



# PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

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Greetings ministers and wives!

As I said at the Feast, there are so many lessons for us in this end time from the writings of the Apostle John.

Right toward the end of his Gospel, John makes this statement: "And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, *that ye might believe* that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing *ye might have life* through his name" (John 20:30-31). That's right—God really wants us to have REAL LIFE!

The way to have that life is to BELIEVE these scriptures. John said he wrote it all down that we might BELIEVE—not just read it and say, *Well, I've got my Bible study in.* That's a real trap we can get into. Even in song services on the Sabbath, sometimes I'll catch myself just singing the songs without thinking about the words. So I'll concentrate on what I'm singing, and I get so much more out of it! We can do the same thing with our Bible study. *I've got my Bible study time in.* Okay—but WHAT DID YOU GET OUT OF IT? Did you really get it? Because THIS IS ALL WRITTEN THAT WE MIGHT REALLY BELIEVE!

When Mr. Armstrong was first called to the truth, he labored for six months in intensive Bible study. We do need to LABOR to learn the truth. It's hard work! We need to work to get it into our minds.

Mr. Armstrong read in the Bible where Christ said He would build His Church. He began to look around for the Church. He found some people with the truth, but it was the Sardis era and the Church was dead! They knew their government was wrong and it wasn't working, so they were trying to reorganize the government. Here's what happened at that meeting.

Lesson 53 of the *Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course* stated, "Prior to the meeting, a call for prayer had been sent to God's people around the world, 'that God would again choose men to lead His Church, as in the former time.' God *answered* that prayer! But NOT in the way that they expected! As the hands of the clock neared high noon on that fateful Sabbath day, the drawing of the names for the seventy elders reached number 40. The 40th name was 'Elder Herbert Armstrong of Oregon' (*The Bible Advocate*, Nov. 6, 1933, page 5).

"No one knew it then, least of all Mr. Armstrong, who was not present at the meeting, but Jesus Christ had made His choice, with the number 40 of a man to revive His Work in the end time. Forty signifies the completion of testing. Now the time of trial and test for the Sardis Church had run out, and as with ancient Belshazzar, the Sardis era of God's Church had been weighed in the balance and found wanting (Daniel 5:27)."

Then the correspondence course quoted Revelation 3:3: "Remember therefore how thou [the Sardis Church] hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee."

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God sent Mr. Armstrong to warn them and prepare them so they would repent, but they couldn't understand the signs of the times. They didn't believe Mr. Armstrong could be the man God would be working with. *God wouldn't work with a guy like that! He'd work with somebody here at the top, the very top of the Church structure, they must have reasoned.*

"He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith

unto the churches” (Revelation 3:5-6). Hear what the Spirit says—in other words, read the signs of the times.

Are you discerning the signs of the times? Are you really **LABORING** to watch? That is where Sardis broke down! They don’t know anything about Christ’s Second Coming! As Christ would ask, *Couldn’t you discern at this time what’s happening?*

In 69 A.D. when it stopped preaching the gospel to the world, God’s Church just went to sleep. It slumbered and slept for hundreds and hundreds of years—until a voice went out over radio in 1934. Using a man, Jesus Christ was getting prepared for His Second Coming!

We are entering into a new, dark age—darker than any age this world has ever known. The worst suffering ever is just ahead of us. We must **LABOR** in our study of the Bible; we must **STRIVE AND STRAIN** in our spiritual lives and **GET TO KNOW EVERYTHING WE CAN ABOUT THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES!** We ought to know all about the Church split and what it means. We need to understand what we mean when we talk about the end, and then the last end, and now the last hour. We must be tuned into these developments step by step by step, like we’re following the ticking of the clock!

If we understand the signs of the times, we know that Jesus Christ is about to return! And we’re going to share His throne forever!

With love, in Christ’s service,



## CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

### POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

#### **Festival Videos**

Mr. Flurry has made the decision not to provide copies of the three Feast videos shown at the Feast this past year. The manpower and financial requirement to produce and distribute the videos was the primary factor in the decision, but we also don’t believe that the WCG made its programs available to tape libraries in the local areas.

#### **Question: What is the PCG’s stance on cremation?**

Answer: The practice of cremation is an ancient one. Many cultures have practiced it, and it is gaining popularity today.

However, biblical examples show that simple burial was the custom of the Hebrews who lived before Christ (Genesis 15:15; 35:20; 50:5, 26).

