

# "Year of Betrayal"

It's impossible to encapsulate the events of a complex year like 1988 in a single article, but the year did have some outstanding features that the biblically informed should notice. It was in many ways another year of prophetic fulfillments and most notably, the Lord's prophecy, "Many shall betray one another..." (Matt. 24:10).

We are asked to believe that Gorbachev is a peacemaker. We are asked to believe that Arafat is a statesman. We are told that our congressmen, in addition to their limousine rides, overseas travel and lavish offices, need six-figure incomes at a time when there are so many homeless in our nation. I could go on and on.

The Lord's description of the Tribulation Period in His Olivet Discourse (Matt. 24:1-42) described it in the most clear and objective terms. We have said all of this before, but it certainly bears repeating when we look back at a difficult year like 1988. The Lord saw "wars and rumors of wars" and we certainly have those. The Lord saw famine, and today's world is rife with it. The Lord spoke of pestilences in the Tribulation and we certainly have those. And in the same breath, He spoke of "earthquakes in diverse places."

He said, "False prophets will abound" and "deceive... the very elect." This past year we saw huge portions of the Church get excited about prophecy of a Rapture that never came. We still see horoscopes and the like, not just in convenience stores, but in the White House as well.

Perhaps the most pointed of all is a fulfillment only weeks old. I have taught the message, "The Signs of the End," for all of my Christian life, but I had always paused on the prophecy revealing that Israel would be "hated of all nations." I always pointed out that our own government was wise enough to side with this sister democracy and obey the Lord's admonishments in Gen. 12:3:

"I will bless them that bless thee and curse them that curseth thee."

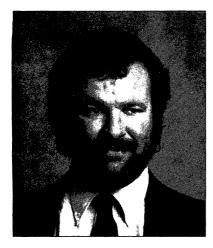
But now, as of December, 1988, our government has undertaken to talk with the PLO about peace in the Middle East! This is like discussing public safety with Los Angeles gang members. The terrorists of the PLO want the total annihilation of Israel, as their charter states, and we can only be very embarrassed that officials in Washington would even dream of talking with them about anything. Obviously, terrorism has increased, not abated, because of this terrible mistake.

The approaching Tribulation Period is, above all things, a time of dangerous craziness. The inexplicable events we are watching are a much more sure forecast of the coming of the Lord than anything we might hear from purported prophets of the times.

In any case, our part of the Lord's Discourse that day should be occupying the prayers and actions of everyone in the Church:

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

# "A PRECIOUS GIFT"



#### **BY STEVE NUTT**

I am often asked, "Why should we as new Testament believers study the feasts of Israel?" I believe that a greater knowledge of these elegant landmarks in God's plan will answer the question. It is my goal to cover each festival, including the Sabbath, in upcoming articles, sometimes taking two articles to cover a holiday.

In Jewish literature, the festivals are often referred to in Hebrew as "mikrah" and as "moed" – rehearsals and appointments. The implication is that each year thefestivals were observed, or "rehearsed", in anticipation of a set time of God's appointment. Each festival could then be considered a rehearsal of a set appointment in time – example: Passover (Pesach) was observed each year in anticipation of God's ultimate Paschal Lamb, Jesus, who came at a specific moment in time set by God.

This month we will start by looking at the Sabbath, which is the most frequently observed holiday since it occurs each week.

In the Jewish Talmud we read, "The Almighty said to the Jewish people, 'I have a precious gift in My Treasure House and Sabbath is her name.'"

The weekly day of rest is observed from sunset Friday until nightfall Saturday. According to Genesis 2:1-3, the Sabbath was established as a day of sanctity and blessing of the seventh day of creation; the commandment in the Decalogue, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8) refers to this first Sabbath of creation. For this reason the Sabbath serves as an eternal reminder that God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe, and that man as a part of creation must be subservient to his Creator. The Sabbath is referred to in Exodus 31:16-17 as a symbol of the Covenant between God and Israel, and as a sign commemorating both the act of creation and the Exodus from Egypt. Public desecration of the Sabbath was punishable by death, according to the biblical law found in Numbers 15:32-36, and was held by the rabbis to be a sin equal to idolatry.

