

What Does Pentecost Teach Us About the Church?

Pentecost pictures both the coming of the Holy Spirit and the role of the firstfruits in the divine spiritual harvest. Those few called to salvation by God during this age of man make up the Church today.

How can you become an integral part of the Body of Christ?

God's annual Holy Days and festivals have so much to teach us. Initially the Passover shows us how our sins are forgiven followed by the Feast of Unleavened Bread launching us on a lifetime of taking on the attributes of Jesus Christ and leaving sin behind. But we soon find out that we lack the spiritual power to permanently stay on this rather rutty road to eternal life. The downside of our human nature, the mind of the flesh, becomes too powerful for us to completely resist.

But God is much more powerful and has the only solution to that dilemma. After repentance and water baptism, He promises to give us His Holy Spirit in order that we can gradually grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ's way of life (Acts 2:37-39; 2 Peter 3:18). Christians need special spiritual power in order to resist the pulls of the flesh.

At the end of the day, the Church is all about meaningful relationships – first of all our personal relationship with God and secondly with our neighbours.

These are aptly reflected in the great commandment to love God, and the related commandment to love our neighbours (Matthew 22:36-40). To really make our lives work by fulfilling both commandments, we desperately need the help and comfort of God's Holy Spirit. Remember that Christ came to bring us a spiritually abundant life (John 10:10).

The Church is all about godly relationships – first of all our personal relationship with God and secondly with our neighbours.

Why the Church?

Jesus Christ told us that He would build His Church and that the gates of the grave would not prevail against it (Matthew 16:18). Christ promised that the Church would never die out no matter how much persecution it would have to endure down through the ages.

Then when He comes back to this earth, Christ will claim the Church for His

own. Those who are still alive at that crucial time will be changed from mortal beings to immortality, joining their resurrected brothers and sisters in a totally transformed abundant spirit life (1 Corinthians 15:50-54; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17).

At that time the Church will have fulfilled its ultimate purpose for existence. The firstfruits of God's spiritual harvest will then begin to assist Christ in ruling and saving the whole world (Revelation 5:10; 20:4-6). Today is not the only day of salvation. Virtually everyone will be given an opportunity for salvation during Christ's millennial reign and the great resurrection to follow pictured by the White Throne Judgement (Revelation 20:11-13).

God's Church through the ages

The Church began on the Day of Pentecost, AD 31, during the first century. Christ's and the apostles' teaching set the guidelines for successfully entering the Church during that pioneering

period. These are permanent principles completely relevant to the Body of Christ today. Christ's apostles also laid down basic spiritual principles suited to guide the conduct of both its ministry and members, particularly in the pastoral epistles of 1st and 2nd Timothy and Titus.

First of all, God the Father has to call you out of this essentially evil

The Church seeks to take Christ's saving message to the world at large.

world and into a spiritual understanding of His truth (Galatians 1:4; John 6:44, 65). The world as a whole simply cannot understand the truth of God and often persecutes those who really do (John 16:33; 17:14). It is as many as God will call who will begin to gradually understand and obey, readying themselves to receive His Holy Spirit (Acts 2:39; 5:32). Truly it is the gift of God (Romans 6:23), but true repentance and water baptism are the conditions our Creator requires.

Romans 8 has rightly been called the Holy Spirit chapter. Our natural, fleshly minds are hostile to the law of God and not subject to it (verse 7). It is only those who receive the Spirit of Christ who are truly converted (verse 9). Those who have 'the firstfruits of the Spirit' eagerly wait for the redemption of their bodies at the first resurrection (verse 23). They have a vital relationship with God and man.

The Church's personal role in transforming your life

Only God the Father and Jesus Christ can call and convert anyone. No human being can. Yet Christ instructed His disciples down through the Church ages: '*Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations*, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and

of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age' (Matthew 28:19-20, emphasis added).

