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Sometimes Old Testament prophecy can seem abstract and confusing. Other times, however, it cuts right to the heart of the very issues we are facing in the Church. Consider this passage from Isaiah:

Therefore the Lord, the Lord of hosts, will send leanness among his fat ones; and under his glory He will kindle a burning like the burning of a fire. So the Light of Israel will be for a fire, and his Holy One for a flame; it will burn and devour His thorns and his briers in one day. And it will consume the glory of his forest and of his fruitful field both soul and body. And they will be as when a sick man wastes away. Then the rest of the trees of his forest will be so few in number that a child may write them (Isaiah 10:16-19).

What do these words mean to us as a Church? We know from Bible symbolism that a tree represents a human. Here we have a whole forest of trees whose glory is to be consumed. Only a small remnant will be left—a number so small, a child could count it. In this text, God is warning us that many who think they stand for Him will soon be shaken. As I read these solemn and heart-wrenching words, I feel sadness for our people, for the Seventh-day Adventist movement that started with such vigor and vision.

From across the nation and even across the world, we hear the bitter cries of fellow believers, wondering what has happened to the Church they love. Some are even disfellowshipped, many disheartened, and discouraged by the infiltration of error or the lack of zeal in our Church. For many, it is hard to go on, to remain faithful while they seem to stand alone. Isaiah 10’s warning reminds us of the predicted shaking, and which of us will be able to stand?

Therefore the Lord will cut off head and tail from Israel, palm branch and bulrush in one day. The elder and honourable, he is the head. The prophet who teaches lies, he is the tail. For the leaders of the people cause them to err, and those who are led by them are destroyed. (Isaiah 9:14-15).

Those who have had great light and precious privileges, but have not improved them, will, under one pretext or another, go out from us. Not having received the love of the truth, they will be taken in the delusions of the enemy; they will give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, and will depart from the faith (Te, 300).

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There’s a verse in the New Testament that has, of late, stimulated my thinking. It’s found in 2 Timothy 2:24-26:

And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; and that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

There’s some powerful instruction here for God’s people. But my attention was caught by what these verses say about those who “oppose themselves”—or said another way, “shoot themselves in the foot”—with God.

In some way, these individuals who oppose themselves are not “acknowledging the truth,” but rather, have placed themselves in a position to be ensnared by the devil—taken captive by him at his will!

Very few people would knowingly choose to serve an enemy who is out to destroy them. And get this—Scripture tells us that he’s going to be very successful at tricking and trapping the majority of people, regardless of their religious or ethnic background. Except for a small remnant of Christian believers, the whole world is going to be led to worship the devil at their own destruction (Revelation 13:2-4,8,12; 16:13-14; 20:15).

Even the Elect?

Could someone keeping all the Ten Commandments be led to destruction? Let’s look at some verses. Matthew 24:24 says this:

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

Is it possible for any of the elect to be deceived? Check out 1 Timothy 4:1:

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils . . .

In order for “some” to “depart from the faith,” they have to be a part of it! And why do they depart? They give heed to seducing spirits and teachings of devils.

So, yes, there will be Christians who were once part of the faith who will depart from it. That’s why our loving Lord gives such an alarmingly pointed call to the church of Laodicea in Revelation 3:17-18:

Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I
counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

This verse is affirmed in Testimonies for the Church:

Those who have had great light and precious privileges, but have not improved them, will, under one pretext or another, go out from us. Not having received the love of the truth, they will be taken in the delusions of the enemy; they will give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, and will depart from the faith (vol. 6: 300).

Understanding the Battleground

Recognizing these unsettling realities, I believe it’s important to consider some insights concerning the battle with our unseen but viciously active enemy:

Satan is unable to compel anyone to sin.

1 Corinthians 10:13 promises:

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, Who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Desire of Ages clearly verifies this: “But while Satan can solicit, he cannot compel to sin” (125).

Signs of the Times gives us added encouragement: “It is not in the power of Satan to force anyone to sin. Sin is the sinner’s individual act” (December 18, 1893).

The devil cannot force anyone to sin? He’s only allowed to tempt us! And when he tempts us, God is faithful to provide a way of escape, so that we may be able to bear it—that is, stay faithful to the will of God regardless of the temptation. Praise the Lord!

Temptation is not the same as sin.

In the same Signs of the Times article, we receive more insightful encouragement:

Temptation is not sin, and is no indication that God is displeased with us. The Lord suffers us to be tempted, but he measures every temptation, and apportions it according to our power to resist and overcome evil (December 18, 1893).

Being tempted does not mean I have sinned. Hebrews 4:15 tells us that our loving Saviour “was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.” It is added comfort to know that when I am tempted, if I by faith choose the way of escape our Lord provides, His grace empowers me to endure temptation (James 1:12). I do not have to stay stuck under sin’s thumb, but can resist temptation with God’s help.

Tricked and Trapped

How, then, can someone be tricked and trapped by the devil unaware?

James 1:13-15 gives us some insight:

Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Notice how we are tempted. We are drawn away and enticed. When a person is enticed, has sin happened yet?
No. Sin is born when lust is allowed to conceive.

Matthew 5:27-28 gives us an example of when and where lust (of any kind) is conceived:

Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

Did you catch where lust is conceived? In the heart! In the mind! And when is it conceived? A man sins—even commits adultery—when he cherishes that thought of lust in his heart.

We read in Spirit of Prophecy, that “those who cherish lascivious (lustful) thoughts are as guilty at heart as the shameless violators of the seventh commandment” (vol. 2: 222, emphases added).

When someone is tempted, who plants the initial evil idea into a person’s thoughts? Satan! Note John 13:2; Acts 5:3.

Mind, Character, and Personality says, “There are thoughts and feelings suggested and aroused by Satan that annoy even the best of men; but if they are not cherished, if they are repulsed as hateful, the soul is not contaminated with guilt, and no other is defiled by their influence” (p.432)

When Satan plants a sinful thought into a person’s heart, and that person chooses to cherish and ruminate on it, Satan has taken this person captive unawares, just like 2 Timothy 2:26 states.

Satan has worked this way throughout history and will continue his evil craft until Christ’s return (Revelation 12:12,17). If Satan can subtly lead a person to cherish and ruminate on any sinful idea, he has taken that person captive at his will.

Triumph over Tricks and Traps

How can we protect ourselves from getting tricked and trapped into captivity by the enemy?

The simple solution to being triumphant over the enemy’s subtle tricks is to develop a consistent, prayer-filled study of God’s Word, learning to apply it to our lives. Here are four helpful steps:

1. Diligently and daily study God’s Word, praying to know Him better.

This practice will help you determine the origin of the ideas that come into your mind—whether they are from the Lord or the enemy (2 Timothy 2:15; John 8:31-32; Acts 17:11, Prov 4:20-23).

The information we consistently feed our minds trains our moral consciousness, either for good or evil. Jesus tells us in Matthew 6:21, “where your treasure is there shall your heart be also,” and Proverbs 23:7 says, “as he thinketh in his heart so is he.” The Great Controversy puts it this way:

It is a law both of the intellectual and the spiritual nature that by beholding we become changed. The mind gradually adapts itself to the subjects upon which it is allowed to dwell. It becomes assimilated to that which it is accustomed to love and reverence (p. 555).

2. Examine your current thinking about life situations in the light of Christ’s words.

This is the only way to know if you’re letting Christ and His thoughts direct your life, or if you’re trying to do
things your own way (2 Corinthians 13:5; Philippians 2:5).

Christ's Object Lessons states this:

In one way only can a true knowledge of self be obtained. We must behold Christ. It is ignorance of Him that makes men so uplifted in their own righteousness. When we contemplate His purity and excellence, we shall see our own weakness and poverty and defects as they really are (159).

Apply to your life what the Lord is teaching you from your time with Him (James 1:22).

When we spend time with God in prayer and study, He promises to give us discernment about where the ideas that come into our mind originate. John 7:17 says, “If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.”

In return for studying, trusting, and applying God’s Word to our lives, God promises to protect us from the most powerful temptation the entire world will ever see—the impersonation of Christ by Satan himself!

Revelation 3:10 says, “Because thou hast kept the word of My patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.”

Desire of Ages clearly states, “Whoever will prayerfully study the Bible, desiring to know the truth, that he may obey it, will receive divine enlightenment. He will understand the Scriptures.” (p. 459)

Earnestly pursue a knowledgeable love relationship with Jesus.

