



NON-PROFIT



TAX-EXEMPT

“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” MARK 16:15

July 2019

FROM US TO YOU

What would it be like to live in an almost perfect world? To live in a place with no hate, disease, and virtually no crime. Where everyone loves each other, and no one is ever jealous or hostile. You may think we’re talking about Heaven. But we are really talking about this earth. It is called the millennium reign of Christ, because it will last for a thousand years (Rev. 20:1-15). Even the animals will be tame. *“The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper’s nest”* (Isaiah 11:6-8 NIV).

Yet you may be thinking, “I don’t live in a perfect world. I live in this one. And I am afraid of all the evil things that are happening in this world.” We understand. Yet God is still on the throne of our hearts! And the closer you get to Jesus Christ, the more Satan will attack you. God is not the one who is causing you problems. He wants to fix them, if you will allow Him to. Our Creator is not running this current world, with all the misery people face. However, the Lord of Heaven is much stronger than the powers of darkness. Those who don’t know Christ live in a perpetual state of darkness because Jesus is the light of the world (see John 8:12). *“This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God”* (John 3:19-21 NIV).

That’s why so many people reject the Bible, and don’t want to hear it. Because it sheds light into the dark corners of their lives. It convicts them of sin. And they want to keep on committing evil. That’s why they often speak against Christians. They often spread lies and distortions against the people of Christ. They can even kill us, as many godly people have died worldwide, even in modern times. However, they can’t separate us from Christ! But not everyone who claims to be a Christian is. Part of Satan’s strategy is to recruit false prophets (Matthew 7:15) and phony believers. That’s why the Apostle Paul said, *“...such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve”* (2 Corinthians 11:13-15 NIV).

Jesus said, *“Why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? I will show you what he is like who comes to Me and hears My words and puts them into practice. He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built”* (Luke 6:46-48 NIV). So what happens to those who claim to be Christians and live in sin? *“...the one who*

hears My words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete” (Luke 6:49 NIV).

Many have died for their faith. They are in Heaven and safe right now. All the attacks on them are over and only joy, peace, and love is with them now. Wicked people can make evil laws and try to enforce them. They can attack you verbally, physically, or with sinful human laws. Yet, *“who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: ‘For Your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.’ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord”* (Romans 8:35-39 NIV).



As Christians we don’t fit in with the worldly crowd around us. God’s laws are higher! That’s because we are not a part of this world system that Satan runs (see John 17:1-26). As the Apostle Peter wrote, *“Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day He visits us”* (1 Peter 2:11-12 NIV).

Now things have gotten so bad, in this once godly country that there are those who are promoting infanticide and socialism. This is just one step away from communism! Communism is not only anti-Christian, it is also a failure everywhere worldwide unless it is forced on people. If communism were desirable, so many people would not try to come to the United States. So, *“...this is what the LORD says to you: ‘Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God’s’”* (2 Chronicles 20:15 NIV). Therefore, if you love Jesus, you’re just a soldier for Christ (see 2 Timothy 2:3). However, your fight against evil should not be with earthly weapons (2 Corinthians 10:3-5) that Satan controls. It is *“... ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ says the LORD Almighty”* (Zechariah 4:6 NIV).

We started out talking about the Millennium. For those who love Jesus, it is something to look forward to. For our Lord will rule the earth, and Satan will be thrown into the Lake of Fire (Revelation 20:10), along with those humans who died without Christ (Revelation 20:15, 21:8). The last of the Lord’s disciples, the Apostle John, saw the future in a revelation that he received (Revelation 19:11-16) while imprisoned on the Greek Island of Patmos in the first century AD. We are quickly approaching the return of Christ right now. All the signs are here.