So the Church has had its assisting role throughout the last nearly 2,000 years. Today the main outreach instrument of the United Church of God in the British Isles consists of its serial and nonserial literature. *The Good News* magazine and this British & European Supplement each reach out to the general public with Christ's gospel message – fully supported by a whole range of free booklets and

the gratis twelve-lesson *Bible Study Course*, not to mention our web sites.

The Church stands composed of real people with real problems. Yet it still seeks to take Christ's saving message to the world at large – with each regional group of members emphasising the spiritual needs of its particular geographical location.

Important free booklets

The primary booklets really relevant to the contents of this article are *The Road to Eternal Life*, *Transforming Your Life: The Process of Conversion* and *You Can Have Living Faith*. All are free of charge in print and freely downloadable on our web site. One short general summary article, such as this one, simply cannot explain all the essential components of God's great plan of salvation. Frankly, it requires a lot of rather intensive study. But the end result of this way of life will be eternal life in the Family/Kingdom of God

In conclusion, the United Church of God also offers the free booklet *God's Holy Day Plan: The Promise of Hope for all Mankind*. This publication fully explains the relationship of the Day of Pentecost to God's overall plan of salvation. You cannot afford to be without the hope it will bring.

John Ross Schroeder



The Firstfruits of God's Harvest

The Day of Pentecost serves as a reminder that God grants His Holy Spirit to the firstfruits of His spiritual harvest. In the process of revealing His plan of salvation for mankind, God established His annual Holy Days around the harvest seasons of the Middle East (Leviticus 23:9-16; Exodus 23:14-16). Just as His people Israel harvested their crops around these three festival seasons, God's Holy Days show us how He is harvesting people for eternal life in His Kingdom.

This one-day festival (an annual Holy Day) is known by several names that derive from its historical meaning and timing. Also known as the Feast of Harvest (Exodus 23:16), it represents the firstfruits (Numbers 28:26) gathered as a result of the labour of those who completed the spring grain harvest in ancient Israel (Exodus 23:16).

It is also called the Feast of Weeks (Exodus 34:22), with this name derived from the seven weeks plus one day (50 days in all) that are counted to determine when to celebrate this yearly festival (Leviticus 23:16). Similarly in the New Testament, originally written in Greek, this same festival is known as Pentecost. The Greek word *Pentekostos* means fiftieth.

The Challenge of Christianity in Today's Confusing World

Britain has been called a post-Christian nation. Certainly, it is a secular society with a multicultural mix, not always tolerant of Christian values. Does God expect Christians to pursue His way of life in this modern world?

Once a professing Christian nation, Britain has become much more materialistic over the past fifty years or so, pushing Christianity to the fringes of society. Those holding traditional Christian values have found it increasingly difficult to maintain those biblical standards without coming into serious conflict with either secularism on the one hand or multiculturalism on the other.

With the additional inroads of militant atheism and humanism, too often Christians today find themselves living in a world in which ‘the truth is evil spoken of [maligned, blasphemed]’ (2 Peter 2:2). Or even a society that persecutes those who desire to live a godly life (2 Timothy 3:12).

To Christians, living the way God instructs can seem to be anything from a challenge to virtually impossible. We might ask ‘why?’ or wonder why God would allow such a thing.

The enormous scale of the challenge

Hours before His horrific death by crucifixion, Christ prayed to his Father concerning all Christians, those He called in the first century – and all those called down through the ages to us today. He specifically asked that they would not be taken out of this world (John 17:6, 14–18). The biblical paradoxes are these:

- God the Father selects His followers

out of the world.

- Christ sends His followers into the world.
- He prays that they not be taken out of the world.
- Yet He states that in the world they will be hated.

In addition, while living in a world that hates them, Christians are to be different from the society around them. The apostle Paul in his letter to the Colossians lists many selfish traits that Christians must ‘put off’ (Colossians 3:5–10). They are also to put on the

In this secular society, those holding traditional Christian values have found it increasingly difficult to maintain biblical standards

wondrous characteristics of Christ (verses 12–14). Elsewhere in his epistles, Paul returns to these themes of putting off worldly values and behaviours and putting on godly attributes, reflecting Christ in them.

