

We Only Have One Earth!

The first chapter of Genesis shows us that God wants mankind to learn to rule himself and his environment wisely.

Godly rule and stewardship of the earth require righteous leadership, and thankfully it is finally on the horizon.

In many ways our planet looks out of place in the universe – it is so different from what telescopes reveal of other regions of space! Some have called it ‘Spaceship Earth’ because it has its own environment designed to sustain life in a most marvellous way.

Even on the surface of planet Earth there are vastly different climates and topographies. You may be sweltering in the Sahara or freezing in Finland. But still there is life and the basic elements needed to support it.

Yet many people are seriously concerned about the general state of our environment. They observe areas of uncontrolled industrial development and unsustainable use of our limited resources. Some observers even feel that we are tipping the scales of this finely balanced system, designed to sustain life, to the point of no return.

Profiting from environmental conflict

In *The Daily Telegraph* of 2 July 2006, a rather bizarre story shows how well-intentioned European laws to curb air pollution have been turned into money-making opportunities for large multinationals.

Correspondent Robert Watts reports: ‘When it was launched with a fanfare last year the European Union’s Emission Trading Scheme was trumpeted as a way to curb the damage big business does to the environment. Today, 18 months after its launch, the farcical



side-effects of the scheme are starting to become clear.’

Under the scheme, the European Commission gives member states targets for the quantity of carbon dioxide they can produce. The member state governments then set individual targets for companies and

other organisations for how much carbon dioxide they are permitted to produce. The scheme allows those who exceed their pollution targets to buy carbon permits from companies that have not used their full allocation.

Overnight a so-called ‘carbon trading’ market sprang into life, with banks, accountancy groups and other companies charging chunky fees to put vendors in touch with sellers.

‘According to a report to be published this week, some of the world’s most powerful energy companies . . . have already made millions of euros from the scheme. Meanwhile, Britain’s cash-strapped hospitals have been forced to spend an extra £1.3m a year at a time when they are being forced to sack nurses and other key staff.’

Students of the Bible realise that moral, political and ecological conditions are set to deteriorate much further until the time that Jesus Christ describes in Matthew 24:22. ‘In those days there will be very much trouble and pain and sorrow. It has never been this bad from the beginning of the world and never will be again. If the time had not been made short, no life would have been saved. *Because of God’s people, the time will be*

made short (New Life Version, emphasis added throughout).

Courageous leadership needed now

Political leaders often know what should be done, but the action needed is often judged too politically sensitive.

When Jesus Christ faced the authorities of the day, He exposed them as play actors (hypocrites) – acting out a role in society without realising their responsibilities. The Gospels record that leaders used bribes to get their own way (Matthew 28:12; Mark 14:11), took advantage of vulnerable people like widows (Matthew 23:14), and made spiritual compromises to protect and gain

from their positions (verses 27-33).

They were not happy people whenever they heard Jesus' scathing words! He was soon seen as someone to be neutralised. Their tactics involved sullyng His name by calling Him illegitimate (John 8:41) and looking for opportunities to destroy Him (Mark 12:12).

Good rulers are so important for the future of mankind and spaceship Earth. The book of Proverbs tells us, *'When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice;* but when a wicked man rules, the people groan' (Proverbs 29:2).

Most of Western society has experienced an increase in social and family strife, a lack of purposeful plan-

ning, national and personal debt out of control, and almost total ignorance of how to ask for godly direction of our nations.

Future leaders on the horizon

Yet God is selecting a group of people to become tomorrow's leaders. Many of them are already prepared – awaiting a resurrection of the dead (1 Thessalonians 4:17). These are the firstfruits of God (Romans 8:29; James 1:18; 1 Corinthians 15:20-23).

Jesus told the religious leaders of His day that their positions would be taken from them and given to a people worthy of the responsibility.

(Continued on page 4)

Leadership Training in the United Kingdom

In late summer, United Church of God leaders Richard and Mary Pinelli and Lyle Welty travelled from Cincinnati, Ohio to Derbyshire to conduct a formal programme teaching principles of leadership in the Church. Here is Mr Pinelli's report.

