

The Remnant

“Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.”
Romans 11.5

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AWE-SOME GRACE
by Elder Enos S. Gingerich

The following scene and others like it have occurred throughout America and elsewhere, especially in the last 150 plus years:

The Wesleyan Arminian “evangelist” droned on and on. The event was a large tent revival meeting. It was a warm summer night and people were sweating, including the preacher. Emotions were at a high pitch. “Won’t you make a decision, before it’s too late?” roared the evangelist. “For God so loved the world, and He wants to save you if you’ll only let Him. He is not willing that any should perish, but gave His Son for all mankind, all who have ever lived. So all men everywhere may come at any time. He will not infringe on your free will, and He longs to save you if you will only let Him.”

So He waits and waits...poor God.

Well meaning, but dreadfully misinformed people come together, trying to save the world or one lost soul. “This God needs our help.” What an awful caricature of the Almighty God

of the Bible. And sadly, many years ago, this writer believed a bit of the falsehood of “Arminianism,” but thanks be to God for His marvelous deliverance from the bondage of dead works, into His truly amazing grace.

“Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD...(Isaiah 1:18).” The LORD is reasonable to His people. Contrary to modern religious emotionalism, we don’t leave our brains in the parking lot when we go to church or read and study scripture. God’s word is not illogical to the regenerated mind. The Apostle Paul also reasoned with God’s people in the book of Acts 18.4.19, 17.2, “And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures.”

In common sense logic, if your premise or assumption is incorrect, it doesn’t matter how good and wonderful your arguments and reasonings are, your conclusion will be wrong. Always. And free-will religion is built on a wrong premise.

Is it true that the eternal, sovereign, triune God of the universe loves everyone that’s ever lived without any exceptions? Or, that He longs for them to be in His eternal heaven forever? Here are some Bible verses proving otherwise, with God’s hatred upon some:

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Leviticus 20:23 - "And ye shall not walk in the manners of the nation, which I cast out before you: for they committed all these things, and therefore I abhorred them."

Deuteronomy 32:19 - "And when the LORD saw it he abhorred them, because of the provoking of his sons, and of his daughters."

Psalms 5:5-6 - "The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity. Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man."

Psalms 10:3 - "For the wicked boasteth of his heart's desire, and blesseth the covetous, whom the LORD abhorreth."

Psalms 11:5 - "The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth."

Psalms 53:5 - "There were they in great fear, where no fear was: for God hath scattered the bones of him that encampeth against thee: thou hast put them to shame, because God hath despised them."

Proverbs 22:14 - "The mouth of strange women is a deep pit: he that is abhorred of the LORD shall fall therein."

Malachi 1:3 - "And I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for the dragons of the wilderness."

Romans 9:13 - "As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated."

Also, is it true, that this same God gave His Son a ransom for "all men" everywhere at all times, including those He abhorred and hated? The biblical answer is NO! Any regenerated child of God, who is growing in the grace and knowledge of His Word, knows the wrong answers to those questions are built on sinking sand. If they were true, universal salvation would be the result, and all men (all human beings) would go to heaven.

Or, eternal salvation would be a work of man. "Jesus Christ died for all men that have ever existed," they say, "and now He awaits their response," something humans MUST do to reach heaven. Again, this is salvation by works, which, by the way, describes all the religions of the world, Satan's and man's, that man, by an act of the will can determine his eternal destiny. All worldly religions believe that faulty premise in some form or fashion: something you must do, be it one percent or one hundred percent. The Arminian will sing, Jesus paid it all, but will then turn around and contradict himself, saying one must reach out and hang on to make it official.

The lone exception to this religious mishmash is biblical Christianity, which holds to sovereign grace, unmerited favor placed on the redeemed through the FINISHED work of the LORD JESUS CHRIST! Man's work always falls short. "And if by grace, then it is no more works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then it is no more grace: otherwise work is no more work (Romans 11.6)." They can NOT be mixed. Good works are the results of eternal life

already in the believer; they are not the cause of the same, and they cannot be.