The holiness of the day is expressed primarily by the prohibition against doing any work. In positive terms, Sabbath observance meant a 25-hour period of rest and leisure to be devoted to prayer, study and relaxation; the rabbis added the extra hour to preserve the sweetness of the Sabbath as long as was possible.

At the time of the Maccabean revolt, observance of the Sabbath was so strict that Jewish warriors preferred to be killed rather than offer resistance on that day. A ruling was later promulgated that preservation of life overrides the observance of the Sabbath. Apparently Jesus was very familiar with this ruling when He healed the man with the withered hand on the Sabbath, or when his disciples plucked corn on the Sabbath to eat.

Lastly, the Sabbath is a type or shadow of the coming Kingdom and of eternity with God. "Peace spreads itself throughout the world on the eve of the Sabbath," states the Zohar on Deuteronomy 15:12. (The Zohar consists of mystical commentaries on parts of the Old Testament, delivered in the form of discussions of a group of 2nd century rabbis and scholars in Palestine led by Simeon bar Yohai. Most of their discussions dealt with what they considered the deeper or hidden meanings of the Scripture.) The rabbis undertood this to mean that on the "Sabbath we experience this peacefulness as a taste of eternity."

In synagogues around the world the reading of Psalms 92 and 93 properly begins the Sabbath. The association of the 92nd Psalm with the Sabbath was recognized in the Temple, where it was sung by the Levitical priests at the onset of each Sabbath. Psalm 93 was added to this particular reading after the destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D. to remind the people of the coming Kingdom and the King. Although Psalm 92 bears no reference to the Sabbath, Rashi, a Jewish commentator on the Scripture, suggested that the Psalm spoke "of the world to come which is an unending Sabbath."

So, from these statements and from New Testament passages, we realize that the rabbis and the disciples, although not in league with each other, did agree that the Sabbath was a symbol of the long-awaited Kingdom. In Jewish homes, the Sabbath is ushered in by the lighting of two Sabbath candles and the recitation of Kiddush, a prayer of sanctification. In the lighting of the candles we are reminded that "light" was the first thing God spoke into existence. The prayer of sanctification reminds us that one day in every seven is set apart for worship and rest in the Messiah.

II Peter 3:8 states that "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day with the Lord is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." This passage and other related passages have led some people to believe that at the end of six thousand years the Millenial Kingdom will begin, comparing the six thousand years to the six days of creation and Millenial Kingdom to the seventh day of rest or Sabbath. The hymn "Blessed Assurance" uses the phrase "...oh what a foretaste of glory divine...." To the unbelieving Jew this phrase would be very applicable to his Sabbath, and how much more so to those of us who have found their ultimate fulfillment in the finished work of Jesus! So whether you as a believer set aside Sunday or Saturday to worship, be encouraged that the Messiah has promised to come back and claim us for His Kingdom to come.

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:1-3.

## "It Is Written" BY ZOLA LEVITT

In my letter to you two weeks ago, I discussed the surprising revelation that the Soviet Union has sold advanced bombers to Libya. More details have come out about this stunning and very unexpected shift in the Middle Eastern balance of power. I'd like to review further what appears to be a striking prophecy development.

Naturally the significance of Russia's arming Libya has to do with Ezekiel's invasion of Gog and Magog (Ezekiel 38-39), or what we have come to call the Russian invasion of Israel. Since Libya is one of Russia's allies in the invasion we would expect some enhanced military cooperation between those two powers as the time for the invasion draws near. We may be seeing exactly that right now. The significance of the new aircraft is that Libya can now comfortably reach Israel with an enormous payload of bombs. If it were previously a bit unclear what Libya would do in her part of the invasion, it is becoming deadly clear now.