We have just returned from the first Leadership Workshop for the United Church of God in the United Kingdom. Forty men and women and a few family members met in the Hayes Conference Centre, about two-hours' drive southeast of Manchester. We had members and ministers from Sweden, Holland, and all parts of the UK. Peter Hawkins and his wife Sonja did a wonderful job in organising a five-day 20-hour set of lectures, interactive workshops, and sermons.

The theme was developing our leadership at every level. The purpose of the classes was passing the baton of truth to others and developing ourselves to be better servants. There was something of benefit for all.



Mark Webb



Clockwise from top left: Richard Pinelli; the group listens to a lecture; Lyle Welty.

We covered the purpose of the leadership workshops, followed by how the United Church of God is governed, as well as lessons learned in the past 12 years and biblical guidelines for elders and wives. We discussed the heart of a leader and developing wisdom, our role in the plan of God, and developing a steadfast spirit. Leading smaller congregations was highlighted, as well as appreciating differences and understanding ourselves and others.

There was a section on how ministers and their wives work together and points on working with the pastor. Pre-marital and baptism counseling were fully discussed as well as one-point sermonettes, split and full sermons, and the five Church ceremonies (water baptism, Passover, weddings, blessing of little children, and funerals).

We finished with how to become spiritually effective through the gift of prophecy (inspired preaching), and we then closed by asking the prayer of Numbers 6 over the entire group.

Many commented that they had never heard much of this material before and thanked Mr. Welty, my wife Mary, and me for coming to help them. They were very warm and appreciative for all the help the Home Office in Cincinnati had given them to make this possible.

*Richard Pinelli, elder
United Church of God*

Financial Principles from the Book of Proverbs

The book of Proverbs contains over 100 verses that mention or allude to money, wealth, riches, or possessions. Passages in Proverbs reveal valuable lessons on how to manage our personal finances.

The Book of Proverbs begins with seven verses which explain the purpose and theme of the whole book.

‘The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel: to know wisdom and instruction, to perceive the words of understanding, to receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, judgement, and equity; to give prudence to the simple, to the young man [or woman] knowledge and discretion – A wise man will hear and increase learning, and a man of understanding will attain wise counsel, to understand a proverb and an enigma, the words of the wise and their riddles. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction’ (Proverbs 1:1-7, emphasis added throughout).

What God wants for us

God is very concerned that we manage our finances properly so He can bless us materially. ‘The blessing of the LORD brings wealth, and He adds no trouble to it’ (Proverbs 10:22).

The basic starting principle is to *put God first*. We should put our Creator first and foremost in all aspects of our lives including personal money management. ‘Honour the LORD with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase: So

your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with wine’ (Proverbs 3:9-10). This passage clearly shows that when it comes to our worldly possessions, God should be first.

Many of our readers already understand that we should faithfully set aside our tithes and offerings. Our free booklet *What Does the Bible Teach About Tithing?* explains the basic principles of tithing in order that God’s message may be preached and published as widely as possible. From this fundamental starting point we proceed to understand several other basic financial principles.

Budgeting is a necessity

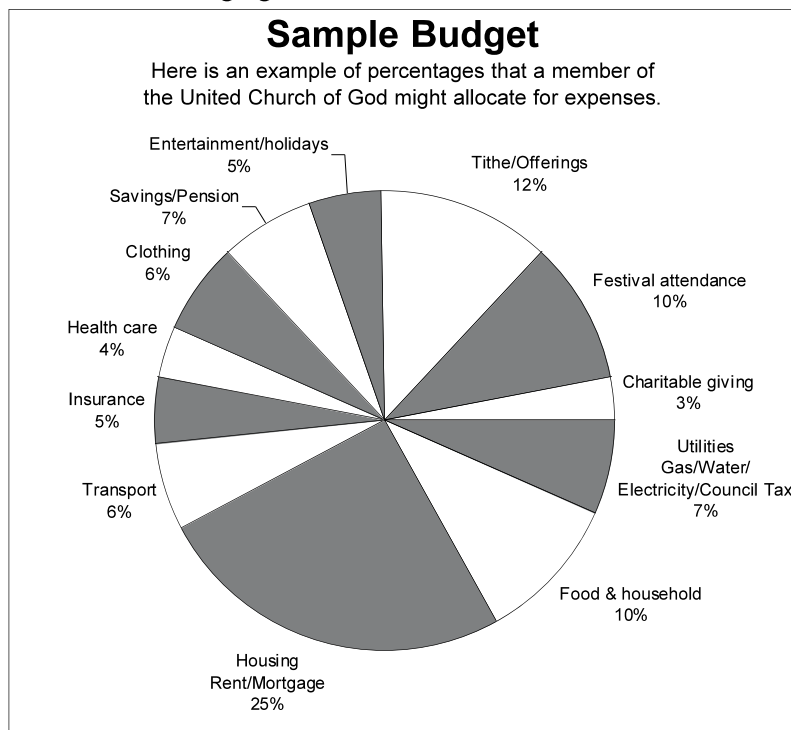
The principle of tithing teaches budgeting. This practice is all about managing our resources and balanc-