Another paradox is that the distress suffered by Christians living in today’s world will actually prevent total destruction coming to all the people of the world. Christ in the Olivet prophecy spoke of a future time of enormous stress, or tribulation, that would lead to all life being extinguished on the earth but for the sake of His elect, true Christians in the world. Due to their selection and existence, that time would be cut short and annihilation prevented

(Matthew 24:22). The very people this world will hate and want to kill will be the reason a substantial remnant will survive.

Jesus Christ instructs Christians to be careful, always on the watch, always praying that they may escape, always praying that they may stand before the Son of Man (Luke 21:34–36). While salvation is a gift of God, Christians are duly required to grow and overcome (Revelation 2:26; 3:21).

In contrast, Revelation 9:20–21 shows how the rest of the world’s societies will behave even in the face of great tribulation. Despite utter chaos and impending death, people will refuse to repent. The basic problems listed in these verses are the worship of demons or demonic systems, leading to idolatry and the worship of things. They would not repent of their murders, *sorceries* (the Greek word implies drug-related connections with the occult), sexual immorality, or thefts.

Why God’s wrath will come

There is a dire warning given in Colossians 3:6, which reveals that ‘Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience’. To what things is Paul referring? He emphasises those listed in verses 5 and 8: ‘fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry . . . anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth.’ Verse 9 adds lying to the list.

Why? Because these are the sins, the transgressions of God's law, that separate people from the true God and are an affront to His divine nature.

Living as a Christian in today's world has its ongoing challenges; the one constant factor is God the Father, and His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Several times Scripture refers to Christianity as 'the Way'. It is the one and only way to life everlasting (Acts 4:12). In this defining respect, Christianity is a challenge to every other belief system. That is one reason the world with its false religions will hate true Christians.

The paradox is that while the people of this world will increasingly refuse to repent of things distasteful to Christians, God consciously allows His followers to remain in this hostile world. In addition, He expects them, with His divine help, to grow and to thrive there.

God preserves His people

God has the power to 'keep' (guard, preserve) His people, while they are here in this world. Without question, Christians need to exercise that God-given power while living in the world.

Returning to Jesus Christ's prayer that crucial night in Gethsemane, He showed great concern for His followers. He asked His Father to keep them 'through Your Name' (verse 11). Another translation uses the phrase 'by the power of your name'.

In other words, Christ asked His Father to protect Christians, not from all the difficulties that the world would throw at them, but that the Father would grant them protection from Satan the devil (verse 15).

Christ's aim for His people is that they will, with His help, remain in God's love, and attain to the first resurrection and eternal life. Jude records that the great desire of our Saviour is to present us before God's glorious

presence – perfect and with great joy (verses 24-25). In the meantime, we must strive to keep ourselves in God's love (verse 21).

We must do our part

It is no easy task to resist the temptations of this world with its glittering distractions designed to leave us so little time for God. It is even harder to resist our own human weaknesses, which so often conflict with God's law. Then Christians also have to resist Satan's attempts to steer us off course.

Although God so often protects us from the wiles of the Devil, if we become spiritually weak through drifting away from the path we should be walking, then Satan can deceive us and entice us off course.

We need to stay in a close, meaningful relationship with God the Father and Jesus Christ, putting on the attributes of Christ and putting off anything

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that is contrary to His way of life. God is at work in us. He has promised that He will always be there with us, unless we wilfully turn away from Him. Even when we slip up, He considers us His children and forgives us when we repent. This hope should motivate us to purify ourselves, always with His help (Philippians 2:12-13). There are things we must do; it is a partnership. Perhaps now we can see that although God deliberately has His people living in this world, He has done so for a great overall purpose.

