



The Philadelphia *Trumpet*

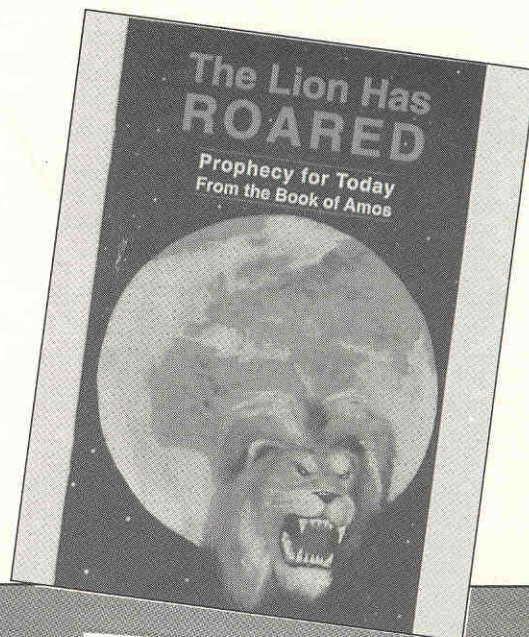
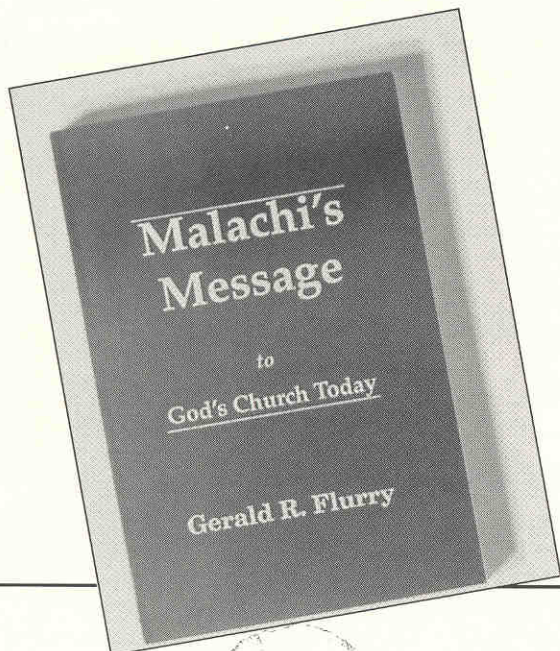
Vol. 3, No. 2

A Monthly Magazine of the Philadelphia Church of God

February 1992

— 1991 —

A Year to Remember



Herbert W. Armstrong taught a strong PROPHECY message for over 50 years. That prophetic message is no longer taught by the Church he founded! Since his death almost 6 years ago, his own Church has made over 30 major doctrinal changes (write for our free *Changes* booklet). All of Mr. Armstrong's major books have been abolished! These changes are explained in the book *Malachi's Message* and the *Philadelphia Trumpet* magazine. Write for free copies (all requests kept confidential): Philadelphia Church of God, P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083.

Only Gerald Flurry now broadcasts in Mr. Armstrong's tradition. *God's Future World* can be heard on **WOAI AM 1200** on **Saturday nights at 11:00 p.m.**



Anniversary Issue

The Philadelphia Trumpet

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United States: Philadelphia Church of God, PO Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083

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COVER

1991 was a year of tremendous growth for the Philadelphia Church of God. These photos show some of the literature the PCG produced in 1991. There is also a copy of an ad that has been put in several newspapers.

— Photos by Mark Carroll

Remember...

— 1991 —

A Year to Remember

By STEPHEN FLURRY

It was two years ago this month that the *Philadelphia Trumpet* made its humble beginning. It consisted of six typed pages. Three of those pages contained only letters from interested members. There were no articles, just a brief summary of Church news and instructions on keeping the Passover and Holy Days.

Mr. Amos wrote in this first issue: "It should not take great numbers to spread *Malachi's Message to God's Church Today*, just extremely dedicated brethren who are willing, through the 'power that works in us' (Eph. 3:20), to exercise the faith that God has given us."

Those of us in the Church at that time were encouraged by that, but nonetheless, still very anxious for the Church to grow. 1990 proved to be a very eventful year as God began to develop a strong foundation for His end-time remnant of the Philadelphia era, the Philadelphia Church of God (PCG).