Without being thoroughly convinced that Jesus loves you with an everlasting love, staying faithful to God’s Word under the pressures of persecution is impossible (Matthew 13:20-21; Mark 4:16-17; Luke 8:13).

Christ tells us in John 14:23-24, “If a man love Me, he will keep My words: and My Father will love him, and We will come unto him, and make Our abode with him. He that loveth Me not keepeth not My sayings” (emphasis added).

What a delight to choose, by faith in Christ, to remain in a position where He can develop His loving faithfulness in my heart! What freedom to experience more and more of His empowering grace that overcomes Satan’s every attack, however subtle! What peace to be covered by the blood of the Lamb, to have nothing but His Word as my testimony, and love for the Saviour that transcends love for my own life (Revelation 12:11).

I want to be able to unflinchingly say like the apostle Paul in 2 Timothy 1:12, “for the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.”

How about you?

Christ lived and died so we would not have to remain tricked and trapped, but rather, treasured and triumphant!

Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place (2 Corinthians 2:14).

After 25 years of full-time ministry and a Master’s degree in Christian Counseling, Dan is currently practicing Biblical Response Therapy® with his wife as mental/spiritual health coaches for the Black Hills Health and Education Center.

CORRECTION NOTICE:
Dan Gabbert is also the author of the “Watch and Pray” article published in the last issue of Faith on the Line, which we did not properly attribute to him. We apologize for this error.
Petrifaction can, in fact, occur very rapidly, and most fossils probably occurred during the Flood within a one-year time frame. The evidence continues to stack up in favor of soft tissue, rapid petrifaction, and a recent find has really hit the nail on the "head." A Tennessee man by the name of Mr. Larry Skelf has found what he describes as a petrified human brain, and his website makes a solid effort to substantiate this incredible claim. One could spend hours reviewing the analysis of this fascinating specimen, but one thing that geologists want to see immediately is what kind of rock it is. After all, couldn't a brain-shaped rock just be a geode or perhaps some sort of igneous rock with an odd shape?

Mr. Skelf's collection of analysis includes information indicating that this is not the case. The crystalline makeup of this rock, as well as its smooth surface, rule out many of these theories, and this roughly 1250-cc-size rock (an average human brain is about 1400 cc) offers many other intriguing features than can be explored further at petrifiedhumanbrain.com/home.html

One of the most convincing areas of analysis for this specimen is its symmetry and shape. Many x-rays and scans have been done to peer inside this rock, but even from the outside the similarity to a human brain is beyond substantial. The two brain hemispheres, the rise and fall of the meandering sulci and gyri, and even part of the brain stem can be seen clearly.1 Could this be an actual brain in rock form? By using the scans found on Mr. Skelf's website, we can peer inside this mysterious object and see the staggering correlation between live brains and this rock. You would be amazed at the direct correlation. One can distinguish the different lobes and structures instantly. At this point in the analysis, whether this is a brain or not, it's clear that one could teach brain anatomy using this rock alone.

Many evolutionists reject the evidence that soft tissue can be petrified, because they know these evidences hurt their theory that fossilization—the process of replacing organic material with minerals producing rock — requires many, many years.
But now our mystery takes a more sinister turn. We get a peek, perhaps, into the circumstances surrounding the origin of this fossil. It’s quite obvious that, though this rock clearly appears to be a brain, it does have a slight deformity of shape. But upon closer examination, one can make out indentations that correspond exactly with the fingers of what appears to be a hand from a human being about 5-6 feet tall, accounting for this deformity.  

If this is indeed a handprint, then we know that this specimen was once soft. So if this is a brain, then how did its original owner come to lose it? It is here we notice a strange phenomenon. There appears to be a wound, indicating that this specimen was once pierced by a weapon of sorts.

Upon examining medical photographs of the brains of bullet victims, a pattern emerges. It seems that when a bullet enters a human brain in such a way that the bullet passes through the Pons, located near the center of the brain, the bullet path shifts upward a degree or two after the Pons. And it just so happens, this specimen of Mr. Skelf’s follows the same pattern. The catch: there is no exit wound. So, on a hunch, Mr. Skelf had his specimen passed through a metal detector, and discovered a piece of metal is lodged deep inside this rock. Could it be this is the fossilized brain of a victim murdered with a firearm?

If this is a fossilized brain, what would this do to previously popular theories that fossilization requires many years? Evolutionists argue for an old earth citing fossils as evidence. But if petrifaction can occur before a soft-tissue brain can decompose, the old-earth evolutionist is deprived of a fundamental pillar. This amazing specimen seems to evidence the creation of God in a very unique way, crying out the glory of God, though many evolutionists would prefer it remain silent.

It remains to be seen what the established scientific community will do with this specimen, but I suspect that it will be similar to what has become a common response to evidence detrimental to their theories—they will probably ignore it.

Joshua Joscelyn writes on a variety of topics, including Creation, politics, history, and Biblical issues. He has worked with various Creation ministries and currently resides in Milton, FL with his wife, Felicia, where he enjoys reading, studying, and ministering in street and prison evangelism.

2.   Ibid.
The Scriptures state that Jesus is the bridge between man and God. Through His death on the cross, He reconciled our human imperfection with God’s perfection. He is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6). Yet some religious movements are seeking reconciliation with God through other means. Learn why Jesus is the essential part in God’s plan of salvation and how no compromise on Him is Biblically accurate.

Unpack the prophecies in Daniel 11 with Professor Walter Veith’s in-depth analysis. Beginning with the history of interpretations regarding this passage, Veith provides historic and literal context to this symbolic chapter, explaining its relationship to Daniel 7 and 8 and who the kings of the north and south could represent.
276: Brass for Gold
Walter Veith unravels the story of Solomon and his son Rehoboam, making connections to numerous religious movements of today in regards to the gospel they preach. Are they substituting a gospel of gold for one of brass?

277: Give Me This Mountain
Give Me this Mountain contrasts the kingdom of God with that of the antichrist, who will introduce a false kingdom into the world. God calls believers to enter through the narrow gates that lead to His true kingdom where they will enjoy eternal glory. Learn about the counterfeit democratic theocracy that tries to steer believers away from the straight and narrow.

278: The King of the North Embracing World Religions
A gospel of brass can also be extended to the current dialogue playing out amongst many different religions and their attempt at ecumenism. This unifying attempt often negates the supremacy of Christ, which the Scriptures state cannot be compromised.

279: The Foundations of Many Generations Part 1
There is no other foundation upon which the true church of Christ can be built but Jesus. But as world religions embrace each other in apparent unity, the character of God has to be maligned and blasphemed. Through this DVD, learn the signs of a new universalism sweeping the world, particularly the doctrines found in Catholicism and the Koran, which are more alike than they are different. This lecture serves as a bastion for God’s people to avoid the snares of a new universalism that is raising its head even amongst our people.

280: The Foundations of Many Generations Part 2
This lecture is a continuation of the subject discussed in the previous DVD (#279).

281: Announcements from Heaven
Announcements from Heaven is the story of Jesus—His authority, divinity, humanity, atonement, and plan of salvation for all of humanity. There is no other name by which we are saved. Discover the importance of this truth in a fresh way that will reaffirm Jesus as the Saviour and One we should pursue.

282: Elias
In this study, Walter Veith takes a look at the story of Josiah and the final restoration of heavenly truth before the fall of Jerusalem. Jesus said Elias would play a role in re-establishing the truth. Learn who Elias is and the founding doctrines we need to fully grasp so we don’t get shaken by the coming storm.

283: Repairing the Breach
God’s character lies shattered on the highways of theological compromise and apostasy. It is the duty of God’s final people to restore the breach in the wall of Jerusalem. This study includes a discussion of the doctrines that set God’s remnant (Seventh-day Adventists) apart from every other denomination.

284: Get Away from the Tents
This DVD discusses some of the inroads of the king of the north’s theology into the very heart of God’s people. This study is an appeal to distance oneself from theologies and religious practices that are contrary to the very essence of Seventh-day Adventism.

285: The Threshing Floor
This DVD offers a typological study of judgment scenes involving the threshing floor in the Old Testament. By comparing these faithfully recorded events, we can begin to understand the seriousness of the issues involved in the final judgment and what it takes to have total commitment to God.
December 2012 & the End of the World

When comet Hale-Bopp appeared in 1997, rumors surfaced that an alien spacecraft was following the comet, covered up, of course, by NASA and the astronomical community. Though the claim was refuted by astronomers, and could be refuted by anyone with a good telescope, the rumors were publicized on Art Bell’s paranormal radio talk show “Coast to Coast AM” in the United States. These claims inspired a San Diego UFO cult named Heaven’s Gate to conclude that the world would end soon. The world did indeed end for 39 of the cult members, who committed suicide on March 26, 1997.