God encourages His people

Christians have a glorious promise of salvation – eternal life in the Kingdom of God. Nothing happens to Christians in this present life that is not known by the Father. Sometimes He

intervenes – possibly more often than we know; at other times He lets us go through trials and difficulties, to mould us, teach us spiritual lessons and to teach us more about Christ and what He went through on our behalf (Acts 14:22).

It should be a great encouragement, to understand that, even through trials, God protects His people by His power. We need to look beyond to the great salvation ahead. We need to prepare our minds to persevere in the faith.

Hope for the future

The apostle Peter, in the first chapter of his first epistle, wrote about the hope Christians have. God has promised the living hope of a resurrection (verse 3). Through faith, they are kept and shielded by God's own power (verse 5).

The testing of their faith strengthens it, proving its genuineness and leading to ultimate glory (verse 6-7). They are motivated by love of their Saviour, Jesus Christ (verse 8). They are saved through a working faith, the end result of which is salvation (verse 9).

Perhaps one of the most encouraging scriptures occurs in Philippians 1:6, '*Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ*' (emphasis added). We can have confidence that whatever the world, Satan, and our own human nature throws at us, we can overcome with God's help.

David Fenney

You Can Have Living Faith

Our world is experiencing a crisis of faith. Yet true faith is an important ingredient for our salvation. Ask for our free booklet *You Can Have Living Faith*.

Being a Light

Do We Practise What We Preach?

Jesus Christ called His disciples the ‘light of the world’. A light is something clearly visible. As ambassadors for Christ, do our actions accurately reflect our Saviour? In other words, do we practise what we preach?

During the Pentecost season it behoves Christians to consider certain aspects of spiritual growth. As Christ is being formed in them through the Holy Spirit, they should be able to see changes in themselves – taking on more of the characteristics of God, subjugating human traits that are contrary to His holy divine nature. These supremely desirable qualities are found listed in Galatians 5:22-23. ‘The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.’

Lights of the world

Although not a character trait of itself, light is an attribute of God the Father and of Jesus Christ. He used it to exhort His disciples.

During the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus Christ explained to His disciples, ‘You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven’ (Matthew 5:14-16).

Modern-day disciples of Christ also need to take this exhortation to heart. Those, who claim to follow the example of Jesus and in whom the Holy Spirit

dwells, are to be a light to the world. Christ links light with an instruction to produce good works, evident to others, that will bring glory to God the Father.

The word here translated light is in Greek *phos*. Its primary meaning is the visible light given out by a light source, as in the light from a lamp. The same

To honour God and give out His light, our behaviour, our speech and our actions must reflect what we believe. We must practise what we preach.

word for light can be found in Matthew 6:23: ‘But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!'

Luke 11:35 adds: ‘Therefore take heed that the light which is in you is not darkness.’ The clear implication and warning of these Scriptures is that any *phos* shining out from us must be the true, illuminating light that comes from God the Father and Jesus Christ – not darkness, which comes from Satan.

Darkness can happen when our actions do not match our words. For example, a preacher could inform his congregation of the instruction in the Bible, tell them how a Christian should behave, and make sound doctrinal arguments, backed up fully from Scripture. Then after church do the exact opposite of what he said. This constitutes blatant hypocrisy.

For many, the location where we most need to be lights is the workplace. Maybe somebody asks: ‘Why we do not celebrate Christmas.’ If we explain this from a biblical basis, does the same person later hear us joining in with a dirty joke or using foul language? Almost certainly, they will conclude,

‘That person is a hypocrite!’

To honour God and give out His light, our behaviour, our speech and our actions must reflect what we believe. We must practise what we preach. Taking care with these aspects of our behaviour, ensuring that our light is the light of God, will mean that we won't bring shame to His holy name.