According to the Bible taken as a whole, the mode of a person’s burial is not of great importance. Jacob was embalmed (Genesis 50:1-3), and the Bible states that

he will sit with Abraham and Isaac in the Kingdom of God (Luke 13:28). Christ was not embalmed, but He was resurrected to become the firstborn of many brethren. Others who were martyred received no burial but were torn asunder by wild beasts. They, too, are promised a place in the Kingdom.

So from a *spiritual* point of view, what happens to the body after death is inconsequential. Scripture shows that it was the custom of the Jews to merely wrap and bury those who died (John 19:40). Christ was buried according to that custom.

As did Christ, the apostle Paul spoke of death, burial and resurrection, likening the process to a seed which is planted and germinates (John 12:24-25; 1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-44). But regardless of whether a body becomes dust or ashes (burnt dust), the Bible promises that it will be resurrected (Acts 24:15; Revelation 20:12-15). Through the power of God, both cremated and buried bodies will be resurrected.

# MEDIA SERVICES

Department Head: Andrew Locher

## KEY OF DAVID SCHEDULE

Program Title: "Why Europe Hates America"

Airdate: November 28

Literature Offered: *The Rising Beast, Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*

Synopsis: There is a strong hatred in Europe against America. Most do not know why this hatred exists. Satan the devil is stirring up Europe's hatred against America, and God will allow German-led Europe to correct America and other Western nations for their sins. This week on the *Key of David*, Gerald Flurry looks at this brewing hatred of America and Europe and shows where it is leading.

Program Title: "Crown of the Holy Roman Empire"

Airdate: December 5

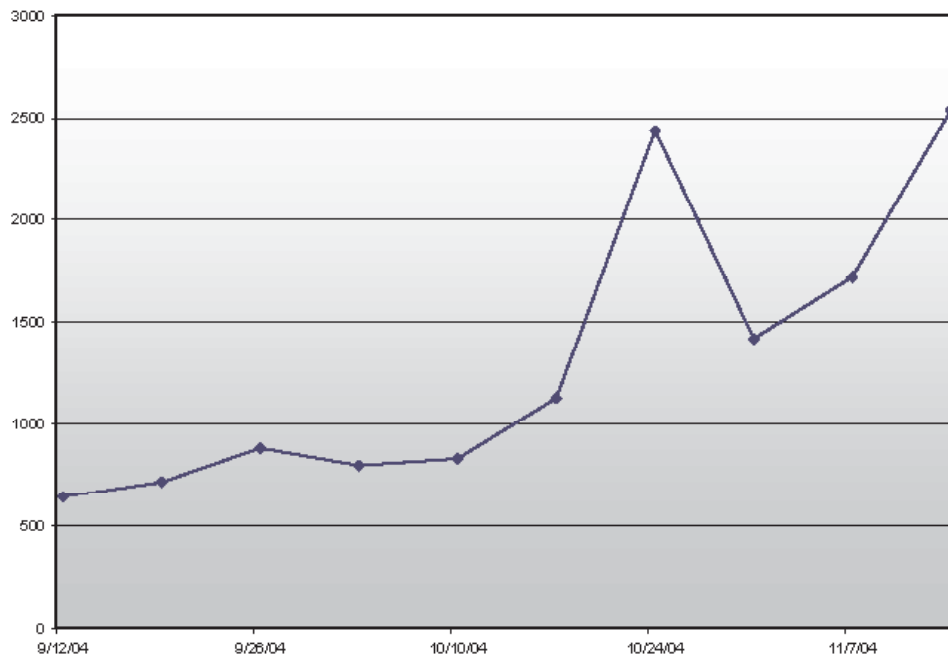
Literature Offered: *Nahum, Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*

Synopsis: The crown of Charlemagne holds great significance for many Europeans. Yet Charlemagne caused much destruction and death. Charlemagne's legacy is tied to Adolf Hitler and Mussolini, two European dictators who also placed much emphasis on the crown of Charlemagne. One last leader of the Holy Roman Empire is about to rise and lead Europe into this Earth's final war. This week on the *Key of David*, Gerald Flurry looks at the history and prophecy concerning the crown of Charlemagne and the Holy Roman Empire.

## THE KEY OF DAVID PROGRAM

We have been wonderfully impressed with the amount of response to the TV program since the Feast of Tabernacles ended. Though this is typically the start of a period of increased response, the trend is pretty dramatic! Below is a graph of our weekly response to the television program since just prior to the Feast through this past week.