World

Of course, the free-will proponent will cling to a few verses like John 3.16 and some "all men" passages. The "world" in John 3.16 is not everybody that's ever lived. The LORD hated Esau, (Romans 9) and we're told He hates all workers of iniquity (Psalm 5.5). No, the world of John 3.16 is the world God loved and sent His Son to die for—His sheep, of both Jewish and Gentile extraction. As Moses lifted up the brazen serpent in the wilderness for a certain people, and not the whole world or for all men that have ever lived, so Jesus Christ would be lifted up, and resurrected for a particular people, and they will believe on Him.

The word "world" is used numerous ways in the scriptures, and reading the context will always help. Here are a few different examples.

Strong's Concordance Dictionary #2889 and the Greek word is kosmos {kos'-mos} = World

1) an apt and harmonious arrangement or constitution, order, government

2) ornament, decoration, adornment, i.e. the arrangement of the stars, 'the heavenly hosts', as the ornament of the heavens. 1 Peter 3:3

3) the world, the universe

4) the circle of the earth, the earth

5) the inhabitants of the earth, men, the human family

6) the ungodly multitude; the whole mass of men alienated from God, and therefore hostile to the cause of Christ. 1 John 5:19 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

7) world affairs, the aggregate of things earthly:

7a) the whole circle of earthly goods, endowments riches, advantages, pleasures, etc, which although hollow and frail and fleeting, stir desire, seduce from God and are obstacles to the cause of Christ

8) any aggregate or general collection of particulars of any sort:

8a) the Gentiles as contrasted to the Jews (Romans 11:12 etc)

Notice in particular,

8b) of believers only

Without a doubt, there is more than one definition of the word "world" in God's holy Bible! Jesus Christ did not pray for the world—all men that have ever lived—in John 17:9. "I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine." Read the whole chapter, and you will find more than one "world."

Whatever one may think of C. H. Spurgeon, the following little paragraph from his sermon on Particular Redemption is absolutely correct. Here he was referring to "all" and "world":

"All, 'some of all types + + + + '...the whole world has gone after him' Did all the world go after Christ? 'then went all Judea, and were baptized of him in Jordan.' Was all Judea, or all Jerusalem, baptized in Jordan? 'Ye are of God, little children, and the whole world lieth in the wicked one.' Does the whole world there mean everybody? The words 'world' and 'all' are used in some seven or eight senses in Scripture, and it is very rarely the 'all' means all persons, taken individually. The words are generally used to signify that Christ has redeemed some of all sorts—some Jews, some Gentiles, some rich, some poor, and has not restricted His redemption to either Jew or Gentile...."

All men

Now let's look at the "all men" phrase. Sometimes in our AV Bible the translators wisely put "men" in italics. Of course, they were acknowledging human beings in general, male and female, differentiating them from angels and animals, etc.

1. The first time in the New Testament where we find "all men" is in Matthew 10:22: "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake...." Now, does anyone really believe that all men of all time always hate the disciples? The obvious answer is no, yet there were certain people hating the disciples during their lifetime and beyond. However, God's people love His disciples. The "all" here is not everyone without exception, but all kinds of people without distinction would then, and even now, hate the disciples, mainly because of what they said and wrote.

2. Mark 1:37 "And when they had found him, they said unto him, All men seek for thee."

3. Mark 5:20 "And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel."

4. John 3:26 "And they came unto John, and said unto him, Rabbi, he that was with thee beyond Jordan, to whom thou barest witness, behold, the same baptizeth, and all men come to him."

Again, the "all" in these verses can NOT mean all humans that have ever lived. The contradiction would be ludicrous. Did all the people that died in the Great Flood seek and come to the LORD Jesus Christ? What about Pharaoh? Sennacherib? Esau? Judas? Herod? All the Pharisees? The wicked world today? No human being left to himself will ever seek and marvel after the Christ of the Bible. "As it

is written, there is none righteous, no, not one: there is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God (Romans 3.10f).” Only the quickened redeemed do so, thankfully, by God’s Grace.

5. John 1:7 “The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.”

6. John 12:32 “And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.”

This must be the “all” that the Father gave to His beloved Son, as stated in John 6:37: “All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.”