Contrasting light and darkness

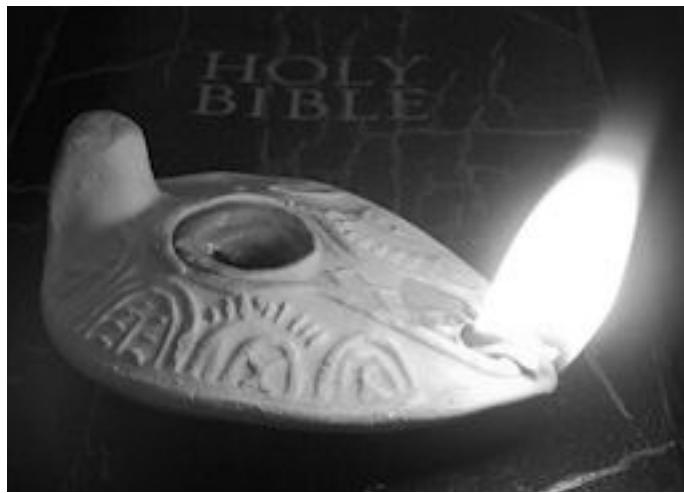
Visitors to Jerusalem will have seen the little oil lamps sold to tourists. Vendors claim they are similar in size and style to the lamps that they would have had 2,000 years ago in their homes. A flame produced by such a lamp is not particularly great, perhaps similar to that of a candle.

However during a power cut it is quite amazing how such a little flame can, albeit dimly, light the whole room. It will not produce a bright, all-illuminating light, but enough to negotiate the room safely or even to read.

All it would take to plunge everything back into blackness once again would be for someone to extinguish

the candle or lamp.

There is an interesting passage in the gospel of John concerning this. It reads, ‘The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it’ (John 1:5). The word here translated as ‘comprehend’ can also be translated as ‘overcome’ (RSV) and ‘overpowered’ (Weymouth). The intent is that where there is true spiritual light, it illuminates the overpowering darkness.



This oil lamp is typical of those sold in Jerusalem today.

The only time when the reverse might appear to be true is if the light were extinguished. However, we do not have to worry that God will quench our small lamp. Only we, through persistent wrong actions, decisions or simply through neglect, can choose to remove our lamp and put out the light. So we need to ensure that our light is continually shining. We should be a godly example to those who encounter us. If we are failing to shine as right examples, we could be hindering God’s work in us. We are each responsible for how brightly we shine.

Our ‘light’ is not our own

As mentioned earlier the primary meaning of the word *phos* concerns light emitted, rather than the light source itself. As humans, we have no light of our own. So where does this *phos* that we are to ‘shine before men’ come from? It comes from God.

Our Creator works in us. He works

in our hearts and minds if we but allow him to. We must proactively put effort into obeying God, seeking to live according to His will. In doing this, we must remember we did not create, discover or author glory, truth or light. We have not come up with a better way to live, or through our own ingenuity found a meaning for existence. When we follow God’s guidance in how we live, we are showing others that God has devised the best way of life, the only way that works. Thus, we are not producing the *phos*, we are reflecting the *phos* of God, His light and His glory and bringing honour to Him.

The sun is a source of physical light and energy; God is the source of spiritual light and energy. The

moon however is a dead object in the heavens, just as we are dead spiritually apart from God. The moon does not create or emit light, but what it does is reflect the light of the sun. In the same way, we reflect the glory and the love (the spiritual light) of God.

King David wrote: ‘Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path’ (Psalm 119:105). God’s word is truth, guiding our feet and lighting our way. As we learn of God and come to conversion, God expects our lights to shine (reflecting His light) before men so that by our example, by practising what we preach, we show those around us the path to God. Whilst the majority of people will not personally encounter our example, God will in the future hold us up as a model of how it can and should be done. Practising now what we preach is vital to true Christianity and our relationship to God and neighbour.

David Elliott

What the Bible Says About the Sun

According to astronomers, compared with other stars the sun is nothing to write home about. Yet the energy that animates living matter on planet earth – every flower, each tree, all living creatures – is derived from the heat and light of the sun.