The French prophet of the 16th century, Nostradamus, predicted that a great king of terror would come from the sky in the year 1999. Many Nostradamus devotees grew concerned that this was the famed prognosticator’s vision of Armageddon ushering in the end of the world.

In May 1980, televangelist and Christian Coalition founder Pat Robertson startled and alarmed many when he informed his “700 Club” TV show audience around the world that he knew when the world would end. “I guarantee you by the end of 1982 there is going to be a judgment on the world,” Robertson said.

As the last century drew to a close, many people grew concerned that computers might bring about doomsday. The problem, first noted in the early 1970s, was that many computers would not be able to tell the difference between 2000 and 1900 dates. No one was really sure what that would do, but many suggested catastrophic problems ranging from vast blackouts to nuclear holocaust. Gun sales jumped and survivalists prepared to live in bunkers, but the new millennium began with only a few glitches.

An ancient Mayan Calendar supposedly predicts the end of the world in December 2012. The 2011 end time prediction made by American Christian radio host Harold Camping stated that the Rapture and Judgment Day would take place on May 21, 2011, and that the end of the world would take place five months later on October 21, 2011.

With all this behind us, we now face a new prediction that is startling many. An ancient Mayan Calendar supposedly predicts the end of the world in December 2012. The 2012 phenomenon comprises a range of end time scenarios according to which cataclysmic or transformative events will occur on December
This date is regarded as the end-date of a 5125-year-long cycle in the Mesoamerican Long Count calendar. Various astronomical alignments and numerical formulae have been proposed as pertaining to this date, though none have been accepted by mainstream scholarship. A New Age interpretation of this transition is that this date marks the start of time in which Earth and its inhabitants may undergo a positive physical or spiritual transformation, and that 2012 may mark the beginning of a new era. Others suggest the 2012 date marks the end of the world as we know it or a similar catastrophe. Scenarios suggested for the end of the world include the arrival of the next solar maximum or Earth’s collision with a black hole, passing asteroid, or a planet called “Nibiru,” also known as Planet X.

So here comes the question to see if you have paid attention so far: **What does an egg, a comet, a French prognosticator, a Christian pastor, a computer, an ancient calendar, and a planet called X have in common?** You guessed it—they all seemingly predicted the end of the world! But they have something else in common too—so far they have all failed!

If I asked you right now to point in the direction of north, would you be able to do it? Maybe, maybe not. If your life depended on it, you would think twice. As a matter of fact, you would most likely get a compass to confirm your guess. We need a compass to know, with absolute precision, which direction is north. Today we all want to know what the future holds. We want a certain amount of direction in our lives. Where are we heading and what lies on the horizon?

It’s easy to guess and maybe some of our guesses turn out to be true, but there must be a way to be more certain. I believe it involves an instrument, but this time, not a compass. I have personally found the Bible, God’s Word, to be my compass directing my path and revealing what lies on the horizon. But just like you can get lost when you don’t know how to use a compass, so you can get lost when you don’t know how to correctly apply the prophecies of the Bible.

As we have seen, there have been Christian leaders and pastors who predicted the world would end, but their predictions failed. This does not discredit the Bible, but rather discredits their ability to understand the Bible.

Maybe I should say their willingness to understand it because you don’t have to be a rocket scientist to grasp the basic words of Jesus recorded in Matthew 24:36:

**But of the day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but my Father only.**

The reality Jesus confirms is that none of us know when the end of the world will come. When Jesus said no one knows the day and the hour, this includes the December 21, 2012 prediction. Are we then left in doubt regarding the end of all things? Are we like a boat rocked to and fro on the ocean without a course? Where are we in the scope of time? I am glad the same chapter in the Bible that says we do not know the day and hour of the end gives us instruction as to what we can expect in the future.

Let’s for a moment travel 2000 years back in time to ancient Jerusalem as a Jewish Rabbi with his twelve disciples enters the famed temple on Mount Moriah. It was a place the Jews highly esteemed since their worship and traditions revolved around what happened inside those sacred walls. Jesus confronts the leaders with their rejection of God’s prophets and messages. He says:

**O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! See your house is left to you desolate; for I say to you, you shall see me no more till you say, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. (Matthew 23:37-39)**

These words fell like a bomb on the Jewish audience as they expected their temple to be the pinnacle of glory forever. And so Matthew 24 begins with Jesus’ disciples showing Jesus the beauty of the temple, trying to convince Him that His prediction could not possibly happen. Even Jesus’ closest friends could not understand His words about the destruction of the temple.

**Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and his disciples came up to show him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said to them; Do you not**
see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down. 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 the end of the age? (Matthew 24:1-3).

For the disciples, the destruction of the temple meant the end of the world! It led them to ask about the end of all things. Jesus describes the overthrow of Jerusalem, but much more than that, He describes the events that will happen before He returns the second time. It was not many years later that the words of Jesus were fulfilled when the Roman army under the command of Titus attacked Jerusalem and burnt down the temple in 70 AD. This was not the end of the world as the disciples thought, but rather, the beginning of many signs that would ultimately lead to the end climaxing in the Second Coming of Jesus. Take notice of the first thing Jesus says: “And Jesus answered and said to them; Take heed that no one deceives you.” (Matthew 24:4)

Obviously Jesus knew that much deception and misinformation would revolve around predictions of the end of the world.

And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. (Matthew 24:6-7).

Some people will say that these things have always been and will always be, and cannot possibly be signs of any coming climax. Jesus in His same speech tells us to watch these signs. “Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.” (Matthew 24:42)

Since we obviously cannot watch for a date, we should be watching the signs. It is true these signs have been around for a while, but there is no doubt they have increased in frequency and intensity over the last decades. When you travel to a city where you have never been before, you will look for signs. As you get closer to your destination, the signs become more and more frequent. Could it be that we are getting closer and closer to the end of all things? Take notice of more signs that Jesus gives us.

Then many false prophets will rise and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come. (Matthew 24:11-14)

In the midst of increasing natural disasters and international turmoil, in the midst of global deception and the loss of moral values, the Gospel of Jesus Christ will be preached throughout the world. Jesus predicts the end will not come until the Gospel is preached in all the world! What a sign!

Political leaders are not addressing the real issue that causes the problems we all face. They can’t, because the real issue is an issue of the heart!

Who is going to make things right? Our chaotic world needs direction and solutions. We face momentous challenges on every side from worldwide problems such as terrorism and nuclear threats to environmental degradation and financial instability. Families are falling apart, thereby causing society to fall apart. Millions are looking to political and religious leaders for answers but are left empty and disappointed. Elections give a
dim ray of hope, but quite often, things don’t turn out as promised. The reality is that political leaders are not addressing the real issue that causes the problems we all face. They can’t, because the real issue is an issue of the heart!

A heart that has not been impacted and changed by Jesus Christ will not and cannot bring the solutions this world is desperately looking for. Fixing the environment and paying off the national debt will not change the hearts of men and women. Cutting down or increasing tax expenses on health, education, or the military will not stop the increase of immorality. Marriages will still break and people will still be lonely and searching for true meaning. There is not a domestic policy or foreign policy that breaks the power of greed! Only the Gospel does that! There is ultimately only One who can solve the universal problem of humanity and that is Jesus Christ. He has promised that He will change our hearts. Ezekiel 36:26 says,

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take that heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statues, and you will keep my judgments and do them.

Before Jesus comes back the second time to restore this world and remove sin, which is the cause of all sorrow, His Gospel will go into the entire world. A restoration can already begin now in the midst of the world in which we are living. There is only One who can make things right. We don’t need to wait till the end of the world for the restoration and renewal of Christ to start. It can start in our hearts as we believe and embrace the good news of our Savior. Through His death, He paid the price of sin so you and I can be set free from it! All predictions of the end of the world fall into insignificance in comparison to the power of the Gospel, which breaks the bond of sin.

Daniel Pel is an evangelist with Amazing Discoveries. He lives in Norway with his wife Sylvia. Together they travel around the world giving revival talks and evangelistic presentations. His next public presentation will be held in January 2013 in White Rock, BC. Visit amazingdiscoveries.org for frequent updates and announcements.
Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel was a German philosopher who revolutionized European thinking, especially Marxism. Hegel developed the concept of integrating and uniting a set of contradictions without eliminating or reducing either one, to create a synthesis. This concept is often called “dialectic thinking.”