### Key of David Response



# EDITORIAL SERVICES

Department Head: Joel Hilliker

## QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

Since last week's announcement, several questions have come in that we did not address.

First, there are no plans at this time to give a certificate of completion (what some refer to as a "diploma") to those that complete the course.

Second, any teenagers who want to receive their own lessons, apart from their parents, are able to do so. They must specifically request to be enrolled under their own name.

Third, for married couples (where both are in the Church) who don't specify otherwise, the lessons will be sent out under the husband's name. Since this is an automated process, when the *tests* go out (with every fourth lesson) only *one* copy of the test will be sent. That creates a problem for the wife who might want to take the test separately, rather than with her husband.

What we suggest is that she makes a copy of the test.

However, she should NOT send in the answer sheet for grading as it will be bar-coded with the husband's name (who presumably will send in his own answer sheet). The system can't handle two answer sheets from the same person. Since all answer sheets are returned, the wife should wait until the husband gets his back. She can then grade herself against her husband's answer sheet.

Please realize that these tests are designed for the world and the questions are very easy. Therefore, to keep it simple and less costly, we encourage couples to take the test together and just note which questions they might disagree on (if any). However, for those who prefer to enroll separately from their spouse and receive their own lessons and tests, they may do so, although *we do not want to advertise that*. **Please do not announce that couples may receive separate lessons.** If they ask, they may; and they must specifically request to be enrolled under their own name. *-Fred Dattolo*

# MAIL PROCESSING

Department Head: Andrew Locher

## MAIL PROCESSING CENTER

Listed below are the top 10 most-requested books and booklets over the past 12 months, excluding the "He Was Right" issue of the *Trumpet* magazine which is sent to first-time subscribers as an introductory issue.

Booklet	Quantity Mailed
<i>Mystery of the Ages</i>	20,709
<i>United States and Britain in Prophecy</i>	13,411
<i>Ezekiel: The End-Time Prophet</i>	10,092
<i>Germany and the Holy Roman Empire</i>	9,697
<i>The King of the South</i>	9,474
<i>The Incredible Human Potential</i>	9,465
<i>Who or What is the Prophetic Beast?</i>	8,815
<i>The Royal Book of Revelation</i>	8,010
<i>The Missing Dimension in Sex</i>	7,922
<i>History and Prophecy of the Middle East</i>	6,776

## CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

Several hundred requests for subscription to the *Imperial College Correspondence Course* (ICCC) have been taken this past week. We anticipate hundreds if not thousands

more requests in the near future. All requests for enrollment will be answered with a letter from Mr. Flurry welcoming them to the course.

As a reminder, all brethren interested in enrolling in the iccc need to call the toll-free number (800-772-8577) or write in a request to our main address of P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083. We are not automatically enrolling anyone in the course, so please encourage those brethren who are interested to write or call in as soon as they would like to begin receiving the lessons.

## CALL CENTER

This past Sunday marked the busiest day we have had in the call center in well over two years. Our operators were presented with a total of 2,800 calls, of which they were able to answer 2,357 with another 25 leaving messages on our voice-mail system. With 71 operators (at our peak time) we were able to answer 84 percent of the calls! That is a pretty amazing statistic, made even more amazing by the fact that well-over 90 percent of the calls came through in a five-hour time-block. On aver-

age, each operator answered just about 30 calls.

We are sure to have a very busy week with television response and the new *Trumpet* magazine hitting. We are normally quite busy after the *Trumpet* hits. This particular issue is expected to bring in thousands more requests thanks to the correspondence course advertisement.

Since the Feast, we have really been hit with a tremendous amount of work. Our call volume has more than doubled the weekly average prior to the Feast, and it continues to climb each week! It will even out a bit as we progress into the winter months if it is at all like historic patterns—but then again, we are in a more urgent time, so perhaps the days of “light” call volume are gone—let’s hope so!

## IN-HOME WATS

We cannot speak highly enough about the weekly contribution made by our volunteer in-home WATS staff. This past Sunday they answered just under 1,300 telephone calls in response to *The Key of David*. Each call lasted 90-seconds on average, which is not that much longer than calls taken by our call center staff here at headquarters. All together, our in-home operators clocked over 33 hours of actual talking time on the phone.

With the busy weekend, we did experience slightly longer than average hold times before the caller was connected to an operator. This weekend, the average hold time was 1 minute and 51 seconds. During the WGN ring-in, some people waited over 5 minutes to be connected to an operator.