Looking back on 1991, God's Work has thrust forward at a very astounding rate. Humanly, we expect phenomenal growth each day and sometimes don't see how much the PCG has grown, until we can look back on a year like 1991 and actually see all the fruits. We have indeed been blessed.

As mentioned, the *Trumpet* started two years ago this month with six typed pages. It was then discontinued for a three month period until Mr. Dennis Leap was

able to assume responsibilities in New York in June. Many of you may remember that the *Plain Truth*, started in 1934, was discontinued for two and a half years until Mr. Armstrong revived it in 1938.

God also revived the *Trumpet*. From that second issue in June 1990, the PCG went on to produce four more issues that year, giving us a total of six *Trumpets* for that year.

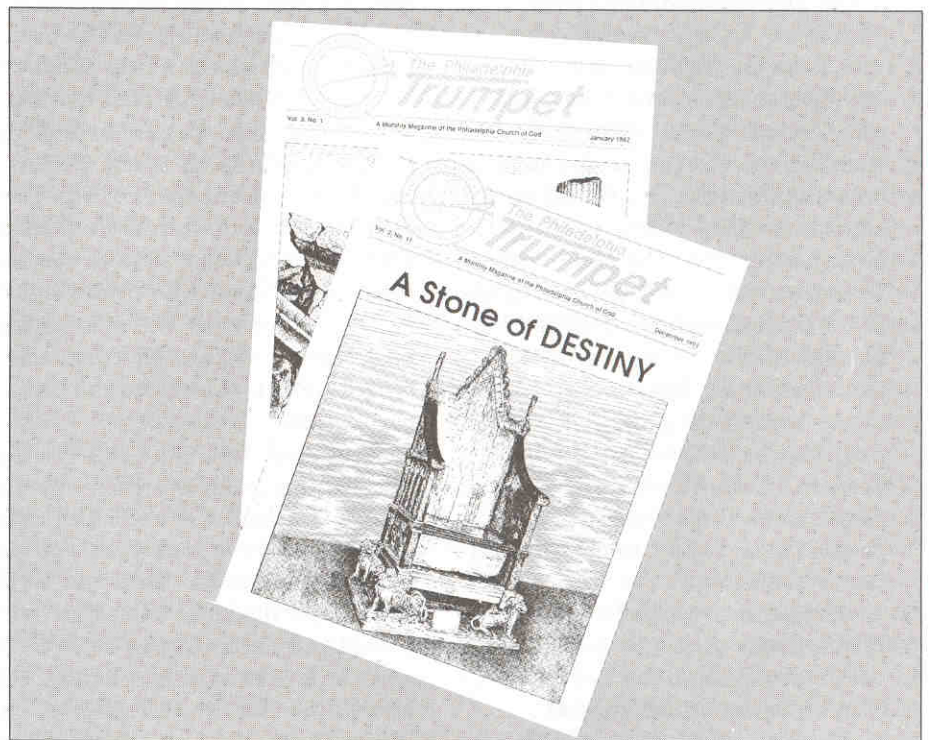
In 1991, the *Trumpet* was produced 11 times with the only combined issue coming during the Feast. This is our goal from now on. Even the *Plain Truth* only produces 10 issues per year.

That second issue of the

Trumpet in 1990 consisted of eight pages. The four issues after that all had 12 pages. Counting the first issue, 62 total pages of material were produced in 1990. In 1991, 196 total pages were produced. Do you realize that it has only been a little over eight months since the Church even owned equipment to produce its own magazine? Up until that point we were borrowing equipment!

For the first time in November, 1991, the *Trumpet*, took on a truly magazine-type format with a full cover and full table of contents.

In August, 1991, Mr. Flurry decided to send a packet of two *Trumpets* to our entire mailing list every two months, pushing the circulation to over 5000. That has also produced good fruit. For the first time ever, the *Trumpet* is attracting interested members without them even knowing about *Malachi's Message!* The *Trumpet* has become one of the main vehicles for spreading the message of the PCG throughout the WCG.



The December, 1991 issue of the *Trumpet* was the first time the PCG produced its own artwork for the cover.

Several calls have come from people who have received *Trumpets* which have just been passed around.

