

RELIGION

ALTERNATIVES

Defining The Ages (Times) Article 7

BY M ISAACS

There is a global resistance to God and to his Holy Word, and to his followers.

This is not a "business as usual" time! There is serious opposition to the way of God; but this opposition has no bearing on God's Word and does not change one Word of prophecy; in fact, it does not change anything predestined to happen. God's Word is Unconditional: God does because it pleases him to do; he says, because he desires us to know;

He desires us to know because he made a covenant with his son Jesus, to save, bless and change every one who accepted his son as Lord and Savior of this world. We are qualified to receive all that is promised in the Word of God, because we have a Covenant with him through his Son, Jesus Christ, being joint heirs with the Son of God.

It is long past the time to shout about the time of our accepting the Lord; when we first received salvation. The devil rages through the land and we have not grown past our first blessing; our mode of thinking has

not changed since we first accepted the Lord, and we face the "big guns" of Satan with very few tools for defence. We dwell on and shout about "When we first received the Lord". We remember the day and the hour; what was said and what we did and how we felt. Conveniently forgetting what was said and what we did and how we felt. Conveniently forgetting that we had just begun the journey; without full knowledge, and no wisdom, no growth, no tolls to travel the journey from hell to heaven. Satan has a "hay day" with Christians such

as these. They swing with every wind that blows. These are they that are in competition with other members in God's family. These are they that require praise when they use the gifts given them by God. These are they that seek, yea, expect rewards and awards for doing what God expects them to do as his followers. These are they that look for material blessings because they have not missed a Sunday in Church Service. When Will We Grow To Realize That We Are Not Saved Because We Work, But We Work Because We Are Saved!

The time is far gone to Celebrate the dead; for the "dead know not anything". We are alive and Satan wants our souls; he has lost the power to claim souls once they die. All of Satan's wonders and miracles will not affect the dead. The dead rest, awaiting the judgement. The miracle working power of Satan focuses on the living soul, for these are the ones he must change and claim before death takes them beyond his reach.

He (Satan) doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight

of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by means of those miracles which he had power to do. Rev. 13:13,14.

We live, with the weapons of God available to us and we refuse to learn how to use these weapons against the evil one: Closing our hearts and feeling secure in our lack of knowledge and wisdom, which is a form of disbelief in the existence of evil. Oh, Foolish Men, Who See God As A Bandida For All Their Surface Ills; Using Him As A Vehicle To Demand And Solicit Praises Of Men.

Open Letter To Oregon Office Holders And Candidates

Fellow Citizens:

We the members of Multnomah Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends write out of religious concern for the well being of Oregon's young people as they face difficult and changing times. Their moral health, their confidence in their ability to lead decent and productive lives, depends upon the education provided them by a society faced with the challenges and opportunities of profound economic change. We do not need to labor the point that equipping the young for the new job market as well as the complex demands of modern society will benefit all citizens, there being no more promising and constructive means of building strong and happy communities.

Public education in Oregon is underfunded, and quality is threatened at all levels, from kindergarten to graduate school. It takes more than money to develop a strong system of education, but adequate funding is prerequisite to its development and necessary to its maintenance. Good models abound, in major American cities as well as in economically competitive nations such as Germany and Japan. In Oregon innovative approaches that have shown success and promise are now being damaged by program cutbacks and teacher layoffs. The trend must be reversed. Oregon needs thorough reform of

its tax structure. Measure 5, and with it dependence upon the real property tax, must go. We realize there are many competing proposals, some representing various special interests. Among them we are aware of the following: Local option taxes for school programs, Governor Kitzhaber having recently suggested that school districts might be empowered to levy them after a study of essential educational costs and state funding of them; a gross receipts tax or sales tax that would exempt food, medicine, perhaps other basics; giving school districts a slightly larger share of tax revenues vis a vis cities and counties. Here we make no brief for any one or combination of these, recognizing that there are political realities to be faced as well as complex economic issues.

What we ask is an urgent effort requiring close cooperation of the Governor's office and the Legislature. We suggest that the process of reform might best begin through the joint leadership of the Governor, the Senate President, and the Speaker of the House. It might continue through the agency of a special commission charged with development of an equitable new tax structure to be acted upon in a special session of the Legislature. We urge such a course in order to forestall narrowly conceived efforts to alter the tax structure by

initiative.

Finally, open minded as we are as to the details of change, we are very much concerned with principles. First, we believe that the quality of public education is a measure of a society's achievement and should be a source of joy and satisfaction for all. Secondly, we believe that funding should be equitable throughout the state, but, because the demands on school districts vary—for example the need for coping with many languages and difficult sociological conditions—truly equitable sharing of resources will not result from uniform per capita funding. Thirdly, we believe that taxation should be progressive, the economically fortunate being expected to pay at a higher rate than those less so.

We trust that all of you care about this issue and that many feel the frustration of the present situation and the loss of public confidence in the legislative process. We sympathize with the difficulties of the well-intentioned as they feel the pressures of conflicting interests. Our hearts will be with you in your efforts to respond to the long range interests of the people of Oregon.

We look forward to hearing your views on tax reform, particularly in relation to school funding.