Humans survive because we soak up only a fraction of the sun’s heat. Our star is 93 million miles away from the earth, a comfortable distance from this ball of energy.

It would be strange had the Bible said nothing about the sun. But God’s Word mentions this shining solar body more than 150 times. Perhaps the most important biblical reference about the sun is the simple observation that God created it (Genesis:1:1, 14). Thus humanity has no valid reason to worship the sun as some of the Israelites and other ancients did (2 Kings 23, Ezekiel 8:16-17, Romans:1:25).

On occasion the sun is mentioned in Scripture metaphorically. For instance, the account depicting the glorified Jesus Christ pictures His face as shining like the sun (Matthew 17:2). The Bible also describes the face of Christ as ‘the sun shining in its strength’ (Revelation 1:16). The glory of the Father and Christ is far greater and more enduring than sunlight (Revelation 21:23).

The apostle Paul even compares the resurrection of the righteous to the heavenly bodies in their glory (1 Corinthians:15:40-44). The Hebrew Bible shows that these same righteous men and women ‘shall shine like the brightness of the firmament’ (Daniel:12:3). Jesus Christ Himself said that ‘the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father’ (Matthew 13:43).

John Ross Schroeder

Life's Ultimate Question: Does God Exist?

Perhaps the most fiercely debated question of all time concerns the existence, or otherwise, of God.

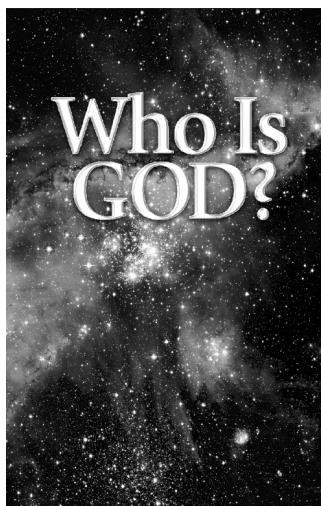
Since the Garden of Eden, when Adam and Eve chose to reject their Creator and follow their own path, God has made Himself known to a relative few. Many profess to believe in God. Just as many, it seems, deny His reality or accept him only as an idea.

The March/April 2011 issue of *BBC Knowledge* magazine contains a 16-page special on 'Does God Exist'. The articles highlight the ideas of theologians, such as Anselm (c1033-1109) who 'proved' God's existence using logic, and William Paley (1743-1805) who seems to have originated the idea that the evidence of design in nature indicates a Designer (the 'watchmaker analogy'), to philosopher Dale Jacquette who claims to have proved, again using logic, that God cannot exist. Jacquette bases his argument on the difficulty of harmonising 'an omniscient, omnipotent and perfectly benevolent God with issues such as the existence of evil'.

This latter argument seems based on a possibly far too prescriptive meaning of the phrase 'omniscient, omnipotent

and perfectly benevolent'. The writer of the book of Hebrews states, 'It is impossible for God to lie.' This passage shows that God does not do certain things that are contrary to His nature and, therefore, to logic. In the same manner, He does

not instantaneously create human beings with righteous character, who have learned of His way and of their free will



chosen to follow that way. The two components are logically incompatible.

God's wrath, spoken of in Old and New Testaments, may seem to contradict His benevolence when, in fact, finally extin-

guishing the lives of those who prefer to live in opposition to Him and to bring only grief, despair and death on themselves will be a kindness.

Perhaps the most bizarre reason for believing in God was argued by a French mathematician in 1656. Blaise Pascal reasoned that the benefits of believing in God, should he actually exist, far outweighed disbelief. Mathematically, he maintained, believing was a better bet!

Life's Ultimate Question:
Does God Exist?



