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PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

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Greetings, ministers and wives!

John understood what a marvelous thing had occurred with Christ's life; He was in awe. John 1:14 states, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." The Word was the only God who ever came to Earth, was begotten by God in a woman and born as a human child. There was a time in the Godhead when the Word was gone—He left to become a single cell within a woman, later a fetus and then a child!

God—the one who became the Father—created us through the Word (Ephesians 3:9; John 1:3). One of these immortal beings gave up all this power! Why? Out of love for a family—even if it meant risking everything.

This is why John was in such awe. You can't fathom this concept unless you do a lot of praying! If you don't understand this vision, you will be in spiritual trouble. That's why there is a Laodicean Church today. Revelation 3:20 shows that members of God's own Church in the end-time age have lost this vision—the family vision. They don't remember the Word, nor do they remember what He did for them and how much God loves them.

Notice Revelation 19:13. "And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God." The Word came down to Earth and dwelt among men, and men killed Him.

Of course, He planned it that way. He was the Creator of all mankind, and since the Creator's life is worth more than all His creation, His death could pay the penalty for the sins of all human beings upon their repentance. That is what it took to get one or a million or a hundred billion people into God's Family! There wasn't any other way. There was a law, and God had to die—not a man, not a goat, not a bull, as it says in Hebrews 10:1-4—but God.

Realize that this was all done to make it possible for you to be a member of God's Family! You will never understand this unless you are on your knees, frequently praying about it, studying deeply into this incredible truth—that a God had to die to make it all possible!

This great Word always submitted to God—for all eternity. That is an incredible truth. Even more remarkable, however, is the fact that this eternally perfect, resplendent Being died for you.

But the awesome depth of this Logos vision doesn't end with His sacrifice. Notice Revelation 19:7: "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready." Those called into God's Church before Christ's Second Coming not only have all these other blessings, but they have the honor and the opportunity to be the bride of the Word! That God came and died, His vesture was dipped in blood, and now He is going to marry those with the courage and the vision to see what He is doing today.

This Word, or Christ—the one who dipped His vesture in blood—is the link between the Father and man! Without Him, we would have no access to the Father, no forgiveness for our sins, and no potential to one day be resurrected, as Christ was, into God's Family as eternal God beings. But because of Him, and because of His unfathomable love for us, His creation, all that is possible. That is a special kind of love that John is trying to get us to understand.

The link between the Father and you is this Word. We are all sinners (Romans 3:23; 5:12), and thus all need His blood to cover our horrible sins. What an act of love on His part! How can you even describe the love God has for man? What a plan!

PLEASE NOTE
There will be no PGR for the next two weeks due to the spring holy days.

With love, in Christ's service,

Gerald Flury

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

COLOSSIANS 2:14 CORRECTION

In the last PGR, the article “When Should One Take the Second Passover” incorrectly stated, “From Colossians 2:14 we know that the ceremonial laws were nailed to the stake, and are no longer required of us.” Actually, Colossians 2:14 is *not* referring to the ceremonial law or any other laws being nailed to the stake.

In the King James Version, Colossians 2:14 reads, “Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross.” What is the “handwriting of ordinances”? Notice the same verse in the Revised Standard Version: “Having canceled the *bond which stood against us* with its legal demands, this he set aside, nailing it to the cross.” What Paul is referring to is the note of indebtedness, saying that we must die!

The Colossians were a Gentile church—many of the members of the congregation had been involved in various pagan practices. In verse 13, Paul tells them they had been *dead* in those sins, but God had forgiven all their trespasses. How? By “blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against [them] ... nailing it to his

[Christ’s] cross” (verse 14). Paul is not referring to *any* of the laws in the Bible in this verse: remember, the Colossians were almost exclusively *Gentiles* who had never kept the ritual or ceremonial laws of the Old Testament. They had no need to be taught not to keep them.

Rather, Paul is emphasizing that the *law of God required we die* because of our sins (Romans 6:23). But Christ’s death allows our sins to be blotted out, because *HE* paid the penalty for us. The only thing the Bible ever speaks about being blotted out is our sins, as in Acts 3:19: “Repent therefore, and be converted, *that your sins may be blotted out...*”

Of course, it is correct that the law of sacrifices and rituals are no longer necessary, because they were types of Christ and the Holy Spirit. Once those realities arrived there was no need for the ritual laws (See Galatians 3:19-25). However, those ritual laws were a “schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ” (Galatians 3:23). They were not “against us.” Colossians 2:14 is referring only to the note of indebtedness saying we must die—it is our *sins* that were blotted out.