In the love of Christ, *Eric and Anne Kaestner*

GOD'S BOOMERANG

By Anne Kaestner

It's depressing hearing news about problems worldwide. All nations seem to be in turmoil. It is a sign of the times (see Matthew 16:1-4). Perhaps that is why people are seeking an escape and there is so much interest in a way out. For some it is space flight to other planets. Talk of spaceships, stars, and other galaxies has been increasing steadily over the decades. Have you noticed how much talk there has been in the news about UFOs lately? The subject has come up in the media now and again for decades. Since the late twentieth century there has been a lot of news about unusual crop formations in European wheat fields. Aerial photography was taken of them. The theories range from the visitation of aliens to total hoaxes. I find neither explanation credible.

England seems to have a great deal of them. One of the crop formations is found near Stonehenge, which is believed to have been the site of pagan worship and human sacrifice. That occurred back in the days of the Celtic religion, before the Roman Empire brought Catholicism to England. Prior to that, England was a pagan country. There were a group of religious leaders known as the Druids, who were deeply involved in the worship of pagan gods. The huge strange stones at Stonehenge were arranged in such a way that no one today even understands how it was possible to create such a strange pattern in the days prior to modern building equipment.

However, the further a society gets away from Christ, the more occult powers they obtain. A good example of this would be the magicians and sorcerers who worked for Pharaoh at the time of Moses. Under normal conditions, it would be impossible to throw down a walking stick and have it turn into a snake. But after Moses did it through the power of God, "Pharaoh then summoned wise men and sorcerers, and the Egyptian magicians also did the same things by their secret arts" (Exodus 7:11 NIV). The more people reject God and seek occult powers the more Satan will enable them to do all kinds of strange things, like erect huge stone formations without modern equipment. But at what cost? When you reject the Lord the price of occult power is way too high (Revelation 21:8)! And no one is stronger than God!

Each one of Pharaoh's magicians threw down their walking staffs "...and it became a snake. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs" (Exodus 7:12 NIV). And the Apostle Paul, referring to Pharaoh's magicians, and comparing them to the false prophets in these last days, wrote, "Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these men oppose the truth—men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected. But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone" (2 Timothy 3:8-9 NIV).

There is a Bible story that has always amused me. It starts with the sins of Hophni and Phinehas, the two sons of Eli. The Bible tells us that they made God very angry because they didn't have proper respect for a sacrifice (1 Samuel 2:12-17). As a result, when the army of Israel went out to fight with the Philistines at Ebenezer they lost the battle. Four thousand of them were killed on the battlefield. The Israelites wondered what happened. They didn't know what Hophni and Phinehas had done. "When the soldiers returned to camp, the elders of Israel asked, 'Why did the LORD bring defeat upon us today before the Philistines? Let us bring the ark of the LORD'S covenant from Shiloh, so that it may go with us and save us from the hand of our enemies.' So the people sent men to Shiloh, and they

brought back the ark of the covenant of the LORD Almighty... And Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God" (1 Samuel 4:3-4).

"When the ark of the LORD'S covenant came into the camp, all Israel raised such a great shout that the ground shook. Hearing the uproar, the Philistines asked, 'What's all this shouting in the Hebrew camp?' When they learned that the ark of the LORD had come into the camp, the Philistines were afraid. 'A god has come into the camp,' they said. 'We're in trouble! Nothing like this has happened before. Woe to us! Who will deliver us from the hand of these mighty gods? They are the gods who struck the Egyptians with all kinds of plagues in the desert. Be strong, Philistines! Be men, or you will be subject to the Hebrews, as they have been to you. Be men, and fight!'" (1 Samuel 4:5-9 NIV). However, the Israelites lost the battle again. And thirty thousand foot soldiers died as a result. "The ark of God was captured, and Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, died" (1 Samuel 4:11 NIV). When Eli heard the bad news he died as well. When Phinehas' wife heard the about it she died in childbirth. Before she died, "She said, 'The glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured'" (1 Samuel 4:22 NIV).