The *Trumpet* has certainly come a long way. But there is still a long way to go. Right now, we need a full-time art director. Also, with the increased size this month, more pressure will be put on our writers and editors. Please be praying for the needs of the *Trumpet*.

The PCG's main publication, *Malachi's Message*, was drastically improved in 1991. Much of that summer was spent on adding sections, editing, and giving it a new format like most small books. The improvement was astounding. It was given as a gift to all the members at the 1991 Feast of Tabernacles. It is now a 153-page book with many photos and color.

In 1991, we also saw the completion of our first booklet, *The Lion Has Roared*. With its professional cover, enhanced text quality and hi-quality paper, this booklet is as good as, or of better quality than any current WCG booklet. We all know that the most important aspect is the truth the booklet contains. *The Lion Has Roared* will be very instrumental in proclaiming a final warning to this world and the Laodicean Church. For that very reason, God made sure that the quality of this booklet was very professional.

With the first booklet completed, it should give all of us in the publication department a better idea of how to schedule booklet production. By the time you read this issue of the *Trumpet*, our second booklet, *Worldwide Church of God Doctrinal Changes*, should be nearing completion. We estimate that the Church will produce at least four booklets in 1992. A revised sixth edition of *Malachi's Message* is also in the works. The Church is also working on arranging all of our most important articles into re-print formats. This

will aid those who have been recently added to the Church, as well as those who are seeking information on what the PCG teaches.

With the publishing department increasing rapidly, mail processing has had to find more resourceful ways to get the mail out. In November of 1991, the Church purchased an automatic mailing machine. But with the size of mass mailings the PCG had at the end of 1991, it won't be long before an even bigger machine is needed.

In a sermon by Mr. Dean Blackwell on November 11, 1991, he gave "his" statistics concerning the PCG to the Glendora, California WCG congregation. He said the PCG had about 300 people and a mailing list of around 1500. Perhaps this update on PCG statistics will prove helpful for his future sermons against us.

In 1991, the PCG sent out over 5000 copies of *Malachi's Message*. The year before, 2000 were mailed out. In 1990, around 6000 *Trumpets* were sent out. Compare that with 38,700 in 1991 — a 645% increase! We had no booklets to send out in 1990. In 1991, with the completion of our first booklet, *The Lion Has Roared*, about 6500 were mailed out.

The year 1991 also marked the debut of the radio program, *God's Future World*. Think back if you will, to the end of 1990. There were few, if any signs, that we would be going on radio. We had no experience, no equipment, and not enough money. Last year proved to be the testing ground for the radio market. At the end of 1991, the PCG was on three radio stations. But, more importantly, we have produced 16 programs on very important subjects that will prove to be greatly beneficial to future radio audiences.

Now consider how much the work force in the PCG has grown. At the end of 1989 the only full-

time employees were two unemployed ministers! By the end of 1990, we had three full-time employees. At the end of 1991, we had nine.

At the end of 1990, the Church didn't even have a building! Now the new building is full of employees and equipment.

In December, 1989, there were 12 people in the PCG. A year later we had an estimated 300. In December, 1991, there were an estimated 750 worldwide. In Mr. Blackwell's recent sermon in Glendora, he said we had about 300 people. That would be a more accurate guess if he was just talking about *our international members only!* I guess the "peanut shell" Mr. Blackwell has often compared us to is more like a "walnut shell" now.

Perhaps the biggest growth of all in 1991, has been financial. You can read about that in the "Treasurer's Report" in this issue.

If 1990 was a year of firsts, then 1991 was a year of tremendous growth — a year adding to the foundation established in 1990.

"And now I say unto you, Refrain from these men, and let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought: BUT IF IT BE OF GOD, YE CANNOT OVERTHROW IT; lest haply ye be found even to FIGHT AGAINST GOD" (Acts 5:38-39).

If the work of the Philadelphia Church of God was just a work of men, it would have already failed. As Christ said in Matthew 7:20: "By their fruits ye shall know them."

The fruits of the Philadelphia Church of God in 1991 have been very good. The PCG has certainly come a long way since those original twelve people gathered for the first PCG service on December 16, 1989.

Stay tuned and see for yourself what happens in 1992. The results are sure to astound you! ♦