The view of the political world toward this discomfiting development is interesting. The New York Times recently stated:

"Puzzled American officials said the deal, and the Soviet Union's training of Libyan pilots to fly the supersonic Sukhoi-24D airplanes, appeared to be at odds with Mikhail S. Gorbachev's proclaimed intention to bend Soviet policy to a more conciliatory role in regional conflicts." What bothers our government officials is that the Russians had appeared to be taking a new attitude toward regional conflicts, helping to settle them rather than exacerbate them. The article went on:

"The Soviet sale raises some awkward questions for the Bush Administration, which has credited Moscow with moving to defuse a number of regional conflicts, including those in Afghanistan, Cambodia and Southern Africa, and has asked for Soviet help in reducing tensions in the Middle East and Central America."

What worldy thinkers cannot understand is that nations and their leaders always move in obedience to God's plans, whether they understand those plans or not. Magog (Russia) will play her assigned role in Ezekiel's forecast of an invasion of Israel no matter how it looks to the world. As our Lord observed, "It is written."

Using worldly thinking and objective geopolitical analyses our best government minds are still stymied:

"Administration officials said it was unclear what motivated the Soviets to sell the planes at a time when they are openly courting Israel and hoping for better relations with the Arab countries in the region."

One of our administration officials is quoted as being disappointed with the Soviets. He also pointed out that Russia's odd outreaches seemed to extend to a very unlikely group of nations:

"The official said that money from the sale may be a motivating factor, but that the deal could also illustrate the Soviet Union's continuing policy of supporting 'pariah' nations in the Middle East. The official said Moscow's embrace of Iran, its continued military support for Syria and its weapon sales to Libya 'all add up to a disappointing approach so far.' "

What is intriguing about the above quotation is that the official has discovered Scripture, in a sense. Ezekiel specifies that Persia, as well as Libya, will be a Russian ally in the invasion and, of course, modern Iran and Syria comprise the ancient territory of Persia. What the official is discovering is that the Soviets today have an affinity for just the allies Ezekiel selected for them 2500 years ago!

We gave the details of the new bomber in our past letter, but suffice it to say that Libya could now deliver a punch to Israel which really justifies Russia's interests in her as an ally. One of the questions I've always been asked when teaching this prophecy is why Russia would bother with Libya at all, but perhaps now we know. And up to the last few weeks, I had always been asked how in the world could alliances ever be formed between Iran and Russia and between Libya and Russia. People sought to invalidate Ezekiel's construction of the alliance of forces in the invasion by looking at current events and supposing that the parties who were supposed to come together were simply too far apart. But as the old expression goes, "Politics makes strange bedfellows," and reasons have arisen for both Iran and Libya to have cordial relations at this moment with the Soviet Union.

Again, forgive me for repeatedly going over this one prophecy, but as it is scheduled for the very beginning of the Tribulation Period, we would be remiss not to be aware of every sign of its preparation. "... Ye, brethren, are not in darkness..." (I Thess. 5:4).

To understand a prophecy like this one is to understand world events when even government professionals fail to do so. If this analysis is correct – if Iran and Libya are coming together with Russia at this time to prepare the invasion – then we will all be together even sooner than we thought!

# **State Of The Ministry**

### by Zola Levitt

At an appropriate point during the administration of each President of the United States, a "State of the Union" message is issued to Congress and the American people. In our system the people own the country — the land and its produce — and the government works for the people. Therefore it is completely fitting that the people, the rightful owners of this American enterprise, be accurately informed by the government on how things are going.

With our ministry the situation is very similar. You, the donors to this enterprise, are the rightful owners, and we the workers who operate this ministry for you should rightly report to you from time to time about how things are going. And I'm glad to do that right now.