Hegelian dialectic thinking is applied in many situations in world politics. Often ordinary people are used as pawns in the game of Hegelian psychology played by those who pull the strings of world control.

The political “left” and “right” are pitted against each other in order to achieve a synthesis that suits those in hidden positions of world power. In the United States, for example, the right side was in power until several aims were accomplished, such as the War on Iraq and the War on Terror. Then, when all that could be done by that side was accomplished, the left came into power claiming to bring about change. However, the change only continued wars in Iraq and elsewhere, and brought in additional social reforms that further limited the freedom of the American people.

This pitting of one side against another is a form of controlled conflict that those behind the scenes use to create a predestined history.

A New World Order
Here is an example of the Hegelian dialectic process:
The synthesis the elite wants is the New World Order—a one-world system in which economics, religion, education, medicine, food, and all other aspects of life are controlled by a central power. This New World Order cannot come about without controlled conflict.

For Hegelian thinkers, the function of a Congress or a Parliament is to allow the ordinary individuals to feel their opinions have some value, and for the state to take advantage of any wisdom that the population may come up with. Hegel writes:

*By virtue of this participation, subjective liberty and conceit, with their general opinion, [individuals] can show themselves palpably efficacious and enjoy the satisfaction of feeling themselves to count for something.*

In reality, the individual is merely a pawn in the larger unfolding of world events. Following this same line of thought, Hegel expects individuals to blindly follow a leader who essentially thinks for them. To such leaders, the common people are like expendable human cattle.

This hierarchical system affects individuals’ own morality as they are taught and encouraged to say and do what’s politically correct, without realizing they are being manipulated. In this subtle way, an individual’s rights such as freedom of speech are taken away.

The state requires complete obedience from the individual citizen. Individuals cannot exist for themselves in these so-called organic systems, but only exist to perform a role in the operation of the state.

Order Ab Chao

Another example of elitist manipulation of world issues is expressed in the motto Ordo Ab Chao or “Order Out of Chaos.” This motto mimics Hegelian thinking in that out of the chaos of war and conflict comes order, or a synthesis of peace. The events surrounding 9/11 are a prime example of this order out of chaos. Out of the chaos of that horrific event, several laws were passed to create a better order by increasing control over the people.

* • The USA Patriot Act* (Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism), passed on October 26, 2001. This act includes the controversial clause allowing for the indefinite detention of suspected alien terrorists even if they have not had a public trial to determine if they are terrorists.

* • The Homeland Security Act,* passed on November 25, 2002. This law radically restructured numerous federal departments into a single Homeland Security Department. Such a dramatic restructuring intended to better prevent terrorist threats by centralizing surveillance data coming in from the USA Patriot Act and by removing potential firewalls between central agencies.

* • The Military Commissions Act (MCA)*, passed on October 18, 2006, essentially gives the US the authority to sanction human rights violations for the sake of “The War on Terror.”

* • The Homegrown Terrorism Prevention Act,* passed on October 23, 2007, broadens the definition of “violent radicalization” so that some analysts fear acts of civil disobedience and protest could be potentially suspect in the government’s attempt to determine how and if people with radical beliefs turn into people who use violence to convey these beliefs.

Taken together, these anti-terrorism laws lead to increased security at airports, the ability to arrest people without sufficient evidence or reason, and fewer privacy rights.

A Revised History

Textbooks present wars, revolutions, and conflicts as unavoidable, accidental occurrences. When political negotiations decay into physical conflict, historians portray wars as coming after valiant efforts to avoid conflict. Unfortunately, this is not always the case.

When Nazi war criminals were investigated, the tribunals were careful to censor any records of Western assistance to Hitler.

Out of the chaos of that horrific event, several laws were passed to create a better order by increasing control over the people.
Seeking After a Sign

But what about our everyday walk of faith? Are signs necessary? I believe they are, or else God would not have used them in the beginning of the Church. Hebrews 2:1-4 states:

*Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?* (emphasis added)

As the apostles began their ministry, the Lord accompanied their testimony with signs and miracles to provide a witness of the power of the Gospel and the veracity of their message. Many Christians today may ask, “Where are those signs now?” Is it wrong for us to seek after signs, or to expect signs in the church today? What signs should we expect, if any?

Let us look back to the story in the gospel of Luke, chapter 11. In verse 14, Jesus is casting out a demon and the people accuse Him of casting out demons by the power of Beelzebub. Then in verse 16 we read; “And others, tempting him, sought of him a sign from heaven.” By seeking after a sign to prove He was truly using the power of heaven, the people were tempting Jesus.

Interesting thought here. Are we tempting God when we seek a sign, a wonder, some miraculous happening to prove to us that it is really God at work? It seems so, especially when we read on in the text.

*But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it. And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there*

There are denominations in the Christian faith that seem to excel in signs and wonders—ministries that seem to be all about and only about signs. Is this truly what God has intended us to seek after? Miracles of healings, prophetic utterances, slayings in the spirit, unintelligible tongues, drunkenness in the spirit, orbs of light, glitter appearing on worshipers, and the list goes on and on. How can we determine if these are truly signs from God? Answer: We let the Scriptures speak for themselves.
shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonas the prophet. Luke 11:28-29

Jesus states unequivocally that to seek after a sign, a miracle, or some extraordinary thing is evidence of an evil generation. We have already been given a sign. The generations of the nation of Israel had been given a sign in the prophet Jonah, so we too have been given a sign for our generation through the prophets of the Bible and in the councils of Ellen White. We have no need to search and seek for miraculous happenings to prove to us that Jesus is who He says He is, and that it is God who is at work in you, if you do as Jesus stated, Blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.

It was essential for the Jews of Jesus’ day to read the Word of God, understand the Word of God, believe the Word of God, and live the Word of God. This is the greatest sign of all!

Consider your own life. How easy is it for you to know what is right or wrong without the Word? Without the understanding from the Word, how can you come to repentance? Without faith in the Word and the One of whom the Word speaks, Jesus Christ, it is impossible to please God. Ultimately, without the Word giving you the understanding that it is the Holy Spirit living in you that gives you the strength to overcome sin in your life, you would be just like the man Jesus describes in Luke 11:24-26.

When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out. And when he cometh, he findeth it swept and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh to him seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first.

Here is the context in which Jesus is speaking when He states in Luke that the people were an evil generation seeking a sign. They had heard the Word of God but had not kept it. They were devoid of the power of the Holy Spirit working in their lives to keep what they had heard; therefore they wanted a sign, something to prove that God was at work! Had they allowed the Holy Spirit to convict, fill and reform them, they would have recognized Christ for who He was! Instead, they had read the words of Scripture, but they themselves remained empty. With no power of the Holy Ghost in their lives, they therefore had no way to recognize it in the life of Jesus. In us, the greatest sign that God is at work happens on the inside—God working in us to will and to do His good pleasure.

We then should not be so quick to seek signs of an exterior nature. It would surely be exciting for the dead to be raised and for blind eyes to see, but equally powerful are inward signs where the spiritually dead are given life in Christ, and the spiritual blindness that I may have had is no more, for now I can see! Praise God for His wonders and miracles in my life—a changed life. No longer a slave to sin, I am now set free by the blood of the Lamb and the renewing of my mind by the Word of God!

But there is more to this topic of signs. When next we meet here in our newsletter, we will expand our study further delving into not only the signs we see so prominently displayed on television and in some ministries, but also the very special sign that God has given to those who choose to follow Him. So until then, may God be with you always.
A Question of Origins
This video is essential for anyone who has questions or doubts concerning the scientific accuracy of the Bible. This multi-language DVD includes English, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Polish, Serbian and Slovakian. (61 min)

Expelled
with Ben Stein (DVD)
Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed exposes the widespread persecution of scientists and educators who are pursuing legitimate yet opposing scientific views to the reigning orthodoxy. (95 min)

“Comedian Ben Stein hit the nail right on the funny bone” – Dick Rolfe, Dove Foundation

Unlocking the Mystery of Life
You will be proud to share this convincing and accurate documentary on Creation with your most skeptical friends. (65 min)

The Privileged Planet
In this documentary exploring the scientific evidence for intelligent design and purpose in the universe, Earth is revealed as far more than the product of time, chance, and random natural processes. (60 min)
Young Age of the Earth
by Robert Gentry
Could it be that Earth is really only a few thousand years old, rather than the millions of years that science today suggests? (76 min)

Center of the Universe
by Robert Gentry
How did the world come into existence? Does the universe give evidence of chance or proof of a Creator? (50 min)

Fingerprints of Creation
by Robert Gentry
Dr. Robert Gentry discusses evolution and Creation as they relate to a single element of nature: radioactive decay in granite. Is it possible that evolution can be disproved even through this tiny natural feature? (33 min)

The Narrow Way
(12 DVD Set) by Victor Gill
Do you long for victory in your life? Are you willing to allow Christ to have His way in every area of your life? “Narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matthew 7:14). In this series, Pastor Victor Gill goes through the Scriptures as he explores the path to life.