When the Philistines first captured the ark of the Lord, they considered it a war trophy. So, "...they took it from Ebenezer to Ashdod" (1 Samuel 5:1 NIV). Ashdod was another town. And, feeling very proud of themselves, the Philistines put it in their pagan temple next to the statue of their own god. They "...set it beside Dagon. When the people of Ashdod rose early the next day, there was Dagon, fallen on his face on the ground before the ark of the LORD! They took Dagon and put him back in his place. But the following morning when they rose, there was Dagon, fallen on his face on the ground before the ark of the LORD! His head and hands had been broken off and were lying on the threshold; only his body remained" (1 Samuel 5:2-4 NIV).

You see, the Lord was determined to show the Philistines who the real God was, and how He is far stronger than any pagan idol. So God inflicted the people of Ashdod and vicinity with tumors. Then the people of that town realized that it was because they held the Ark of God. "So they called together all the rulers of the Philistines and asked them, 'What shall we do with the ark of the god of Israel?' They answered, 'Have the ark of the god of Israel moved to Gath.' So they moved the ark of the God of Israel" (1 Samuel 5:8 NIV). Now the Israelites were worried that they lost the Ark. They felt they had let God down by allowing their Ark to fall into enemy hands. They felt that harm may come to it and that they should have protected it more.

This is so often the way humans feel. Little did they know that God was more than capable of protecting the Ark Himself! However, after the Philistines moved the Ark "...the LORD'S hand was against that city, throwing it into a great panic. He afflicted the people of the city, both young and old, with an outbreak of tumors" (1 Samuel 5:9 NIV). Therefore, they decided to move the Ark to the city of Ekron. But "...As the ark of God was entering Ekron, the people of Ekron cried out, 'They have brought the ark of the god of Israel around to us to kill us and our people.' So they called together all the rulers of the Philistines and said, 'Send the ark of the god of Israel away; let it go back to its own place, or it will kill us and our people.' For death had filled the city with panic; God's



hand was very heavy upon it” (1 Samuel 5:10-11 NIV).

That’s the part that amused me. The Philistines were moving the Ark from town to town as if it were a hot potato! It wasn’t the earthly material the Ark was made of that gave it the power. It was symbolic of the power of Almighty God! And He does as He chooses. It was the property of the Israelites, not the Philistines, and the Philistines were learning that fast! Therefore, those who didn’t die in the city, “...were afflicted with tumors, and the outcry of the city went up to heaven” (1 Samuel 5:12 NIV).

“When the ark of the LORD had been in Philistine territory seven months, the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners and said, ‘What shall we do with the ark of the LORD? Tell us how we should send it back to its place.’ They answered, ‘If you return the ark of the god of Israel, do not send it away empty, but by all means send a guilt offering to Him. Then you will be healed, and you will know why His hand has not been lifted from you.’ The Philistines asked, ‘What guilt offering should we send to Him?’ They replied, ‘Five gold tumors and five gold rats, according to the number of the Philistine rulers, because the same plague has struck both you and your rulers’” (1 Samuel 6:1-4 NIV). Even the pagan priests and the diviners knew that God was much greater than any power they possessed! So that’s what they did. The Philistines, who had long been the sworn enemy of Israel had been put in a position where they would have to, as the proverb goes, “eat humble pie.” They felt forced to “...pay honor to Israel’s god...” (1 Samuel 6:5 NIV). So the Philistines put the Ark in a new cart attached to two cows, filled it with their gifts, as a guilt offering, and returned it to Israel. Therefore, the Philistines’ attacks on the Israelites backfired on them, and Israel not only received the Ark of the Lord back, but all the expensive gifts with it!

As you read the Bible, you will see certain patterns in it that form a theme. God uses the very weapons that the devil uses against the righteous to attack them. You see, the further away someone is from God, the more stupid they get. That’s because they don’t have the illumination of the Light of Christ (John 8:12, 3:19-21). However, those who loved God, knew that God would send them a Holy Redeemer. Job, in the midst of his pain and misery, exclaimed, “I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end He will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see Him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!” (Job 19:25-27 NIV). The prophet, Isaiah, even explained how the Redeemer would die in our place to pay for our sins (Isaiah 53). And the Lord used David to go into detail about the crucifixion, and how Christ would die (Psalm 22:1-18).