MEDIA SERVICES

CURRENT BROADCAST POSITION FOR THE KEY OF DAVID

The Key of David program is currently broadcast on 200 stations worldwide, with a total potential audience of close to 600 million viewers. The number of potential viewers should be understood to mean the number of households that have access to each particular station times 2.75 people per household (industry average). This figure can be somewhat deceiving also because it does not include overlap coverage. For instance, in Oklahoma City, the program is available on three different stations if the viewer has cable (WGN, i-Network and KCOB). Each cabled-household in Oklahoma City would be counted three times in the potential audience figure because each station is considered individually and then added to the total.

The program continues as the third most popular “devotional, weekly, 30-minute” program according to Nielsen Media Research.

As previous editions of the PGR have pointed out, we continue to receive record-breaking response on a

regular basis. During the first quarter of 2006, we have received a 45 percent increase over 2005, 119 percent over 2004, and 605 percent over 2003!

At our current rate of response, we anticipate answering over 134,000 *Key of David* generated calls during 2006!

KEY OF DAVID SCHEDULE

Program Title: “The Two Covenants”

Airdate: April 9, 2006

Literature Offered: *The Key of David, The Wonderful World Tomorrow*

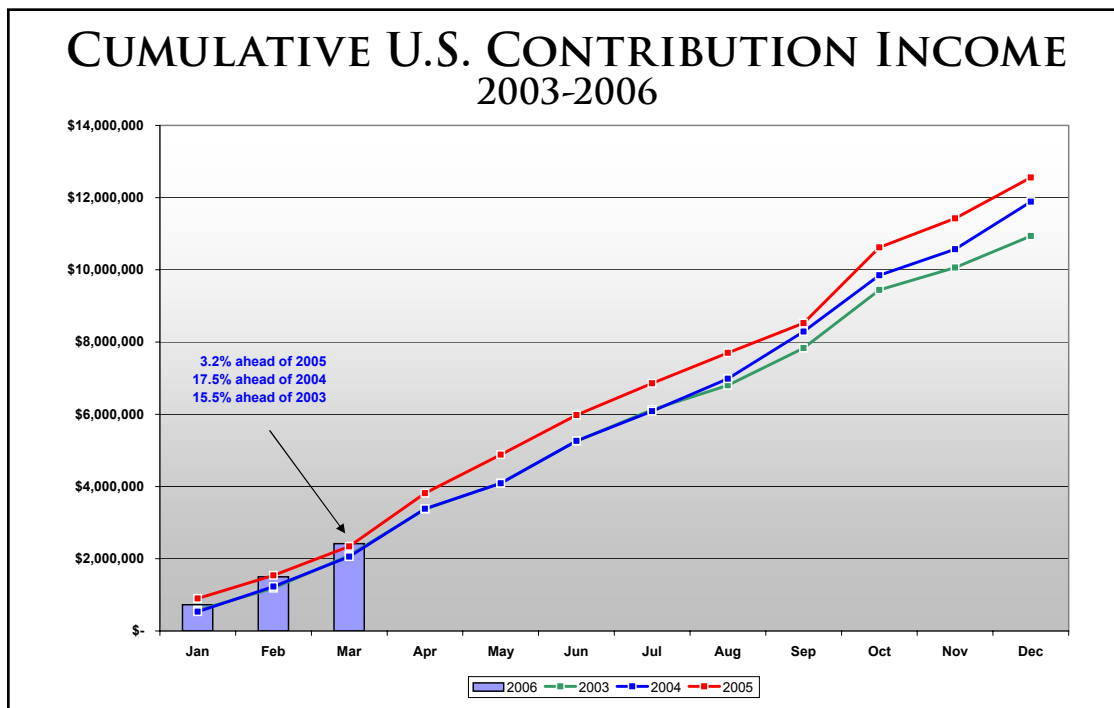
Synopsis: The Prophet Jeremiah recorded two special promises of God: First, God guaranteed that King David’s royal family line would always continue; second, He promised there would always remain a faithful ministry of God. Has God kept these two promises? Yes He has—and you can prove it. This week on *The Key of David*, Gerald Flurry discusses the two covenants.

BUSINESS OFFICE

FIRST QUARTER DONATION INCOME

Donation income for the three months ending March 31, 2006 was very strong. The Church received a 12.5 percent increase in first tithes and general offerings compared to the same period in 2005. For that same period, we have also received a 12.5 percent increase in building fund offerings, and a 6.5 percent increase in third

tithe offerings. We have had a decrease in bequests this year compared to last—a category we can't forecast. In 2005 we received nearly \$187,000 in bequest income by this point. So far this year, we have not received any. Excluding bequests, donation income is up 12.1 percent compared to the same time last year!