Meeting the Crisis in Peace
(8 DVD Set) by Dan Gabbert
This series is designed to prepare you for Jesus' Second Coming and your destiny that will be decided on that climactic day. Dan Gabbert uncovers end-times deceptions and shares the peace in Christ that is every believer’s.

Questions That Demand Answers
(8-part series) by Samuel Kwaranteng-Pipim
QUESTIONS? We all have them, although not many are humble enough to make theirs public. But as a Chinese proverb says, He who asks is a fool for five minutes, but he who does not ask remains a fool forever. WHY? Bible Lecture Series will provide biblical answers to some relevant questions.
Weighing in Against Modern Wheat

Gluten Connection

by Jean Handwerk
Cardiologist William Davis wrote *Wheat Belly: Lose the Wheat, Lose the Belly* to report his findings when pre-diabetic or diabetic clients came to him for heart disease prevention and followed his advice. He told them that wheat products, such as whole wheat bread, raise blood sugar levels higher than nearly all other known foods. “Healthy” whole wheat bread actually has a higher glycemic index than table sugar: 72 versus 59. The glycemic index measures how much something elevates your insulin levels. The higher the insulin levels, the more your body stores fat, both internally around your organs and externally, in weight gain and obesity. Elevated insulin levels also increase the likelihood of developing diabetes and other related illnesses.

Wheat can be addictive, having a protein unique to wheat gluten called gliadin, which is converted to a morphine-like compound that has the capacity to cross into the brain and bind to morphine receptors. This causes a desire for more food. In short, the gliadin component is an appetite stimulant; people will eat more because their brains tell them they need more. In his book, Dr. Davis explains that modern wheat has been developed to have significantly more gliadin than that of decades and centuries past, so the problem is a more recent one—and a serious one. The only way to “stop feeding the monster” is to stop eating the wheat.1

When Dr. Davis’ clients did forego all wheat products, what happened exceeded his and their expectations. Not only did excess weight disappear from hips, thighs, faces and bellies, but many of his clients saw other health problems fade away as well. For many, diabetes, arthritis, high cholesterol, hypertension, stroke, skin conditions, heart attack, digestion-related pain, joint inflammation pain, underweight, brain fog—all lessened or were eliminated.

Gluten Grains, Brain Fog, and Alzheimer’s

Dr. Davis mentioned some people’s “brain fog” clearing when they go off wheat, but there’s more to the story about gluten grains and the neurological symptoms they can cause. First, a bit of background might be helpful.

Celiac disease—also known as gluten intolerance—is an increasingly common, multi-organ systemic disease that most often affects the gut but also affects other organs, especially the skin. In the gut, the villi that line the small intestine are damaged. Villi are the means by which the body absorbs nutrients from digested food. When people with celiac disease eat foods that contain gluten, their immune system reacts and villi are compromised or damaged in that reaction. Because the villi cannot perform their function as God designed, nutrient assimilation is affected. A person becomes malnourished no matter how much good food he or she eats. In addition, when minute, incompletely digested food particles escape through the damaged gut wall into the bloodstream (leaky gut syndrome), food intolerances or allergies result, compounding the misery.

A variety of either immediate or delayed symptoms are associated with celiac disease, ranging from bloating and gas to cramping and diarrhea, or even intense pain. Others experience fatigue, anemia, skin rashes, or severe headaches. Osteoporosis is also associated with gluten intolerance because of mineral assimilation. Because symptoms of gluten intolerance are so varied and unspecific, a diagnosis is often difficult. But one important point to be made in this article is that sometimes the symptoms are the same as those for dementia. In fact, the British medical journal *The Lancet* reported that gluten sensitivity can sometimes be exclusively a neurological disease. In other words, people can have issues with brain function without any accompanying gastrointestinal problems whatsoever.2

Most doctors attribute forgetfulness or confusion to normal aging or Alzheimer’s disease. Research from the Mayo Clinic, however, indicates that celiac disease should be considered when people start experiencing amnesia, confusion, or personality changes, or when they have trouble thinking, doing simple math, or remembering things. Several of their patients had been diagnosed with both celiac disease and dementia. In two cases, a gluten-free diet reversed the cognitive decline.3, 4

Getting a blood test for gluten sensitivity when brain function appears to be declining is a simple way to avoid a wrong diagnosis of irreversible dementia, inappropriate treatment, and prolonged suffering.

The only way to “stop feeding the monster” is to stop eating the wheat.
More on the Gluten Sensitivity-Brain Failure Link

“Researchers in Israel have described neurological problems in 51 percent of children with gluten sensitivity, . . . [and] a link between gluten sensitivity and attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Actually, the link between gluten sensitivity and problems with brain function, including learning disabilities, and even memory problems, is not that difficult to understand. Gluten sensitivity is caused by elevated levels of antibodies against a component of gluten called gliadin. This antibody (the antigliadin antibody) combines with gliadin when a person is exposed to any gluten-containing food like wheat, barley, or rye.

When this happens, protein-specific genes are turned on in a special type of immune cell in the body. When these genes are turned on, inflammatory chemicals called cytokines are created. Cytokines, which are the chemical mediators of inflammation, are directly detrimental to brain function. In fact, elevated levels of cytokines are seen in such devastating conditions as Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, multiple sclerosis, and even autism. Essentially, the brain does not like inflammation and responds quite negatively to the presence of cytokines.  

Improvement When Gluten Avoided

The same link between gluten intolerance and senile mental deterioration, dementia, and Alzheimer’s disease was found in yet another study. Eliminating gluten from the diet of subjects with senile memory loss over a period of three months resulted in over 70% showing marked signs of memory improvement.  

After observing that schizophrenic individuals in six countries required fewer hospitalizations during World War II when food shortages made bread unavailable and that hospitalizations increased after wheat consumption resumed after the war, one doctor connected wheat to worsening symptoms requiring hospitalizations. Also, when gluten grain products were introduced into a Stone Age cultural group in New Guinea where

In her article, Jean Handwerk mentions two ancient wheats – einkorn and emmer, which are considered the genetic ancestors of modern wheat. Emmer was widely cultivated in Mesopotamia (contemporary Middle East) and later adopted by the Romans. Other forms of wheat eventually replaced emmer as they had higher yields and husks that could be removed without pounding or grinding.

Emmer wheat is especially popular in Italy (called farro). It is used in a number of ways in Italian cooking, but is most popular boiled whole and served like a risotto. It is also used to make pastas.

Where you can buy emmer:

- Buy emmer wheat from Blue Hill Grains at www.williams-sonoma.com/products/blue-hill-grains-emmer/

Emmer recipes:

- A variety of cold and warm recipes at www.bluebirdgrainfarms.com/recipes.html (Note: some of these include non-vegetarian dishes)
- Homemade emmerwheat pasta: www.ourfoodshed.com/blog/2011/10/10/222-Homemade-Emmer-Wheat-Pasta
Einkorn

Einkorn is even older than emmer, believed to be one of the earliest recorded grains in the Bible, known as shippon in Hebrew. It provides a rich source of beta-carotene (lutein), a powerful antioxidant.

Both emmer and einkorn are high in protein, fiber, and minerals. Since these wheats have a gluten structure different from modern wheat, it is a good alternative for people with gluten allergies. That being said, einkorn and emmer do contain gluten, and so those desiring to avoid gluten altogether are not recommended to consume these wheats. Consult with your doctor to see if einkorn or emmer wheat is safe for you.

Since gluten allergies are becoming so predominant in modern times, many people are now turning to einkorn and emmer—including chefs themselves—as healthy and delicious wheat choices.