The Apostle John calls Christ the Word of God. “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it” (John 1:1-5 NIV). “Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:12-14 NIV).

However, despite their bad experience with the Ark of the Covenant, the Philistines continued to be at war with the Israel. As I explained, when you live for God, through His Redeemer, God turns your enemy’s own weapons against them. Case in point, when little David went up against Goliath in a match that amazed everyone, the Philistines thought David was a joke. They had “A champion named Goliath...

He was over nine feet tall. He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels; on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. His spear shaft was like a weaver’s rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. His shield bearer went ahead of him” (1 Samuel 17:4-7 NIV). Goliath was an intimidating guy!

All the big, strong men of Israel were terrified of Goliath. “Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, ‘Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us.’ Then the Philistine said, ‘This day I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other’” (1 Samuel 17:8-10 NIV). Israel’s warriors were afraid because they were depending on their own strength and power. And they were outmatched. Then along came a little shepherd boy named David. Jesse, David’s father, had eight sons altogether. His three oldest sons had gone to fight for Israel. But they hadn’t counted on having to deal with someone like Goliath! The giant had taunted the army of Israel for forty days, morning and night.

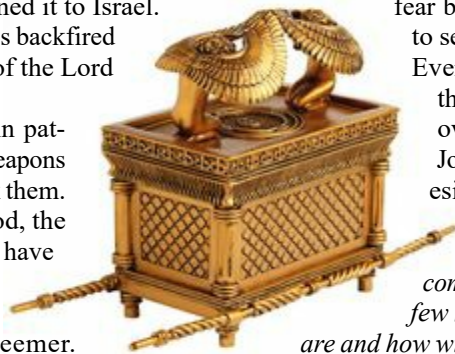
Then, one day Jesse told David to take some lunch out to the battlefield for his brothers. When David got there he was shocked and angry at what he saw. He asked someone what was going on and was told what had happened. David wasn’t shocked at the size of the giant. He was shocked to see the army of Almighty God cowering in fear before this loathsome savage! Now people seem to sense when someone has the Holy Spirit in them. Even brothers can despise their own brethren when they sense God working through a member of their own family (see Matthew 10:24-36). Remember Joseph (Genesis 37:3-8)? And Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-8)? “When Eliab, David’s oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, ‘Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the desert? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle.’ ‘Now what have I done?’ said David. ‘Can’t I even speak?’” (1 Samuel 17:28-29 NIV).

David immediately volunteered to be Israel’s champion. Saul didn’t think David could do it. But David was angry at the situation and determined to fight for God. He told Saul, “... ‘Your servant has been keeping his father’s sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.’ Saul said to David, ‘Go, and the LORD be with you’” (1 Samuel 17:34-37 NIV).

Saul put his own armour on David but it was too big and clumsy for him. Then David “...took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd’s bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine. Meanwhile, the Philistine, with his shield bearer in front of him, kept coming closer to David” (1 Samuel 17:40-41 NIV). The point is that when we depend on the world’s weapons to fight God’s battles, it never works out. “For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds” (2 Corinthians 10:3-4 NIV).

Goliath was insulted. He thought

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to himself, "Is this puny boy the best Israel has to offer?" *"He said to David, 'Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?' And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. 'Come here,' he said, 'and I'll give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!'"* (1 Samuel 17:43-44 NIV). All the army of Israel watched with bated breath. However, David, looking straight at Goliath replied, *"...You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the LORD will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD'S, and He will give all of you into our hands"* (1 Samuel 17:45-47 NIV).