ing our income against our expenses. The British government has a budget and a ‘mini-budget’ for the nation. Every company has a budget; the Church has a budget. And every household should have a budget. Budgeting should be a way of life, not just a temporary measure to overcome a problem or save for something special.

The biblical principle is certainly there. ‘Be diligent to know the state of your flocks, and attend to your herds; for riches are not forever’ (Proverbs 27:23-24).

Budgeting is explained on pages 17 and 18 of our booklet *Managing Your Finances*. This free booklet contains much practical advice and includes a sample worksheet for estimating ones income and expenses.

An alternative tool for budgeting is to use a ‘pie chart’ such as the one shown on this page. (The sample ‘pie’ represents our monthly income and each slice of the pie represents how much we spend on mortgage or rent, food, petrol, clothes, gas and electricity, saving for our summer holiday, etc. Over a period of time some of the ‘slices of pie’ may need to get bigger and others may have to get smaller, so that the total remains the same. Some ‘slices’ we have little



control over, for example, if the price of petrol goes up we may need to spend more on petrol, but this means we must spend less on something else (or consider driving less often).

The booklet also includes chapters about handling money in marriage and teaching our children about finances. Teaching our children to budget, even from a young age, is a great blessing we can pass on to them.

Don't confuse wants with needs

The aim of commercial advertisers is to convince us that we need their product. Their message is generally, 'You deserve it now'. In the past the ladies were the primary audience for advertisers and so the stereotypical 'shopaholics' were women.

Nowadays men and teenagers are the primary targets. Men generally have higher incomes and are more prone to buying gadgets and upgrading existing products. Young adults and teens also have considerable disposable income.

Not being able to understand the difference between a want and a need can become a major burden on a household. Indeed many people have lost their homes because they have spent so much on consumer goods, cars and holidays.

Self-control is one of the fruits of God's Holy Spirit. It is particularly important when it comes to spending. *'Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls'* (Proverbs 25:28).

Avoid credit

Albert Einstein was once asked, 'What is the greatest force in the universe?' He answered, 'Compound interest'. Think about that for a minute. Compound interest is what is added to your savings and compound interest is what is added to your credit card debts.

If you use a credit card and you don't pay the entire bill before the due date, you will end up paying far

more than the purchase price. Interest charges add up quickly when you only pay the minimum amount each month. So try to pay the bill straight away.

An article on The Motley Fool Internet web site titled 'The Day That Credit Cards Turned Nasty' illustrates the effect of only paying the minimum amount each month. The example shows that if you borrow £2000 at 19.6% APR, and only pay back 2% (at least £5) a month, it will take you over 40 years to repay the loan, during which time you will repay a total of £7466! The article explains that until the 1990s banks only allowed their

The golden rule of credit cards: Don't use them if you don't have the money in the bank.

best customers to have credit cards, credit scoring was tougher, credit limits were lower, and minimum monthly repayments were higher. Thus, 'most people going mad with a credit card couldn't get too far out of their depth.'