Where you can buy einkorn:

- Buy organic einkorn wheat berries from www.einkorn.com to grind your own flour
- Buy einkorn wheat berries, flour, and a variety of pasta at www.tropicaltraditions.com/einkorn-ancient-grains.htm & www.jovialfoods.com
- Buy emmer flour, pancake and waffle mix, porridge and more at www.bluebirdgrainfarms.com/

Einkorn recipes:

- Bread, pancakes, crackers and more at www.einkorn.com
- Bread recipe: http://livelonger.hubpages.com/hub/all-Einkorn-Bread-Recipe
- A variety of cold and warm recipes at http://grow-seed.org./recipes.pdf

Other studies have confirmed wheat’s deleterious effect on mind disorder.

Schizophrenia was almost non-existent, the incidence of schizophrenia increased sixty-five fold. Other studies have confirmed wheat’s deleterious effect on mind disorder. Remove the wheat: improvement. Restore it: decline. Did wheat cause the problem? This is unlikely, but it certainly worsens the symptoms. 7

Why has such a millenia-old, staple food become an enemy to an increasing number of people? Today’s wheat is drastically different genetically from its parent stock of einkorn and emmer wheat. 8 It has been bred for greater yield, increased disease-drought-heat resistance, easier threshing, better bread results, and other desirable traits. It has been credited for helping solve world hunger. However, no animal or human safety testing was conducted on the new strains. It was found that five percent of the proteins expressed in one wheat hybrid were found in neither parent! “Multiply these alterations by the tens of thousands of hybridizations to which wheat has been subjected and you have the potential for dramatic shifts in genetically determined traits such as gluten structure.” 9 Even small changes in plant protein structure can cause devastating immune responses in humans.

Dr. Davis has a wheat sensitivity so he experimented on himself. Einkorn is an ancient, unadulterated variety of wheat, as is emmer, and he wanted to see if his problem was wheat in general, or isolated to just modern wheat. First he ate four ounces of Einkorn bread and noted his body’s reactions. He actually felt fine and had normal blood sugar elevation after ingestion. The next day, he ate four ounces
try this healthy recipe:

Sweet Or Savory Safe Bread/Crackers

Basic Recipe:

- 1 cup gluten-free grain flour (rice, millet, quinoa, amaranth, teff, organic corn)
- 1 ¼ c of another gluten-free grain flour
- 1 t salt
- 3 t chia seeds or ground flax seed, soaked in 1 cup of water for 5 minutes

Optional additions: Be creative!

- ¼ c carob powder to replace ¼ c of other flour
- ¼ c bean flour to replace ¼ c of other flour
- Any desired seasoning or spice, such as cumin, vanilla, coriander, lemon, organic orange peel . . .
- For sweet, add chopped or ground nuts, seeds, dried fruit . . .
- For savory, add chopped onions, garlic, olives, spinach . . .
- Replace some or all of the water with fruit juices, coconut water, nut milks, apple or other fruit sauce . . .

Add enough water or other liquid to make somewhat stiff batter. Put by spoonfuls on lightly oiled baking sheet. Flatten mounds to get more of a cracker texture, if desired. Bake at 350° for at least 40-45 minutes, or till bread/crackers no longer stick to baking sheet. Tip: Sesame seeds sprinkled on baking sheet make sticking less likely. Serve with nut or seed butters, jams, or eat plain. These don’t last long!

Yeast May Make the Problem Worse

For some, the adverse body/mind difficulties caused by gluten may be compounded by the yeast in raised breads. Even a whiff of live yeast can cause severe reactions. This is not news. Over 150 years ago, health reformer Ellen White wrote, “Bread should be light and sweet. Not the least taint of sourness should be tolerated. The loaves should be small, and so thoroughly baked that, as far as possible, the yeast germs shall be destroyed. When hot, or new, raised bread of any kind is difficult for digestion. It should never appear on the table. This rule does not, however, apply to unleavened bread. Fresh rolls made of wheaten meal, without yeast or leaven, and baked in a well-heated oven, are both wholesome and palatable . . .” 11 Because of the yeast, “bread which is two or three days old is more healthful than new bread.” 12

Encouragement

After listening to a radio program on celiac disease, one woman reported, “After a week of rice and vegetables, I couldn’t believe how much better I felt. The bloating, gas, diarrhea, and puffiness were gone. Best of all, though, the depression, lethargy and inability to concentrate and think began to lift. Not long before, I had insisted my doctor test me for Alzheimer’s! I was losing my ability to recognize faces. I couldn’t have written a letter because I wouldn’t have been able to sustain a train of thought long enough to get past the first paragraph.” 13

Just recently, the United Nations’ World Health Organization warned that dementia will double within 18 years, and more than triple by 2050. We don’t know how many in that increase will actually be reacting to gluten/gliadin and get misdiagnosed because we know gluten intolerance is also increasing. Even if you’re just looking for a clearer mind, try a gluten-free diet for a time to see if there’s any improvement.
A gluten-free diet is neither impossible nor unappealing. An Internet search will yield many recipes or cookbooks. Often it’s just a matter of replacing gluten grains with a variety of delicious, nutritionally-loaded alternatives like millet, quinoa, buckwheat, amaranth, teff, corn (organic only; most corn is genetically modified) and all different kinds and colors of rice. One might even try emmer or einkorn wheat; both are delicious and healthful but they don’t taste or rise like today’s wheat. Soaked chia seeds or ground flax seeds can replace gluten to hold non-gluten flour mixes together. Non-gluten breads do not rise as well as wheat does, but yeast-free breads are numerous, delicious, and easy-to-make. See a quick gluten-free, oil-free, yeast-free bread/cracker recipe on the left.

Jean Handwerk writes on natural health and Biblical studies from the mountains of Washington.

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A gluten-free diet is neither impossible nor unappealing.

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**Ingredients**

- 1 1/2 cups einkorn wheat berries
- 3 cups of water
- 4 oz. of Lacinto Kale
- 2 cups of shredded red cabbage
- 1 small red onion, thinly sliced
- 15 oz. cannellini beans
- 4 tbsp. olive oil
- 1 tbsp. lemon juice
- 1 1/2 tsp. sea salt
- 4 tbsp. fresh parsley, minced
- 6 fresh sprigs of thyme, minced
- 1 clove of garlic, minced

**Instructions**

Cook wheat berries according to basic cooking instructions. Strip the kale leaves from the stems & chop in thin strips. Add to a large serving bowl with cabbage, onions, and beans. Toss well. In a small mixing bowl, whisk together olive oil, lemon juice and salt until the dressing emulsifies. Stir in parsley, thyme and garlic. When the wheat berries are cooked, let them stand for a minute, then toss the hot einkorn with the kale and cabbage in the serving bowl. This will soften the kale slightly, but the vegetables will still keep their crunch. Drizzle lemon and herb dressing on top and mix well until incorporated. Serve with salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste.

See next page for great books with great collections of healthy gluten-free recipes:

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**Warm Einkorn with Crunchy Kale & Red Cabbage**

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1. [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OrYg22BU9Jo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OrYg22BU9Jo)
8. One can learn more about emmer and einkorn wheat from the Heritage Wheat Conservancy, an organization dedicated to preserving ancient food crops by cultivating them, using organic principles. See [www.growseed.org](http://www.growseed.org).
10. Ibid., 26–7.
11. Ellen White, Ministry of Healing, 301.
13. [http://www.peoplespharmacy.com/2006/10/30/celiac-disease-1/](http://www.peoplespharmacy.com/2006/10/30/celiac-disease-1/) A CD of that one-hour radio interview about celiac disease that covers symptoms, diagnosis and treatment is available for $16 from the People’s Pharmacy (CD- 594), P. O. Box 52027, Durham, NC 27717-2027 or from [www.peoplespharmacy.com](http://www.peoplespharmacy.com).
IN THE NEWS

Scientist that discovered GMO health hazards immediately fired, team dismantled


Though it barely received any media attention at the time, a renowned British biochemist who back in 1998 exposed the shocking truth about how genetically-modified organisms (GMOs) cause organ damage, reproductive failure, digestive dysfunction, impaired immunity, and cancer, among many other conditions, was immediately fired from his job, and the team of researchers who assisted him dismissed from their post within 24 hours from the time when the findings went public.

Arpad Pusztai, who is considered to be one of the world’s most respected and well-learned biochemists, had for three years led a team of researchers from Scotland’s prestigious Rowett Research Institute (RRI) in studying the health effects of a novel GM potato with built-in Bt toxin. Much to the surprise of many, the team discovered that, contrary to industry rhetoric, Bt potato was responsible for causing severe health damage in test rats, a fact that was quickly relayed to the media out of concern for public health.