EXPENDITURE BY DEPARTMENT 2005

The below data gives some indication of how the majority of contribution income is used by department.

Broadcasting	\$ 4,109,937.35	32%
Administration*	\$ 2,219,010.41	17%
Publishing	\$ 1,913,794.06	15%
Field	\$ 1,338,019.26	10%
International Support	\$ 830,195.62	6%
Mail Processing	\$ 525,223.82	4%
Armstrong College	\$ 497,056.57	4%
Feast	\$ 316,654.71	2%
Construction Project	\$ 298,496.74	2%
Food Services	\$ 202,348.13	2%
Call Center	\$ 187,251.79	1%
Computer Info Systems	\$ 166,678.15	1%
Philadelphia Youth Camp	\$ 86,129.22	1%
Assistance	\$ 79,502.11	1%

* Includes un-allocated overhead costs.

MINISTERIAL ASSIGNMENTS: FEAST OF TABERNACLES 2006

Mr. Flurry has finalized the preliminary ministerial assignments for the Feast of Tabernacles 2006. While these assignments are subject to change, they form the foundation we will use to develop the organization charts. We are currently working on the speaking schedule for the Feast and hope to release that soon.

You will be notified via e-mail or by standard mail about your assignment. If you had other plans, or would like to be considered for a transfer to another site, please contact Andrew Locher as soon as possible to make sure we have adequate ministerial coverage for each Feast site.

VISIT REQUESTS

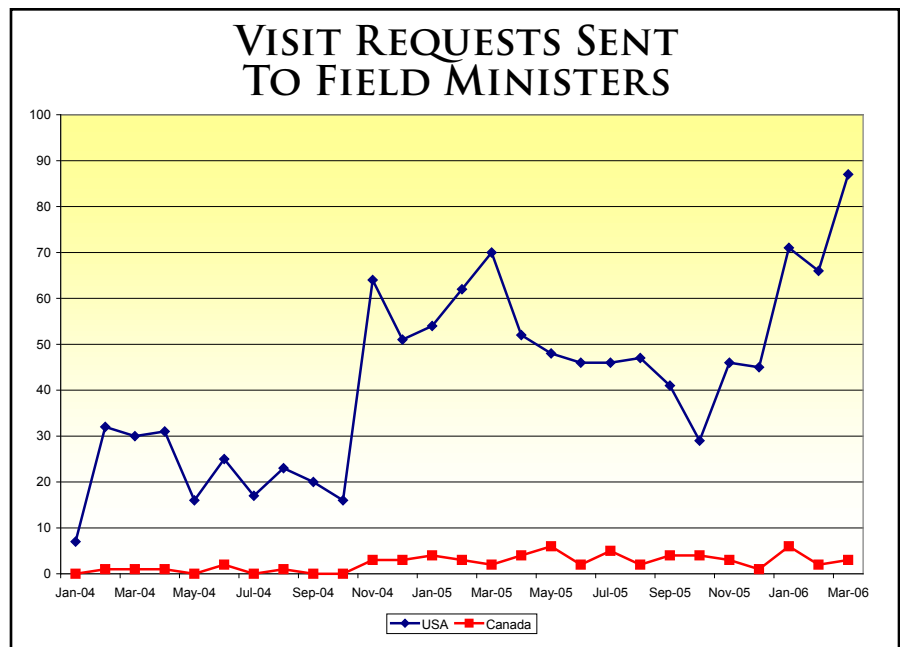
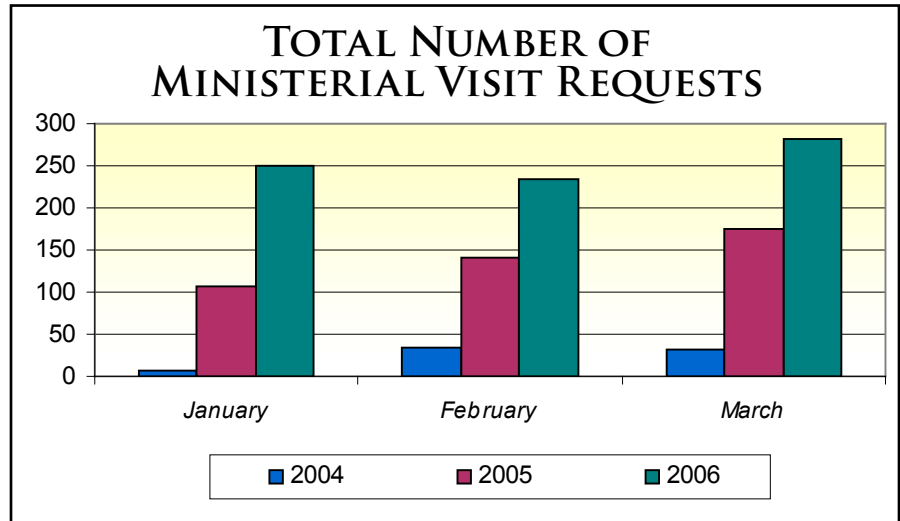
Mr. Flurry recently drew attention to the sharp increase in the number of people requesting a visit from an ordained minister of the Philadelphia Church of God so they may attend services with us. The increased number represents considerable work for the Regional Directors