Goliath moved toward David. However, David ran toward the Philistine. *"Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground. So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him. David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine's sword and drew it from the scabbard. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword. When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they turned and ran"* (1 Samuel 17:49-51 NIV). I want you to notice that very often the tools Satan uses against God's people are the tools God uses to destroy the enemy. The sword, the very weapon that Goliath was going to use against David, David used to cut off the giant's head!

This is often the case throughout the Bible. Another example of this is when three young Israelite men angered Nebuchadnezzar with their staunch refusal to bow down to any graven image. That made the king so furious that, *"...he ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace. So these men, wearing their robes, trousers, turbans and other clothes, were bound and thrown into the blazing furnace"* (Daniel 3:19-21 NIV). The king shouldn't have done that because he was sacrificing some of his best men because, *"...the king's command was so urgent and the furnace so hot that the flames of the fire killed the soldiers who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and these three men, firmly tied, fell into the blazing furnace"* (Daniel 3:21-23 NIV).

So the weapon that Nebuchadnezzar used against God's people, was the very weapon that killed some of his best fighters! *"Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, 'Weren't there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?' They replied, 'Certainly, O king.' He said, 'Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods'"* (Daniel 3:24-25 NIV).

I could give other examples of this happening throughout the Bible, like the time the wicked Haman, plotted to kill Mordecai, the Jewish man who had adopted Esther (Esther 2:15). Haman and his sons ended up dying on the gallows on which Mordecai was supposed to be executed (Esther 7:8-10). However, there are those who will say that that type of thing is only in the Bible and doesn't

happen these days. Well, it does! The God of the Bible is the same God I serve today. Christ said, *"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End"* (Revelation 22:13 NIV). God doesn't change. I know God works that way today because this type of thing happened to me!

Many years ago, when we first started this ministry, I began receiving threatening letters from a prison inmate in New York. He had killed the daughter of a minister and had cut off her head. Then he drew a picture of what he had done and sent it to me. He was a good artist, so the picture was very graphic. Since we have a prison ministry, I was worried about telling the authorities what was happening. I was supposed to counsel inmates so I wanted them to trust me. I prayed about it and the Lord told me, "You are not running a prison inmate advocacy program. You are running a Jesus Christ advocacy program." And then I found the scripture that said, *"Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them"* (Ephesians 5:11 NIV). So I contacted the prison warden with a copy of the picture the man had sent me. I had been keeping a big file on him, with all the letters and material he sent me.

Then I got another letter from the inmate saying he was going to be released. I was terrified! I called the prison and spoke to a lieutenant and I heard that he had been given another trial. Then I heard from the District Attorney's Office. They wanted me to send them the file, which I did. Then they told me that they needed me to fly out for the trial. It was a frightening time in my life! My husband, Eric, told me, that under the circumstance, most people would not go. I didn't want to see the man who had threatened me. And I didn't want him to see me! So I prayed about it again. I asked God why this was happening to me. He told me, "If you don't go through the battle, you don't get the victory."

I flew out for the trial. All the way there I was praying for courage. I was on the plane now. There was no turning back! I was picked up at the airport by someone from the Prosecutor's office. We were in the elevator half way up to the District Attorney's Office when the doors opened and some young lawyers got in. It was then that I found out that the trial was over, and the inmate had confessed. It was the letters and picture he had sent to me that the prosecutor had used against him! God's boomerang had worked again! God is bigger and stronger than any Goliath you may face in your life. All you need is faith and trust in Him!

As for the UFO's and the strange phenomena that will increase as we get closer to the Rapture of the church (see 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and 1 Corinthians 15:50-57), I believe that the devil is planning to blame the disappearances of God's people on UFO's. The Bible tells us that in the last days before the return of Christ, an evil dictator will rule most of the earth. He will be the prophesied antichrist (1 John 2:18 and Daniel 8:23-25). And he will have a magician with him called the false prophet (see Revelation 19:20). So don't be surprised when you see all kind of phony miracles because, *"the coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders, and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness"* (2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 NIV). Amen!