7. John 17.1-3: “These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: 2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. 3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”

All the redeemed are chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world and are eternally kept by the Triune God!

8. Romans 5:12: “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.”

9. Romans 5:18: “Therefore as by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.”

As sin and death came by Adam upon all the elect family, men and women, boys and girls, so the free gift of eternal life came upon that same exact family through the righteousness of One, Jesus Christ! Sure, sin

and death came upon the whole of humankind, but the primary context of Romans 5 (look at the many times the personal pronouns, we, us, our, are used) refers to the redeemed children of God. Also in the Greek, “the many,” the definite article is found in Romans 5.15: “But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one the many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto the many.”

10. The same could be said for 1 Corinthians 15:22: “For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.” This is the Universalist’s main text. They falsely teach that everyone that has ever lived will go to heaven. The Bible absolutely refutes that notion. For starters see Revelation Chapter 20.11-15.

Universalism “spiritualizes” and thereby vaporizes passages which plainly teach the particular redemption of a remnant of the human race.

11. 2 Thessalonians 3:2: “And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.”

The Apostle Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, is imploring the brethren to pray to be delivered or spared “from unreasonable and wicked men” and NOT to go out and try to persuade or con the wicked into making some manmade decision! Notice also, “all men have not faith.” We know in Hebrews 11 and elsewhere that some men do indeed have faith. This is not a biblical contradiction, but rightly divided, the above verse simply states that “all” the unregenerate never had or will have God-given faith. This faith is not mere human faith, but part of the heavenly birth and given to each and every one of the redeemed elect some time before they leave this world (Ephesians 2.8; Titus 1.1-2).

12. 1 Timothy 2:4: "Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." God will have all His people saved, both Jew and Gentile, and they all will come, in His time, to the knowledge of the truth.

13. 1 Timothy 4:10: "For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe." God is the absolute Saviour of all the elect from all eternity. And when they are regenerated and believe in His eternal sovereign grace (and all the elect will), then His salvation becomes very special to them. They are excited, yet humbled at such an unspeakable gift of love and mercy.

John Owens' Classic Question, For Whom Did Christ Die?

John Owens [1616-1683] was a Puritan theologian committed to the congregational way of church government. Educated at Queens College, Oxford, he became sympathetic to the cause of Puritanism within the Established Church. After his ordination he saw himself first as a Presbyterian Puritan, but after careful study he adopted the congregational way and became its chief exponent for the rest of his life. His commitment to congregational church government is seen in the part he played in the writing of the Savoy Declaration of Faith and Order (1658). With the change of political and religious direction in England in 1660, Owen was ejected from Christ Church and became a Nonconformist. He felt unable to minister within the national church, for not only did he reject episcopacy but he also rejected the idea of a written liturgy. For the next twenty years he was a leader of English Nonconformity and a pastor of a congregational church in London.

He is remembered today not primarily because of his important career as an educator

and statesman but because of his numerous theological writings, which were spread over forty years. He wrote on the major themes of Particular Redemption, Divine Election, traditional Biblical orthodoxy (Trinitarianism and Christology), church polity, and the pursuit of holiness. He wrote the following for those with ears to hear and eyes to see:

For Whom Did Christ Die?

"The Father Imposed His wrath due unto, and the Son underwent punishment for, either:

1. All the sins of all men,
2. All the sins of some men, or
3. Some of the sins of all men

In which case it may be said:

a. That if the last be true, all men have some sins to answer for, and so none are saved.

b. That if the second be true, then Christ, in their stead suffered for all the sins of all the elect in the whole world, and this is the truth.

c. But if the first be the case, why are not all men free from the punishment due unto their sins?

You answer, Because of unbelief. I ask is this unbelief a sin, or is it not? If it be, then Christ suffered the punishment due unto it, or He did not. If He did, why must that hinder them more than their other sins for which He died? If He did not, He did not die for all their sins!"

The Bible clearly teaches that God the Father sent His Son to die for ALL the sins of his chosen family!