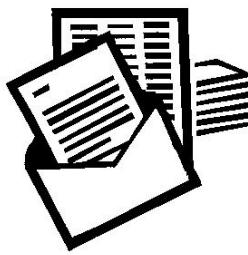
While the Bible clearly states that faith must be a part of belief in God (Hebrews 11:1-2), surely there must be additional ways to establish to newcomers to the faith whether or not God exists and, if He does, to understand what kind of relationship He wants with His human creation.

If you would like to study further into this subject, please request our free booklets *Life's Ultimate Question: Does God Exist?* and a companion booklet, *Who Is God?* Please write to *The Good News*, PO Box 705, Watford WD19 6FZ.

Barbara Fenney

How our literature is funded

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Letters From Our Readers

The Good News

I have just received my first copies of *The Good News*. I found your articles very interesting to read. In the January/February British & European Supplement I found a letter about 'Can a Christian Suffer Depression?' I found your answer very interesting and would like you to send me the booklet entitled *You Can Have Living Faith* and the reprints 'Depression: Ways to Win the Battle' and 'The Bible's Keys to Mental Health.' I would also like you to keep sending me *The Good News* magazine. Please accept my tithe.

A P, Sheffield

- We are glad to comply with all of your requests.

The Good News – you are right to name it as such, because for many like me, it gives profound hope, enjoyment and very interesting articles, which are not found elsewhere. At a time when strange outside forces bring daily upheaval, danger and death to many, your publication is very uplifting. Thank you so much for your helpful booklets as well.

M L W, Newton Abbot

God is working wonders in my life, and I am grateful to each and everyone who has put time and effort in sending out these bi-monthly magazines to people like myself. May God continue to really bless you all.

D S, Thornton Heath

Thank you very much, United Church of God. I appreciate the research work made by Supplement writers David Fenney, Carl Torcetti and John Ross Schroeder. The people of

God need messages of this kind to equip the body of Christ as the coming of our Lord is fast approaching.

T K T, Hull

Bible Study Course

The *Bible Study Course* has been a blessing to me. It is such a joy when the post comes through the door. I compare your booklets with the scriptures in the Bible. I look carefully at the different translations and find your booklets very accurate. It is wonderful that I can learn from my home and in my own time. I can refer to the booklets time and time again.

Y C, Manchester

A new Christian

As a new Christian I would like to be able to account for my faith as a witness to others. This booklet, *Creation or Evolution: Does It Really Matter What You Believe?* – and others – helps me with the basis and foundation.

S M, York

The weekly Sabbath and annual festivals

Since receiving your publications I have realised that the church was wrong to ditch Sabbath-day worship and adopt a pagan festival calendar. God told Moses that the Israelites were not to follow Egyptian religious practices or copy Canaanite ones when they reached the Promised Land. If we Christians are to provoke the Jewish people to be jealous of our relationship with the Almighty, then we should follow the divine pattern of the Sabbath day and the annual festivals as instituted in Scripture.

C P, Stoke-on-Trent

- Our readers may wish to request or download the free booklets *Sunset to Sunset: God's Sabbath Rest and God's Holy Day Plan: The Promise of Hope for All Mankind*.

Spreading the gospel

Please find enclosed a tithe from the Lord toward your work and all the literature that you send out. I know I have been richly blessed by it and can now pass on that good news and gospel truth to others.

C N, Bangor, Northern Ireland

I praise the Lord for all who are making their stand for our awesome Father Creator God, all glory to Him forevermore and spreading the gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is the true Lord of lords. I pray God will continue to pour out His Holy Spirit upon you all.

G F W, Otley

Daily Telegraph advert

Your advert in *The Telegraph* caught my eye. I am pleased to see someone drawing attention to the Middle East, which has been so neglected by prophetic apologists in the past. I would be interested in your booklets.

B W C, Wrexham, North Wales

- Our readers may wish to request the free booklets advertised in *The Daily Telegraph: The Middle East in Bible Prophecy and Are We Living in the Time of the End?*

This newspaper advertisement added significantly to our Good News mailing list.