But rather than be praised for their honest assessment into this genetically-tampered potato, Pusztai and his colleagues were chastised by industry-backed government authorities, including British Prime Minister Tony Blair, whose office was discovered to have secretly contacted RRI just hours after Pusztai and his team announced the results of their study on television. For speaking the truth, Pusztai was immediately fired from his position, and his team dismissed from their positions at the school.

Research out of Egypt finds similar results - GMOs cause severe, long-term health damage

As reported recently in Egypt Independent, similar research by Hussein Kaoud from Cairo University’s Faculty of Veterinary Hygiene also made some fascinating, though politically incorrect, discoveries about

check them out

Live healthy Gluten-free!

The Gluten-Free Vegan
by Susan O’Brien

Ideal cookbook for many health conditions: The Gluten-Free Vegan is a ground breaking cookbook, combining both special diets for healthier, allergy-free eating.

100 Best Gluten-Free Recipes for Your Vegan Kitchen
by Kelly Keough

Kelly Keough cured what ailed her with a mostly vegan, sugar free, gluten free approach to eating. The recipes in this book are all vegan, with many raw or macrobiotic in nature.

To order, call us at 1-888-856-9472 or visit our website at amazinghealth.com
the effects of GMOs on the body. After feeding nine groups of rats varying combinations of GM soy, corn, wheat, and canola, Kaoud and his team observed that these genetic poisons clearly obstructed the normal function of the animals, affirming Pusztai’s research.

“I recorded the alteration of different organs, shrinkage of kidneys, change in the liver and spleen, appearance of malignant parts in the tissues, (and) kidney failure and hemorrhages in the intestine,” said Kaoud about the effects of GMOs as observed in the test rats. “The brain functions were touched as well, and the rats’ learning and memory abilities were seriously altered.”

In Kaoud’s case, his groundbreaking findings will soon be published in the respected journals Neurotoxicology and Ecotoxicology. But it remains to be seen whether or not the scientific community at large, which is heavily influenced by biotechnology interests, and the political structures that control it will accept the results as valid, or pull a similar character assassination on Kaoud and his team for defying the status quo.

What all this clearly illustrates, of course, is that modern science can hardly be considered the independent, truth-seeking, “gold standard” of interpreting and understanding reality that many people mistakenly think it is. The truth about GMOs, as uncovered by mounds of independent research, is that they are inadequately safety tested, at best, and deadly at worst. But this fact remains shrouded in deception, thanks to the corporatized, pro-GMO culture of mainstream science.

Read More: http://www.naturalnews.com/037665_GMO_scientists_organ_damage.html

...for nutritious, allergy free diet

Get Off Gluten
by JoAnn Farb

JoAnn Farb proves that you can live a life eating normal feel-good comfort foods, while being gluten free and vegan as well!

$15.00

Bestselling author Jeffrey M. Smith is the leading consumer advocate promoting healthier non-GMO choices.

Watch for a new lecture “Hidden Dangers in Our Foods” to be released by Amazing Discoveries in February 2013.
Similarly, Western textbooks tend to gloss over any information that indicates the key players in the West gave financial aid to the 1917 Russian Revolution because they didn’t want to appear pro-Communist.

In this sense, our Western history books are just as censored as the news and propaganda in Hitler’s day or in Communist China. We must read history books critically and intelligently not just for what they say, but also for what they don’t say. Hence, our freedom of the press is not as “free” as we like to think it is.

War is almost always pre-planned behind the scenes, and the individuals pulling the strings are not necessarily the leaders of the countries in conflict. State leaders are often puppets themselves, controlled by elites to whom they owe their position. Much of the time, these elites make revolutions appear as a sudden, spontaneous outbreak of a downtrodden class against a tyrannical government, whereas this is not always the case. In too many cases, the downtrodden class is used as pawns to fulfill an agenda of someone much higher up.

**Capitalism and Dialectics**

An almost universal mindset is that communists and capitalists are bitter enemies. Although they appear to be on opposite sides of the political spectrum, they are actually both working for the same group. In fact, the elitists have as close working relations with communists and capitalists as they have with Marxists and Nazis.

World history since 1917 reflects an application of Hegelian dialectics. Those who finance and manage the clash of opposites can remain in control of the synthesis. Out of war and revolution come opportunities for profit by corporations under the control and influence of the elites.

There are numerous examples of American banks and corporations trading with the enemy side during the wars in history. The clash between left and right in the mid-1900s resulted in the synthesis—the formation of the UN and progression towards regional groups such as NATO, UNESCO, and the Trilateral Commission. The creation of these groups is part of the push towards a New World Order and one-world government.

In the past two decades, the hegemonic forces attempting to control the dialectic process and, subsequently, the world, have used different means but with the same motive: instead of war—information, debt, and technology are manipulated to gain and control world order.

Regarding information, our world is very much controlled by elites who seek to lull us into a sleepy stupor so that we have no idea how much we are actually controlled on issues ranging from the price of gas and food to accurate information regarding health and drugs.

The use of debt as a control mechanism is clear. For governments, debt functions to maintain the status quo. For instance, an individual in debt is not as likely to be choosy about jobs or willing to ask for a raise. In his Congressional testimony from February 26, 1997, US Federal Reserve chair Alan Greenspan commented that insecure workers who fear asking for a salary increase are good for the economy, keeping inflation low. In other words, debt puts the lender in a position to control and manipulate the debtor. This relationship doesn’t only occur at the individual-state level. Governments themselves are controlled by banks, essentially making both individuals and nations subject to financial institutions.

There are abundant examples of technology being used as a method of control. Air passengers must undergo numerous levels of security before boarding a flight. Security cameras exist on more street corners and other public places.
other public places. Social media sites like Twitter and Facebook can be used to identify users’ locations, as can pictures taken on smartphones and iPads. All these means steal our privacy, and ironically, instead of increasing our sense of security, they leave us feeling vulnerable.

To Conclude

Both Hegelian dialectic thinking and the Jesuit motto Order Ab Chao are diabolical attitudes that aim at world domination. Many writers have written about the elite’s control over world issues, but there are also many sceptics. For those who are willing to look behind the obvious, the use of conflict to create a New World Order is a bitter but true fact.

This article was excerpted. Read the full article at: http://amazingdiscoveries.org/R-reformation-deception-hegel-politics

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1 Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy.
3 Read about the USA Patriot Act at http://911research.wtc7.net/post911/legislation/uspatriot.html
5 Read about the Military Commissions Act at http://911research.wtc7.net/post911/legislation/mca.html
7 “Debt Trap,” anxietyculture.com

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Edited by Thomas S. Kepler

Excerpts from the book:

That the Bible is God’s word and book I prove thus: All things that have been, and are, in the world, and the manner of their being, are described in the first book of Moses on the creation; even as God made and shaped the world, so does it stand to this day. Infinite potentates have raged against his book, and sought to destroy and uproot it—king Alexander the Great, the princes of Egypt and of Babylon, the monarchs of Persia, of Greece, and of Rome, the emperors Julius and Augustus—but they nothing prevailed; they are all gone and vanished, while the book remains, and will remain for ever and ever, perfect and entire, as it was declared at the first. Who has thus helped it—who has thus protected it against such mighty forces? No one, surely, but God himself, who is the master of all things. And ‘tis no small miracle how God has so long preserved and protected this book; for the devil and the world are sore foes to it. I believe that the devil has destroyed many good books of the church, as, aforetime, he killed and crushed many holy persons, the memory of whom has now passed away; but the Bible he was fain to leave subsisting. . . . Homer, Virgil, and other noble, fine, and profitable writers, have left us books of great antiquity; but they are nought to the Bible.

While the Romish church stood, the Bible was never given to the people in such a shape that they could clearly, understandingly, surely, and easily read it, as they now can in the German translation, which, thank God, we have prepared here at Wittenberg.

No greater mischief can happen to a Christian people, than to have God’s word taken from them, or falsified, so that they no longer have it pure and clear. God grant we and our descendants be not witnesses of such calamity.