During the 1990s, banks reduced the minimum monthly repayments and increased credit limits. This has caused many customers to increase their borrowing levels and pay far more interest. The effect of this is that it has made 'card issuers richer and their customers poorer'. (The full article can be found on the Internet at <http://www.fool.co.uk/Server/FoolPrint.asp?File=/news/comment/2005/c050401e.htm>.)

The golden rule of credit cards should be: 'Don't use them if you don't have the money in the bank.' Following this advice will help you to avoid much heartache. Remember that 'the rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender' (Proverbs 22:7).

A balanced approach to our finances

The book of Proverbs shows that we need a balanced approach to

wealth, wanting neither too much nor to be in dire need. 'Give me neither poverty or riches – Feed me with the food allotted to me; lest I be full and deny You, and say, "Who is the LORD?" Or lest I be poor and steal, and profane the name of my God' (Proverbs 30:8-9).

The proverbs quoted above are only a small selection of the wisdom contained in this book. We would all benefit greatly if we paid attention to these passages, for they provide us with sound financial advice even in the 21st century.

Remember the four basic points covered in this article:

- 1) Put God first.
- 2) Budgeting is a necessity.
- 3) Don't confuse wants with needs.
- 4) Avoid credit.

Finally, be sure to request the two free booklets *What Does the Bible Teach About Tithing?* and *Managing Your Finances*.

Mike Murdoch

One Earth

(Continued from page 2)

Just as 12 thrones ruling the tribes of Israel are awaiting the apostles (Matthew 19:28), if you and I take up the challenge of repentance and conversion in this life, there are thrones and opportunities of rulership on this earth that await us (Luke 19:15-19; Revelation 5:10).

Why not find out more about how you can be prepared for serving mankind? Our free publication *Transforming Your Life* will give you the key elements to begin your training. And Jesus Christ will be your life coach!

Remember His words in Matthew 24:12. 'If the time had not been made short, no life would have been saved. [But] *because of God's people*, the time will be made short.' The firstfruits called of God will be leading those who survive into a new civilisation: peaceful, prosperous and godly.

Peter Hawkins

Exploring the Hope Within

In Scripture, hope ranks with faith and love as one of the greatest gifts a person can desire. But for what are we to hope, how do we gain this hope, and can everyone obtain this precious spiritual quality?

Bogged down in the day-to-day challenges of life, it is often hard to remember that for those with their lives centred on God the Father and Jesus Christ there is a great and glorious hope for the future. Making a living, coping with health and relationship problems, and managing dwindling finances can all make life seem hopeless. For those eking out their lives in war zones, racked by killer diseases, or in grinding poverty, existence can seem even more desperate and hopeless.

The apostle Peter said that every Christian should always be ready to give an answer regarding the hope within (1 Peter 3:15). This tells us two things: firstly, true Christians have genuine hope, and secondly, they should understand that hope well enough to explain it to others.

The hope of eternal life

Many New Testament scriptures explain that our hope should be for everlasting life. The apostle Paul said that Christians should not grieve for the death of loved ones, as those who are without hope (1 Thessalonians 4:13). This is not saying that Christians should not grieve the passing of a relative or friend but that, in spite of their grief, they have a hope that those without the knowledge of Christ do not possess. Paul then went on to explain about the first resurrection, which will take place at the return of Jesus Christ (verses 14-18).

Other scriptures link the hope of Christians to everlasting life. In Titus 1:2 Paul reveals that God planned to give humankind immortal life even before the world was made. Paul also

asserts that Christians are made heirs with Christ and, since He has now been resurrected, they can also have the hope of eternal life within them now (Romans 8:17; Titus 3:7).

In our flawed human state with all its associated limitations, everlasting life may not seem a pleasant prospect for many. But God has revealed that He will provide each of us with a new spirit body, which will not be subject to the decay a physical body experiences (1 Corinthians 15:35-56; Philippians 3:20-21). As Jesus explained, those who are given this

Whatever our personal battles, troubles and sorrows may be, we all need that divine hope.

new body cannot die any more (Luke 20:36). When Christ returns to earth as Lord of Lords and King of Kings, those who are His will receive the fulfillment of that hope (1 John 3:1-3).

Christ in us

Eternal, everlasting life with a new spirit body is a wonderful prospect. So what assurance do we have from the Scriptures that God will give us a new body, and what part do we play in the process?