After all that introduction I wish I could say that everything is going wonderfully right now, but in truth things are just so-so. Donations are down, and they have been for some time. This situation keeps us from producing new programs, so we will be sending you reruns throughout the summer while we husband the funds that we have. On the other hand, the reruns will be good ones. We'll air our " Israel, My Love" series during the first part of the summer. It was shot on location in the Holy Land and it deals with today's nation of Israel in a "kinder and gentler" way than the news media does. We had very good response to this series previously, and I know you will enjoy these encore programs. Then we'll air our exciting end times prophecy series, "The Beginning of the End" also shot on location in Israel. These dynamic programs deal with the Tribulation, the Antichrist, Armageddon, and all the rest of the "Day of God's Wrath". These end times prophecy messages, always a word to the wise, constitute quite a witness in times like these.

While these programs air we'll try to get started with a new series particularly highlighting the prophecy of Gog and Magog — what we usually refer to as the coming Russian invasion of Israel. I have been writing steadily about the startling new developments on the world political scene which seem to point toward a soon fulfillment of that fatal event. It is really necessary to get that particular message on television since we reach enormously more people that way. Those of you who read this newsletter are very informed on these prophecy developments, but it is the audience at large — the uncommitted folks and the unbelievers — who I'd really like to warn. The fact is, if they get this information it may help turn them toward the Lord. And if it doesn't bring them to salvation right now, well then they'll be around to verify these Tribulation Period events as they happen — and that ought to bring them to their senses. Things being as they are, we have to think about planting a Tribulation Period witness!

After my last letter on this topic, a viewer called in and ordered a special printing of what we said about the Russian invasion. He is sending a copy to each U.S. Senator and Representative!

That takes care of the government. We need help from you to inform the rest of the people.

Actually, it isn't really fair to ask you who receive this letter to pay for a television series for those who don't contribute. You are the ones who do help us, after all. If times are tough at this ministry it's certainly no fault of yours. But this has always been the way in our faith; those who can help out do it so that those who cannot can prosper. This was a central part of the message of the One who laid down His life for His friends.

I should say a word about the differences between our ministry and the average outreach you see on Christian television. We are a very small organization producing nothing but our programs and the materials that go with them. We're totally dependent on you for our funds. In general, the larger ministries operate on television out of reserve monies from huge treasuries. Television is not their actual ministry but only a sideline — usually just a way of fund-raising. We can't "compete" with the big organizations in any sense but, concentrating only on television we can put out a very good product with a vital message. I can't tell you how many times our program has been called "the best Christian TV". God bless you for that! We'll keep up the good work if you will.

Other than in television and financial matters these are good times in our ministry. We have moved to more spacious offices, which cost less per square foot than our old ones. The staff is delighted to not have to work from stacks of papers all over the floors. The old offices had become so crowded as we grew that there was just no place to put things away anymore. Our new quarters, still rented of course, will let us do a better job for you at a net savings.

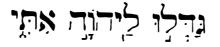
The "state of the ministry" is, in brief, pretty good, but some things are presently "on hold." I, for one, get very anxious when I'm unable to produce new programs and I'll be glad to get back to work as soon as possible. By the time you read this article we'll have come and gone on our summer tour and I'll have scouted good locations in Israel for upcoming programs.

Please always feel free to write in and ask us how things are going. I am very sincere when I tell you that you are the real owners of this work, and we value your input.

And please help us with prayer. Our audience is much smaller than that of some of the other programs, but it is a prayerful audience. Say a word on our behalf to Him.

Thank you so much, and may God bless you.

## **HEBREW LESSON**



Gadlu l'Adonai eetee MAGNIFY JEHOVAH WITH ME



unromima sh'mo yachdav' AND LET US EXALT HIS NAME TOGETHER (Psalm 34:3)

# "False Christs And False Prophets"

### by Zola Levitt

"Put aside everything you know about the Christ. Lord Maitreya is the Master of all Masters!"

So said Mr. Benjamin Creme, who spoke at a Unitarian church in Dallas recently representing the false messiah, Lord Maitreya. As part of my job I keep track of the signs of the end, and certainly one of those is the New Age Movement. I ended up sitting in this strange church listening to this strange teacher describing the upside-down world of those who claim "I am Christ", in answer to the Lord's very warning: "Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many." (Mt 24:4,5)

I often report to you about political developments and the seemingly impending doom associated with the events in Israel. But it is relevant, too, that we watch the weird, spiritistic world of the Antichrist taking shape as well. The mumbo-jumbo known as the New Age Movement is all around us and steadily gathering force, as we should expect. On the evening I heard Mr. Creme, I was appalled by how blatant it is all becoming.

