturesque Washington state community of LaConner, famous for its Tulip Festival.

The event is often attended by members from Canada as well. This year Ghyslaine Palmer and Kassie Ranchie of the Vancouver congregation were in attendance.

The weekend theme "Building Bridges" included several seminar



Kassie Ranchie and Ghyslaine Palmer during the Women's Weekend (photo by Bev Pronishan)

subjects related to women in God's church. A keynote address "Forgiveness: The Hardest Bridge to Cross" was presented by LeeAnn Luker.

Seattle pastor Steve Shafer also delivered the Sabbath message "A Mighty Warrior: The Hebrew View of a Woman".

David Palmer

Birth Announcement

William and Rosanna Moulton are ecstatic to announce the birth of their first child, a beautiful baby



Addison Moulton (photo by Rosanna Moulton)

girl, Addison Grace. She was delivered via Cesarean on November 5th, 2010 at 6:49 p.m. weighing 6 lbs. 14 oz.

The proud first-time grandparents are Richard and Michelle Moulton (Ottawa, Ontario congregation) and Tom and Mary Salva (Worcester, MA. congregation). Along with her parents and grandparents, Addison has many admirers (i.e. aunts and uncles) who are delighted with her silly faces, little snuggles and goofy antics.

Rosanna Moulton

Lethbridge Anniversary and Ordinations

Thirty-one brethren met to celebrate the 15th anniversary of UCG-Lethbridge on the Sabbath of April 30, 2011. The highlight of the day took place during the announcements when Larry DeLong and Lloyd Teetart assisted Rainer Salomaa in ordaining Neil DeLong and Robert Teetart to the office of deacon.



Neil DeLong and Robert Teetaert (photo by Larry DeLong)

Maureen DeLong sang a beautiful selection of special music. Rainer Salomaa gave a sermon entitled Four C's for a Successful Marriage. Because it was the day after the royal wedding in

England, marriage was on many people's minds.

Following services, everyone had an opportunity to feast. A special anniversary cake was brought for the occasion. Larry DeLong did a great job of barbequing chicken and the ladies had made sure that there was plenty of dessert!

Rainer Salomaa

London Congregation Spring Holy Day

A quaint and lovely town in Strathroy, Ontario was the setting for the First Day of Unleavened Bread. Although the day was overcast and dreary, it didn't dampen the spirits of 11 enthusiastic brethren who gathered together in the home of George and Clara deVlught, faithful servants in God's Church for many years.

A song sang by Mandy Cobb via MP3 was the offertory music. Her angelic alto voice permeated throughout the living room. Patrick Read gave the sermon addressing how Israel was delivered out of the land of Egypt, how we all have lived in our own personal Egypt, how we have received deliverance from our bondage and how God's promise was to deliver Israel (and us) to a land flowing with milk and honey.

Following services, a vast array of delicious and tasty finger foods was enjoyed. Everyone fellowshiped and relaxed in the comfort of the deVlught's living room.

This small group of people takes exceptionally good care of each other. They make phone calls to each other, and earnestly pray for

one another whenever one of them is sick. Their devotion to each other is obvious. It is indeed a great blessing when the brethren love each other in the way that they do. As John 13:35 tells us, "By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another". The London congregation is surely a close knit family!

What an awesome blessing it is to be with brethren of like mind and to share the same beliefs not only with respect for the days of Unleavened Bread, but all of God's Holy Days. As we strive to remove sin out of our lives, we realize that we have been given a brand new start. We have been washed clean! It is indeed a great blessing to be together with brethren whom with all their hearts dedicate their lives solely to the Great God of the Universe. Psalm 133 tells us "How good and how pleasant it is to dwell together in unity." We gratefully thank George and Clara for their ongoing hospitality and for a most memorable First Day of Unleavened Bread!

Patrick Read

Obituary

Mary Baker, 88 years of age, of Calgary, Alberta, formerly of Selkirk, Manitoba, passed away peacefully on May 17, 2011 at the Southwood Hospice, Calgary, Alberta with her family by her side. Mary had been attending UCG – Calgary with her daughter, Mary-Anne Martens.

Mrs. Baker was born in Stuartburn, Manitoba on February 12, 1923 to the late Stephan and Wasylina Bilsky. She married Peter Wer-

estiuk and settled on an acreage in the Grunthal/Sarto, Manitoba district where they raised 13 children.

She did mixed farming on the acreage, worked in the sewing



Mary Baker
(photo by Mary-Anne Martens)

factory in Steinbach for a period of time, went to hoe sugar beets during the peak seasons and then was employed at the Grunthal Egg Grading Station for many years before retiring. Mary enjoyed gardening, wild berry picking, canning, cooking, hunting, trapping, fishing, camping and traveling.

She is survived by 11 children and one sister. She is predeceased by her parents, two children, her first husband, Peter Verestiuk, her second husband, Al Baker and six siblings.

Rainer Salomaa presided over the funeral service which was held on May 24, 2011, in Selkirk, Manitoba. She was buried at the Green Acres Cemetery in Winnipeg.

Mary-Anne Martens

As It Was In the Days Of Noah

“But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be”

Looking for signs of the return of Christ to this earth and the induction of God’s Kingdom is not new. The disciples and writers of the New Testament also desired to know the signs that His return would be imminent. “Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?” (Matthew 24:3). The disciples were looking for a specific timetable, but that is not what Jesus gave them. He simply delivered an overview. In fact He made it clear that no one knows the day, or the hour of His return, not even the angels, but the Father only (Matthew 24:36). Even the apostle Paul thought Christ would return during his ministry. “Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed” (1Corinthians 15:51-52).

For almost 2,000 years, the church of God has anticipated the return of the Saviour, Jesus of Nazareth. Each year in the northern hemisphere we begin the fall festival season observing the Feast of Trumpets, the day that represents not only Christ’s second coming but also the resurrection of the saints – both those who died in Christ and those who are still alive.

But while we recognize that no individual or group of individuals can determine the time frame for the return of Christ, Jesus did give us a sign that was very telling: “And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage,

until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed” (Luke 17:26-30).

So on one hand we cannot know the exact timing of His return, yet we are given a “blueprint.” The end of the age, Christ tells us, will be “as” it was in the days of Noah. Can we dis-

cover what the world was like several thousand years ago, at the time when God revealed to Noah that He was about to bring a worldwide flood on the earth, then commissioned him to build an ark? (Genesis 6:4-22). Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, ‘The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth’” (Genesis 6: 5-8, 11-13).



(©2011 photos.com)

cover what the world was like several thousand years ago, at the time when God revealed to Noah that He was about to bring a worldwide flood on the earth, then commissioned him to build an ark? (Genesis 6:4-22).

Future world events will have a dramatic effect on the end of the age, and the return of Jesus Christ at the sound of the last trump, but Jesus also wanted us to recognize that we continually need to watch our spiritual lives as well as comparing the world of our day to the time of Noah’s day.

Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, ‘The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth’” (Genesis 6: 5-8, 11-13).

See “Noah” on page 12