The apostle Paul stated that as God the Father raised Christ from the dead, He would do the same for others in whom His Holy Spirit dwells (Romans 8:11). The Holy Spirit is identified with Christ (verses 9-10) and if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ in them, guiding their lives, he or she is not truly a Christian (Romans 8:9).

In a sermon on the Day of Pentecost, recorded in the second chapter of Acts, Peter told his audience to repent (to be truly sorry for and to turn away from sin). Then they were baptised in the name of Jesus Christ as an outward sign of that repentance and of their commitment to following the example set by their Lord and Saviour. Having done these things they would receive the Holy Spirit (verse 38). Those seeking the fulfilment of that hope today need to follow that same process.

After we are baptised in water, God and Christ become the focus of our lives. Of course, Christ is the member of the God Family whose relationship with the Father we can relate to, follow, and learn from. He is called the ‘captain’ of our salvation, the

‘author and finisher of our faith’ and the Head of the Church. He is also our High Priest and our sole mediator with the Father. When Christ has accomplished all the work on earth that the Father has committed to Him, then He will return the completed project to God the Father (1 Corinthians 15:24-27). The last two chapters of the book of Revelation give us a glimpse into the wonderful things that will happen beyond that time.

We have many things to be thankful for. For instance, without Christ’s death there would be no forgiveness of our sins. Without His resurrection He could not intercede for us with the Father, nor could He live His life again in us through the Holy Spirit (Galatians 2:20). The death, resurrection and current role of Jesus Christ is vital to God’s plan of salvation and vital to our hope for eternal life.

A hope for all

This hope of a glorious future is wonderful news for those who have heard of Christ and understand that He is the only way to salvation. But what of all the billions, past and present, who have never heard of Christ? What of those who may have heard of Him but have never begun to follow the prescribed route to everlasting life? Are they lost forever? Would their lives have been literally 'hopeless'?

God the Father is not a respecter of persons (Acts 10:34). He loves everyone and does not wish to see any member of His human family perish (John 3:16-17; 2 Peter 3:9). The world at present has an unseen ruler whom Paul called 'the god of this world', and 'the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient' (Ephesians 2:2, New International Version). Before beginning His earthly ministry, Jesus Christ defeated Satan the devil and is now the rightful king of the earth in waiting (see Matthew 4

and Luke 4). However, He has not yet removed Satan as the god of this world. That He will do when He returns to set up the Kingdom of God on earth. For the time being God the Father is calling only a comparative few to help Christ with that part of His great plan.

After Jesus' millennial reign, all those who have never heard of Christ, or those who did hear but never truly understood His message, will be resurrected to physical life. Then they will have their first real chance to learn what 'Project Earth' is all about and to have their opportunity to 'choose life'. Revelation 20:11-15 explains this period of judgement. Christ also referred to it in Matthew 12:41-42 and other places in the gospel accounts. (To learn more about the fact that today is not the only day of salvation, please request our free booklet *What Happens After Death?*) The apostle Peter revealed that the present household of God – made up of those being called in this age – is being judged now (1 Peter 4:17).

The hope of glory

Having this wonderful hope will not make all our difficulties go away. It won't solve all our problems, nor will it remove the sorrow of parting when a loved one dies. It does, however, put this world's ills into a providential context and give a greater perspective and purpose to what we can learn from the various trials that afflict us. We can also trust that Christ knows what we are going through. He empathises with us and will intercede with the Father on our behalf.

The apostle Paul said that 'the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with *the glory which shall be revealed in us*' (Romans 8:18). His experiences mentioned in his other writings show that Paul meant *real* sufferings. Compared to the glory ahead, however, he tells us that these sufferings would seem as nothing. But we are not there yet.

Whether it be coping with every-

(Continued on page 7)

Young Adults' Leadership Week

The young adults' leadership week this summer was attended by about 40 people and involved young-ish people from age 16 upwards. Five European visitors and four Americans joined us for the week.