Is it not a wonder beyond all wonders, that the Son of God, whom all angels and the heavenly hosts worship, and at whose presence the whole earth quakes and trembles,
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should have stood among those wicked wretches, and suffered himself to be so lamentably tormented, scorned, derided, and contemned? They spat in his face, struck him in the mouth with a reed, and said: O, he is a king, he must have a crown and a sceptre. The sweet blessed Saviour complains not in vain in the Psalm, Diminuerunt Omnia ossa mea: now, if he suffered so much from the rage of men, what must he have felt when God’s wrath was poured out upon him without measure? As St. Mark says: “He began to be sore amazed, and very heavy, and saith until His disciples, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death”: and St. Luke says: “And being in agony, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.” Ah! our suffering is not worthy the name of suffering. When I consider my crosses, tribulation, and temptations, I shame myself almost to death, thinking what are they in comparison of the sufferings of my blessed Saviour Christ Jesus. And yet we must be conformable to the express image of the Son of God. And what if we were conformable to the same, yet were it nothing. He is the Son of God, we are poor creatures; though we should suffer everlasting death, yet were they of no value.

Upright and faithful Christians ever think they are not faithful, nor believe as they ought; and therefore they constantly strive, wrestle, and are diligent to keep and to increase faith, as good workmen always see that something is wanting in their workmanship. But the botchers think that nothing is wanting in what they do, but that everything is well and complete. Like as the Jews conceive they have the ten commandments at their fingers’ end, whereas, in truth, they neither learn nor regard them.

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The Truth About 666 and the Story of the Great Apostasy

by Edwin de Kock

Is 666 merely a metaphor for human sinfulness or imperfection?

Were the Heruli, Vandals, and Ostrogoths ancient Sabbathkeepers?

“The most comprehensive work on prophecy and history ever produced by a Seventh-day Adventist.”

Although this book is primarily a study on the controversy surrounding the title vicarius Filii Dei and the mysterious number 666, it is also laced with fascinating side stories that read like a detective novel as you follow explorers like Vasco de Gama around the Cape of Good Hope, or peek behind the scenes of Bloody Mary’s court to watch the burning of important documents. Discover the truth about the Heruli, Vandals and Ostrogoths who stood in the way of papal supremacy. Were they really Arians as they were accused of, or was there another reason why they had to be exterminated en masse? Learn about the
struggle for domination of the 10 divisions of Rome, and the machinations of papists vying for power over Europe through forged documents and political manipulations.

EXCERPT: "At that point, the pontiff turned his back on the eastern emperor of Constantinople, who could obviously not rescue him, and desperately looked to the West. He pleaded with the Franks to come over and help him...

The popes had had enough of being bullied, robbed, and dominated, by either foe or friend. Even the Roman Emperors who had assisted them in the past had often been a pain in the neck. To tell the truth, the pontiffs had misgivings even about the Franks whose aid they were trying to invoke. They certainly needed to be rid of the Lombard menace but also wanted—vis-à-vis both western allies and Byzantines—to extract from their situation a good deal more.

Concerned with all these worrisome things, the papacy had begun to cultivate a fantasy, even before the time of Gregory I. Half wishful thinking and half lie, it may first have welled up, perhaps at night, from the depths of some monkish mind. Eventually it was fondled into an audacious dream, and so history was rewritten—ultimately with a criminal intent.

A spell-binding perspective on how this happened can be found in Constantine the Great and Christianity (1914) by Christopher B. Coleman, history professor at Butler College, Indianapolis. It leads the reader step by step along a path from the relative sunlight of history into the twilight of myth and finally into the darkness of outright deception.

It all began with attempts to resolve theological problems related to Constantine’s baptism. The rite was administered very late in his life, just a little before he died, which meant that he had convened the 325 Council of Nicaea while still an unbaptized catechumen, or neophyte . . .

However, ‘men of the Middle Ages were skilled harmonizers of discrepancies; especially since ‘their business was not primarily to discover facts, but to systematize accepted teachings.’ History was therefore not allowed to stand in the way of what they wanted to believe.”

Examine the fraudulent Donation of Constantine and discover the power this document gained for the papacy not only in Italy and against the kings of Europe, but also overseas amongst the islands of the western sea whereby they gained a world-ruling papal theocracy. Find out how this document forced the people of Brazil to speak Portuguese while the other Latin American countries speak Spanish.

After a thrilling ride through secret negotiations, confederacies, brutal extinctions and bloody battles, we jump forward to more recent history and the surprising developments surrounding Robert F. Correia’s search to determine the truth once and for all about the title vicarius Filii Dei in Our Sunday Visitor and other Catholic documents. Enter the private meeting with Dr. Quasten, a Catholic scholar, as he openly admits this title was indeed a title the popes used many times. Examine documents written in six languages, all clearly making use of the name. Sneak into the Pope’s private dressing room to examine the tiaras for an inscription.

Probe into the details surrounding the rise of the Vatican state after WWI and learn about the Vatican’s millions – how it amassed its immense fortune and how it quickly rose as a power on its way to world domination. The Great Depression levelled the financial world, but not so the Vatican state. This devastating world event caused the greatest reversal of papal fortune in all human history.

To read more, order this book from Amazing Discoveries:
Examine how profoundly this statelet on the Tiber has become a world power as de Kock reviews the spectacular event of the late Pope John Paul II’s funeral – the largest funeral in the world, watched by billions of people. It was attended by the Archbishop of Canterbury, head of the Anglican Communion.

EXCERPT: “None who held this office had ever attended a papal funeral since the Church of England broke with Rome in the 16th century. Next there was Patriarch Abune Paulos, ‘the head of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church’ which had never been represented in this way before. Lastly, and most important, there was Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I from Istanbul (Constantinople), heading the Eastern Orthodox family of churches. ‘This was the first time an Ecumenical Patriarch attended a papal funeral since the Great Schism’ more than a thousand years ago, in 1054 . . . For American viewers, no spectacle was more amazing than to see their three most recent heads of state, Presidents George H. W. Bush, William Jefferson, Clinton, and George W. Bush, on their knees before an uncoffined papal corpse in the Rite of Visitation.”

Ponder Uriah Smith’s unique contribution to the question of 666. Were his conclusions reliable?

Learn how in 1935, David Goldstein, a Jewish convert to Catholicism, taunted and challenged the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which he hated, to prove that \textit{vicarius Filii Dei} “was ever used in any official or authentic way” other than in the forged documents. Unfortunately, this helped to mislead William W. Prescott, a prominent Seventh-day Adventist scholar, into echoing the same idea. But also analyze the brilliant response by his learned fellow believer, Jean Vuilleumier:

EXCERPT: “Prof. Prescott’s paper insistenty stresses the fact that Constantine’s Donation is ‘fictitious,’ ‘unreliable,’ ‘discredited’ and ‘fraudulent;’ that it is a ‘palpable, absolute forgery.’ True, and yet the papacy has allowed this forgery to circulate over all Europe and to hold the place of honor in its theological schools for hundreds of years. She has encouraged and used innumerable editions of these collections. All this makes her case infinitely worse, without in the least weakening the conclusion about the title \textit{VICARIUS FILII DEI}.”

This book is a storehouse of brand-new discoveries. For sceptics and researchers, one of its treasures is an Appendix with material quoted from more than eighty non-Seventh-day Adventist writers, mostly Protestants who lived and labored before Uriah Smith. They testified to the fact that \textit{vicarius Filii Dei} was indeed a papal title. Most of them also showed that it had a number value of 666.

Examine the controversy surrounding this title and number in detail. Is \textit{vicarius Filii Dei}, as some Seventh-day Adventist scholars now say, only a metaphor for human sinfulness or imperfection? If so, does our official and original stance on the identity of the Beast even stand anymore? Have our modern times found more suitable interpretations for the current political climate?

Any and all Bible students serious about understanding end-time events and wanting to defend the faith should read this book to gain a better grasp of history, prophecy, and how to answer sceptics and secular people alike.

What people are saying:

“I highly recommend \textit{The Truth About 666 and the Story of the Great Apostasy}. It is a must read for all who love truth.” – Walter J. Veith, international lecturer on nutrition, creationism, and other Christian topics, 16 August 2012.

“I must say, it is the most definitive treatment of the subject I have ever read. I still hold to the historicist view of prophetic interpretation in my preaching and evangelism. I can recommend your work to any pastor wanting in-depth insight into the historical background of Vicarius Filii Dei and the number 666. Thank you for your work and your insights on this important topic.” – Larry R. Moore, President, Southwestern Union Conference, commenting on \textit{The Truth About 666 and the Story of the Great Apostasy}, 9 April 2012.
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In this lecture, Dr. Rob McClintock tells the truth and exposes deceptions about alcohol. Among other things, he discusses how alcohol affects pregnancy as well as the startling link between alcohol and crime.

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