My main complaint about the program was not that is was cultic but that it was boring. The problem with the unbeliever is not that he's a sinner but that he has nothing to talk about that's very compelling to those associated with the Lord. Least interesting among his topics was false doctrine. We were virtually asleep in our seats as the speaker held forth about the Christ he believes in and the Christ he doesn't.

On the way in we were handed a publication entitled, "The Christ Is Now Here". Alluding to the idea that at times of crises in history, great spiritual leaders have appeared to lead humanity onward, the pamphlet, by the Tara Center of North Hollywood, stated: The world is in the midst of such a transition today, and again a great teacher has appeared just when we most need Him, the same One who worked through His disciple Jesus — from the time of the Baptism to the Crucifixion — in Palestine. This time the Christ, the Lord Maitreya, has come Himself to complete the mission He began some 2,000 years ago.

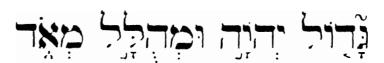
The Christ is referred to as Lord Maitreya because in the esoteric tradition the word "Christ" is not the name of an individual, but of an office, or function, within the Spiritual Hierarchy of Masters. The Masters of Wisdom are a group of perfected men who have guided human evolution from behind the scenes age after age. The present holder of that office, Maitreya, the Master of all the Masters, has held that position for the past 2,600 years and will continue to do so for the entire Age of Aquarius approximately 2,000 more years.

Maitreya the Christ is the eldest brother in the human family, having perfected and fully manifested within Himself the divinity which is latent in each of us. Today He comes to reveal a new aspect of that divinity and to lead humanity into the Spiritual Kingdom, the Kingdom of God.

Experienced Bible readers will see the slanted references to Scripture, of course, and the defamation of the character of Jesus. The capital "h" on *Him* and *His* now belongs to Lord Maitreya who, it is revealed, "worked through his disciple, Jesus". We note also

## **HEBREW LESSON**

We inadvertently left off the phonetics on our last two Hebrew lessons. Here they are.



gaw-dole YHVH meh-ode oom-hah-lel GREAT IS JEHOVAH, AND GREATLY TO BE PRAISED (Psalm 48:1)



ke lo teshtah' zeh l'al achar "HOU SHALT NOT WORSHIP ANOTHER GOD that Israel is called Palestine in keeping with one of the prime rules of the cults — defame the chosen people, don't say Israel, always side with those who oppose God's chosen.

The passage above concludes grandly with the biblical term, "the Kingdom of God". But, of course, we are talking about quite a different kingdom when it's brought by Lord Maitreya.

I won't belabor the details but I will give you a few choice quotes revealed to us by the false prophet at the podium. He stated that Christ is coming "very soon", which certainly sounded welcome until he explained that this is quite a different Christ than the one Christians worship. Lord Maitreya, sticking quite close to Scripture, says:

> "I am the one who knocks." "I am your friend." "I am your hope." "I am your shield." "I am your love." "I am your all in all."

Such verbal tight-rope walking around the Word of God must grieve the One who really did lay down His life for His friends and who really is the Alpha and the Omega.

After this introduction, we were to bow our heads as the speaker intoned, "Please receive the blessing of Christ." A non-biblical blessing followed, mentioning something called the "divine light." Part of the blessing involved the quotation, "Know that you are gods." We then had to listen to a tape while the speaker gazed at us from the platform. One Christian sitting near me wondered if there were subliminal messages on it, but other than understandable heartburn and chronic boredom, I made it through the program with no ill effects. After the tape, a speaker from the church got up and allowed that the views of speaker were "not necessarily those of the Unitarians."