The friendly atmosphere was extremely conducive to forums, which included topics on Sabbath keeping, how to influence people, how to be a leader, what is meant by leadership and who can be a leader. These were often followed by informal late-night talks about personal choice, the theory of evolution, and various other life-related and biblical topics.

During the weekend, activities included playing pool, darts, jacuzzi, frisbee, swimming pool, a beach trip, kite flying, DVD presentations and table tennis. The food included cooked breakfasts, Greek-influenced spaghetti dish, pizza, barbecue and a big Sunday lunch.

Sabbath service was held in

a pleasant local village hall. Split sermons were given by Bryan Ellams and Paul Howard. The song leader was Peter Hawkins.

After the weekend visitors had left, a group of 24 remained to enjoy several outings to Louth, Skegness, Lincoln and Rutland Waters. Ten-pin bowling, crazy golf, visiting historical monuments and stock-car racing all took their place in the week.

However, I believe most of these young people would say that the highlight of their week was the stimulating long conversations with old and new friends.

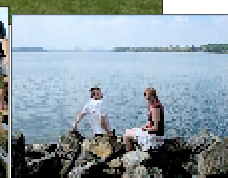
My thanks go to all those who turned-up, and also to those who lent a hand to make the week really successful.

*Hannah Ellams,
Gloucester congregation,
Organiser*



Hannah Ellams

Left to right: Group photo after Sabbath services; at top of highest treetop walk in Europe; visiting Rutland Waters at the end of a hard week.



Questions & Answers

Q I have a picture of Jesus in my dining room and am unsure if this is okay. The Bible mentions not having idols. Does this count?

S T, Buckinghamshire

A Bear in mind that Jesus Christ is a spirit-composed Being, part of the Divine Family comprising the Father and the Son. 'God is Spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth' (John 4:24). So we are to worship Christ the spirit Being rather than human form. Otherwise it lessens in our minds the awesome power that the Father and Christ possess. We are further encouraged to 'seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God' (Colossians 3:1).

The second commandment forbids worshipping images. 'You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the

earth beneath. . . ' (Exodus 20:4, New International Version, emphasis added throughout).

The four gospel accounts don't give us any clue as to any specific features that identify Jesus when He was a human being. Judas had to kiss Christ to identify Him to His captors. So He must have looked like any ordinary Jew of His day. Notice a prophecy of Jesus Christ in the book of Isaiah: 'He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to Him, *nothing in His appearance that we should desire Him*' (Isaiah 53:2, NIV). This description does not bear any resemblance to the popular images we see today.

Since no human being knows what Jesus looked like when He walked the shores of the Sea of Galilee, it would be misleading to invent a picture that bears no likeness to His actual appearance at that time. In Revelation 1:14-16 we are given a true description of Jesus Christ as a spirit-composed Being. 'His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes were like a flame of fire. His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters . . . and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.'

No artist could paint this, nor any sculptor mould it. Do we see the absolute futility of using some sort of physical image to worship Christ?

There aren't enough words in the dictionary to aptly describe Jesus Christ as He now appears at the right

hand of God. But from this passage in the book of Revelation we should understand that to try to portray the glorified Christ by images created by a painter or sculptor is futile. And the Bible forbids it.

Jesus Christ is a part of the God family and is contrasted to human beings in 1 Timothy 6:16. 'Who alone has immortality [*until* the first resurrection, Philippians 3:20-21; 1 Corinthians 15:50-54], dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honour and everlasting power.'

To understand more about the Godhead, please request our free booklet *Who Is God?*

Hope

(Continued from page 6)

day life, or in traumatic times when severe trials strike, we need to keep focused on God the Father and Jesus Christ. Our hope of future glory and immortality should be within us, helping us survive trials and cope with all that life throws at us.

Even though we may struggle with natural human emotions and reactions – fear, distress and grief – deep within there should be a quiet confidence that is unshakeable. In Colossians 1:27, Paul asserts that this is a mystery to those who do not understand – 'Christ in us the hope of glory'. Whatever our personal battles, troubles and sorrows may be, we all need that divine hope.