Sincerely, Madeline Moore, Clerk of Meeting

Lutheran Leader To Be Honored

Gloria Edwards, president of a national Lutheran women's organization and principal of a Northern California construction company, will receive an honorary Doctor of Laws at Concordia University's May 18 commencement ceremonies, announced Concordia President Charles E. Schlimpert. One hundred and sixty bachelor's degrees will be awarded at the 10:00 a.m. event in the school's gymnasium.

Combined with 127 degree recipients at Winter commencement held in December, Concordia will be granting a record 287 degrees in the 1995-96 academic year.

Edwards, a resident of Portola Valley, is being recognized by Concordia University for her lifelong involvement in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS), including serving as a member of the Concordia University Board of Regents since 1992.

Edwards has been involved in many community and church projects and organizations from the local PTA, her local congregation Bethany Lutheran Church in Menlo Park, the California-Nevada-Hawaii District of the LCMS Church as chair of the Committee on Women, to advisory board membership to the Stanford University Young Women's Group.

She has served as a board member of the international Lutheran Women's Missionary League (ILWML) and in 1995 to emphasize mission education, mission inspiration, mission service and mission projects for women in the LCMS. The ILWML Quarterly, provides inspirational articles, mission news, and Bible studies to the 2 million members of the LCMS.

Concordia University is one of 10 colleges and universities, including two seminaries, owned by the LCMS.

Edwards and her husband, Rosser, are founding principals of Webcor Construction of San Mateo, Calif. Webcor served as general contractor of Concordia's new science wing of Luther Hall.

"Bestowing this degree upon Gloria Edwards provides us with a wonderful opportunity to honor not only the service of a great leader, but women throughout the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod," said Dr. Schlimpert. Edwards will give the commencement address.

Graduating seniors Amy Gehrke and Blake York are student commencement speakers. Gehrke is an elementary education and professional church work major from Reedsport, Ore., and York is a Business Man-

agement and Communications major from Milwaukie, Ore. York is a wire transfer clerk with U.S. National Bank of Oregon.

Class speaker are selected on the bases of their GPA by the Community Life Committee, a standing faculty committee. Other awards announced at commencement include the Senior Athlete Awards, Leadership Awards, and the Christian Character Award. Additionally, each of the university's five colleges will announce outstanding student awards.

Glenn Smith, Dean of Students at Concordia, was selected as baccalaureate speaker by the graduating class. Baccalaureate is at Friday, May 17, at 5:30 p.m. in the gymnasium.

Founded in 1906, Concordia University has been awarding bachelor's degrees since 1980, three years after its successful transition from a junior college. Concordia opened its 91st year last fall with new university status. Its 1,000 students are enrolled in one of five colleges in Arts & Sciences, Business, Educations, Health Care Administration, and Theological Studies. The university is offering its first graduate level degree program in June with the introduction of three master's degree programs in the College of Education.

Men's Conference

On Thursday, May 30 Mt. Olivet Baptist Church will kick off its First annual Men's Conference. Some of the main reasons why men have fallen from their God given positions. This conference is centered around giving all men the tools to "Fight

Like A Man!!" If you are a man who wants to live up to your Potential, then this conference is a must.

There will also be topics designed for youth. The conference continues Friday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

"Harvest '96"

State Evangelism Department Of Oregon First Jurisdiction will sponsor its 1st annual Workshop "Design For The Harvest '96" on Saturday, May 25, 1996 at 8:00 A.M. - 2:00

P.M. Location, Victory Temple Church, 241 N. E. Hancock, Portland, OR. Donations accepted. For more information contact Ruth Pitts-London at (503) 775-0681.

Morning Star 49th Anniversary-

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church Celebrates Their 49th Church Anniversary May 17-19th. Musical May 17 at

7:00pm and the anniversary Close-Out May 19th at 3:00pm Sunday Afternoon. Address is 106 NE Ivy.

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RETRACTION

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Future of Vatican

The future of ministry in the Church will be the topic of the next Catholic Scholars series.

Sister Sara Butler, M.S.B.T., will be the next speaker in the series on "The Church in the Third Millennium."

Sister Sara's presentation will be "Lay Ministry and Holy Orders in the Post-Vatican II Church." She will speak at St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday, May 19, 1996 at 8:00 p.m., and on Monday, May 20 at 8:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church in Eugene.

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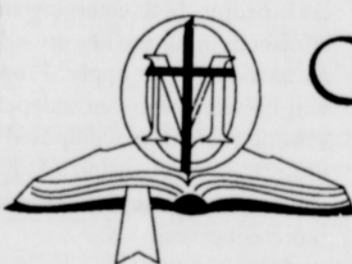
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"Making His Praise Glorious"

Friday June 21st at 7:00pm the Mt. Olivet student choir, "Chosen Generation," will present "Making

His Praise Glorious." It's a ministry production featuring the next stellar award winner from Pulaski, Virgin-

ia, April Patterson, with special guest appearances by Rap Hip/Hop sensation "Dedicated"



Mt. Olivet Baptist Church

Building Strong Families
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Bible Study: Wednesdays; 10:30 AM & 7:00 PM

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