Finally, the speaker warmed to his topic and stated that we are on the verge of a new dispensation. That's when he told us to put aside everything we knew about Christ and consider the Age of Aquarius. It seems we are all clinging to the Age of Pisces, the fish, and we need to be getting on to Aquarius, when all will be sunshine and peace. The speaker ridiculed the biblical plan for the second coming as "unintelligent and simplistic." Jesus, the speaker taught, promised to be with us only "until the end of the age," which means presumably that when we switch to Aquarius we'll need a new Christ. Fortunately for us, the speaker knew one. He supplied that Lord Maitreya came to London from Pakistan by airplane in 1977, so fulfilling the prophecy of Christ "coming on the clouds." (He didn't deal with the rest of verse, "and every eye will see him.") Mr. Creme said belief systems are ladders; once we are on the roof we should throw them away. Religions limit our divinity. We are all gods, after all.

"The Christ is in London waiting to appear," we were told. First, however, we need a market crash to end our greed; commercialization is our greatest sin. Perfectly believably the speaker stated that world problems are leading to a need for Christ's appearance. But then it's Lord Maitreya who has kept the peace and, "If he were not here I have no doubt we would have destroyed ourselves by now."

The speaker gave some of Lord Maitreya's prophecies. Beijing is to have an earthquake, George Bush's time in office is limited, and Gorbachev will be replaced, and his policies moderated. He promised that Lord Maitreya would hold a world press conference, "probably later this year". This is to be attended by representatives of every government. And finally, the new Christ will speak to the world on television. He will appear in whatever guise appeals to the individual viewer, speaking the viewer's own language.

The last thought evidences the supernatural gifts of the Antichrist, although it would be too soon to say that this particular false messiah is the actual Antichrist. We may be just seeing another setup of the Antichrist to come, as we did with previous declared Christs (Rev. Moon, Maharaj Ji, etc.).

It was an evening of rehearsal of the characteristics of all cults: the defamation of the Scriptures; a mean anti-semitic view, downgrading Judaism and Israel; a favoring of Eastern culture and religions over those of the Judeo-Christian ethic; a penchant for astrology and predictions by the zodiac; and a promise that the particular deliverer in question is really coming very soon if we'll all just be patient and believe.

In a way I'm sorry to trouble you with all this, but it behooves us to understand what the enemy is up to and how he fools people. I suppose if I had no biblical knowledge, that gentle, gray-haired Mr. Creme would have been appealing to me with his claims of peace for all men and a wonderful new age dawning. In reality, I see nothing but the beast on this way to a rendezvous with a condemned world system.

This particular false Christ may or may not hold that upcoming press conference later this year. But never forget this: The real Christ may come tonight. Amen!

# ZQLA'S BULLETIN BOARD

# Where Jesus Walked

You can be baptized in the same river Jesus was and you can breath the air He did. Come with us to the center of the earth--the Holy Land. Our Feast of Tabernacles tour, priced at \$2199, departs from New York on October 16th and returns October 25th. Please send for your brochure, or send a \$200 refundable deposit to hold your place. Thanks.

### Between The Lines

This is our new printer's second Levitt Letter and we'd like you to help us monitor the quality. He's doing his best to maintain clean, clear printing that's consistently pleasing to the eye and we need to know if you notice any defects. Thanks.

# When Submitting Your Article...

When we select your article for our newsletter, we'll give you a by-line, some extra copies for your file and a letter inviting you to select some of our study materials on the house. Because we'd also like to publish your picture with your article, we're requesting you send, if possible, a black-and-white photo of yourself. This is your option, of course.

## Timeliness Is Next To...

We're looking for volunteers in various parts of America to help us monitor the punctuality of our monthly mailings. If you're interested in helping us on this, please send your name, address and phone number to Mark's attention. We'll call you if you're in a place we need to ask about. Thanks again!

### A New Store

If you're ever in Dallas, come visit our office and our "Zola Levitt Store." Our street address is 13140 Coit Road, Suite #318 and we're at the northeast corner of Alpha Road and Coit Road near LBJ Freeway and Central Expressway.