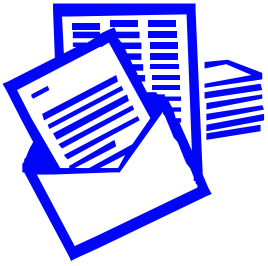
David Fenney

Online donations

Debit or credit cards may now be used by UK or international readers to donate online. If you would you like to help us to provide *The Good News* free of charge to others, please visit <https://www.charitychoice.co.uk> and click on 'Charity Search'. Type in 'United Church of God' and press 'Search'. Then click the 'Donate' button. Thank you.

How our literature is funded

The United Church of God – British Isles is registered as a charity in England and Wales (number 1079192). The publication of this Supplement and other literature is funded by the generosity of members of the Church, co-workers and our readers. Following Jesus Christ's instruction (Matthew 10:8), it is supplied free of charge so that His message can be made available to all. We are grateful to those who assist financially in the work done by *The Good News*. Cheques may be made payable to 'The Good News' and sent to: United Church of God, PO Box 705, WATFORD WD19 6FZ, United Kingdom.



Letters From Our Readers

The British & European Good News Supplement

What a great article by Gerhard Marx in the July/August issue of the British & European Supplement to *The Good News* ('Visit to Modern Spain Reveals Historical Links to Middle East'). I know that the tribe of Dan settled in Ireland. There is a manuscript in Irish annals called 'Tuatha de Danaans' translated 'Tribe of Dan.'

G F, Eastleigh, Hampshire

'World News and Trends' response

Tonight I read your article 'Proposed sexual orientation regulations threaten traditional marriage in Britain.' I knew they were talking about such things, but I did not dream that they wanted to make them into law that quickly.

So I have prayed briefly but fervently for the proposed law to be defeated, and I then wrote to my MP, as James says that prayer must be accompanied by action.

J M, Somerset

Renewing *The Good News*

As I have been busy with several projects, recently I have not read your excellent magazine *The Good News*. Please renew my free subscription which has lapsed for about six months.

D R, London

Please renew *The Good News* including the Supplement. You have become my church. I look you up on the Internet too. I find churches are no longer aimed at us oldies.

S B, Burwell, Cambs

I have tried many magazines trying to find a form of Christianity I can believe in. Until I got yours I had no success. So please start sending me your magazine again.

J A F, South Wales

Bible Study Course

Enclosed is the test card for number four of the *Bible Study Course*. I am very appreciative of the wonderful truthful teachings [and] revelations of the gospel of Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Even in this fourth lesson, I have learned some new knowledge which other churches don't teach, like the Bible-based Holy Days.

A A, Bulgaria

Many thanks for sending me the *Bible Study Course*. Please find enclosed my completed test cards. Having now completed all 12 lessons I congratulate you on producing an excellent and well-structured course. The test cards have been a valuable part of the course and have encouraged deeper study of the Bible.

J C, Southport, Merseyside

Leadership Weekend

Thank you for organising the Leadership Weekend. It was a great experience and of great help. The whole weekend was uplifting with a wonderful atmosphere.

M H, Bricket Wood, Herts

• For further information, please see the article 'Leadership Training in the United Kingdom' on page two of this issue. Also, the lead article, 'We Only Have One Earth', emphasises the importance of sound leadership on the world scene – now and in the future.

Influencing the next generation

How can we change the new generation from wickedness to do the will of God?

S O, London

• By teaching children fundamental basic truths from the Judaeo/Christian Bible. To understand how, please request our free booklet *Making Life Work*. And also read the article 'Young Adults' Leadership Week' on page six of this issue.

Helping to spread the true gospel

I appreciate the fact that you have been sending your magazines. They really have quality and I love reading them. I send you this cheque as a small contribution.

M C, Portugal

Keep on spreading and unveiling the truth, even if it is only for a few of us. We need to leave it to God to nurture the seeds sown.

N K, Clacton-on-Sea

My wife and I have received your *Good News* over many years. It is always very informative. I will continue to send you a donation from time to time.

Mr & Mrs L J K, Slough

Appreciates sermon DVD

Many thanks for sending me the sermon DVD. I have finished viewing the sermons. They are sound words of God and are edifying to my soul, especially the title 'The Jesus Many Never See'.

K J, Le Havre, France