and their field ministers, but this is exactly what we have all been working for.

Visit requests are generated from a number of different sources. Increasingly, the correspondence course is attracting more interest in membership in the Church. While many of those responding as a result of the correspondence course have not read enough material to warrant passing their request on to the regional directors, they are being informed about the foundational literature they should be studying in preparation for membership. We anticipate those individuals will be calling back within weeks to a few months after they have read more material. The upward trend should continue into the future by all indications.

Comparing the actual number of visit requests for the first quarter of 2004, 2005 and 2006 reveals a dramatic increase in requests. The increase is amazing! The Church received nearly a 10-fold increase in the total number of visit requests comparing the first quarter of 2004 to 2006! The number of requests has increased over 80 percent just since last year—that is nearly double!

The graphic at the top right depicts the total number of visit requests we receive for those wanting to attend services in the United States and Canada. As we have brought out before, not all requests are passed on to the regional directors for a variety of reasons. But many of those requests are passed on. The chart below demonstrates the increase in the number of visit requests WE HAVE SENT OUT to the regional directors each month since January 2004.



So far this year, we have sent out 235 visit requests to the regional directors—a 21 percent increase over 2005, and a 242 percent increase over 2004! We expect this trend to continue because so many people are making requests that are not passed on to the regional directors yet; and we expect many of them to call us back soon after they have completed their reading.

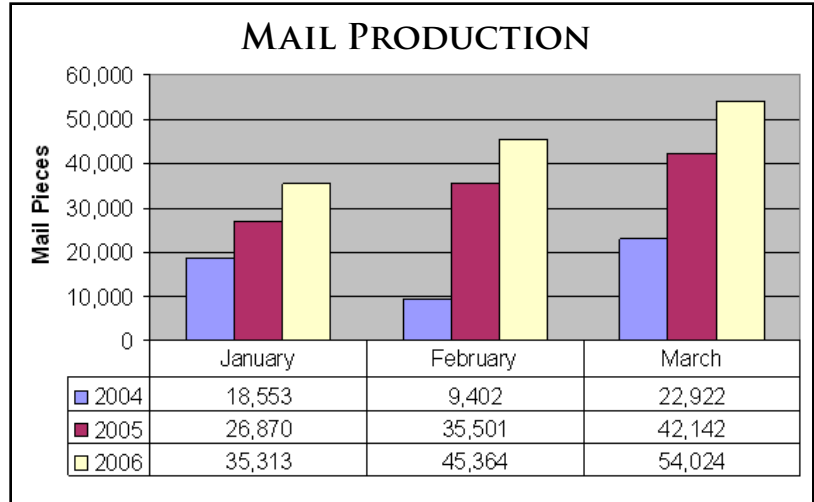
MAIL PROCESSING

MAIL PROCESSING UPDATE

The chart to the right shows our fulfillment numbers for the first quarter this year. We're at about a 29 percent increase over last year, which is an increase of just over 30,000 mail pieces for the quarter.

The more efficient we can be at getting the literature out the door and into the hands of those that need or want it, many more people will be moved to support God's message.

A few of the processes that have recently been implemented are helping in a big way. In the first three days this week, we received 2,100 *Trumpet* related address changes through the USPS Address Change Service. We normally receive these in hard copy form and they have to be handled manually. To process 2,100 changes manually would have taken 25 to 30 hours. These were handled electronically and at a savings of \$1,150 to the work—in just three days!



Also, electronic requests have increased over the last month—we're receiving close to 1,000 a week. Some of these are directed to other regional offices while most are handled by us.

Mark Saranga