Come in and browse through some of the most current and exciting teaching materials available.

### Trees For Israel

Send us \$7 and we'll have a tree planted for you in the Holy Land. You'll receive a numbered certificate commemorating your kind gesture and you'll be blessed with God's gratitude for helping to restore the land where Jesus walked.

Here is a precious opportunity to plant trees in honor or in memory of a friend or relative. Give someone a living gift.

### A Wonderful \$1 Close Out!

Zola and our producer Ken Berg coauthored <u>Wonderman</u>, a book that characterizes the Antichrist and his prophesied appearance in the end times. <u>Wonderman</u> thoroughly embraces the story of the "super-hero" who will enter in peace and exit in war. Send one dollar. First come, first served.

# A NOTE FROM ZOLA



Dear Friends:

As I look around our spacious new offices, I can't believe how we've grown in our ten years. This ministry literally started on a desktop with one typewriter. It now serves 50 states each week on television, mails out a half-million newsletters a year and supplies biblical study materials of many forms to an enormous international audience. Frankly, I know that we were faithful in a few things and I think the Lord has given us a little more because of it. In all the years of this ministry we have treated your donations with respect. Every cent was accounted for and spent properly and we have probably gotten more Christian product out of each dollar than any other ministry I know of.

Our new offices are a fine example of fiscal responsibility. Though they are large and beautiful, two situations came together to allow us to have this comfort at a rent cost less than we paid in the previous smaller offices. First, Dallas is mightily overbuilt in terms of office space. We are one of those cities with "transparent buildings", where offices were built in better times and now languish without tenants. For this reason, rental costs fell dramatically during the time we occupied our old offices. And secondly, increased space for storage of materials now saves us money. In other words, our audience is now large enough, and you are ordering enough materials, that given enough space for inventory, we can order larger lots and thus pay less for each unit. For example, we used to have to order our video tapes practically by the cassette, thereby paying high handling costs. But when we have enough space to store large cartons of tapes we can order from a mass duplicator and pay out less donation money to create these study materials. The effect is that we gather more funding for television production and pay out less for products.

Actually, this has a spiritual meaning to those of you who are our supporters. The gifts you used to send

had a certain outreach effect; if you sent along enough to publish 50 books or create 10 video tapes, or the like, then that number of people were reached by your efforts. (The material in the Scriptures about the Judgment Seat of Christ indicates that each one of our good works will be enumerated individually when we meet the Lord in heaven!) As matters now stand, the same donation may well publish 75 books, or make 15 video tapes, or whatever.

But our major product, television production and broadcasting, has not gotten any cheaper over the years. In fact, it is much more expensive and that just comes with the territory. We are in no position to own our own studio, camera equipment, etc. We are a small ministry, totally dependent on what you send us to make our programs. There is really no way to "buy in bulk" when you make creative productions like television programs. They still have to be formed one by one and filmed with individual care. I think any of you would agree that our production values have gone up over the years and so, in a way, we have to take more trouble than we used to, and more expense than in the past, to bring you our programs.

On that score, I hope you will continue to help. I have been very blessed by the increase in donations as people have become interested in our new project to update prophecy, especially concerning Russia, China and the Middle East. A wealth of new developments have occurred relative to these subjects and we are very capable of putting them together into a fine upcoming series with your help. Again, you often commend me for telling you what is a time for giving and what is a time you don't have to give. Considering the world situation and our being stuck in reruns for quite some time, this is a time to give. Enough said. I know I can count on you.

People are already signing up for our Feast of Tabernacles tour, before we have even announced it and , of course, we are pleased by that. It will be October 16-25 this year, during the feast in Israel, which comes a little later than usual. Our brochures are about ready and you can ask for one at this time. If you wish to just send a refundable deposit, \$200 will reserve you a place on the tour.

Thank you, God bless you, and please know that we appreciate you.

Your messenger,

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