The normal human reaction to all this is, "But what about those Christ did not die for?" The bottom line is no one, elect or reprobate, deserves eternal life. That is why heavenly grace is an unmerited gift to all the regenerate. The rest will be judged according to their works (please see Proverbs 24.12, Matthew 12.36, 2 Corinthians 11.13-15, 2 Timothy 4.14, Revelation 20.12f). many love and want their good works to be seen. The God of the universe will grant them their wish. He of course knows every little thing that has ever been thought of or has happened and will put them under His microscope. He will judge them with absolute fairness. Some will be beaten with many stripes, others with few (Luke 12.47f); but they will never have eternal life.

Titus 2:11-15 "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee."

The phrase "appeared to all men" in the above biblical quote must apply primarily to God's family, and not to all people that have ever lived. He is the cause of our salvation. The effect is, a particular people growing in grace and knowledge of Him, who are therefore zealous of good works.

Also, here is the definition for "appeared," used only a few times in all of scripture, Strongs # 2014 epiphaino {ep-ee-fah'-ee-no}

AV - appear 3, give light 1; 4

1) to show to or upon

1a) to bring to light

2) to appear, become visible

3) to become clearly known, to show one's self

Luke 1.78-9 "Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the day spring from on high hath visited us, To give light [Strong, #2014] to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

Heavenly light is given to all of the elect human family of God, through the Blood of the LORD JESUS CHRIST, the First Born among many brethren. He is not a defeated Savior, but He saved His people from their sins. Matthew 1.21. Praise His Name!

These little words, [all, world, every; use AWE for their acronym], are very important in Scripture. It behooves the believer and teacher to rightly divide (cut straight) the Word of Truth (2 Timothy 2.15). These same words are used all the time, in everyday language throughout the whole world. In His holy Bible, our God is not double tongued, speaking contradictions and confusion like men and devils do.

The natural born man does not like God's divine predestination and election. In fact, he has a strong aversion against this precious biblical truth. But when the Elect are born again from above, at God's perfect timing, ultimately each one will believe by God's AWE-some Sovereign Grace. The triune God, eternal Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, will

forever be with His children from all over the world, out of every nation, and they will see His throne in the heavenlies with their new glorified bodies. Amazing grace indeed!

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GEMS 4

by Elder Lynwood Jacobs
2012

Gems are verses of scripture that alone carry a powerful message to those that believe.

1 John 3:2. "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." Beloved, John tells us of a joyful and fearful hope that we are children of God, and that we shall see Christ as he sees us, and be like him. He is coming back, just as he went away, to raise his brethren that are waiting to be with him. David said that his eyes would behold him, and that he would be satisfied when he awakened in his likeness. Every child of God shall behold Christ, and won't be truly satisfied until they awake in his likeness. Then the will of Christ shall be fulfilled, that his brethren be where he is now, that they might behold the glory that his Father gave to him before he created the world and all things therein.

1Tim. 1:15. "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came

into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." This is probably the most questioned scripture in the Bible, by those of us who have felt ourselves to be chief of sinners. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. His righteousness is the only righteousness acceptable unto God. Thus Christ, who knew no sin, was made sin for his brethren that they might be made the righteousness of God in him. Man's self righteousness has never been acceptable unto God.

Acts 1:7, " And he said to them, it is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father has put in his own power...." These words spoke Christ to his disciples after his passion, when they wanted to know when he was going to set up his kingdom on earth. They evidently did not understand what he meant when he said my kingdom is not of this world, though it will be taken out of the world, and delivered up to God on the last day. These words certainly apply today when fools predict the end of the world on a certain date or time.

Heb. 1:3. " who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high...." The "who" written here is Jesus Christ. The risen Christ was the brightness of God's glory and the express image of His person. His brethren who come forth in Christ's image, will then be in the image of their Father, because God has created them in his image and after his likeness. Christ is alive at the right hand of God. He has put the sins of his brethren as far away as the east is from the west, never to be remembered against them. He is waiting for a command of his Father, "Son, go bring my children home." I hope:

Lord, may I be numbered in that blessed family of God.

2Tim.2:9 " Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began." Paul went on to say that Christ hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel of peace. The world cries out, "Save yourself, before it is too late." God before ordained that Christ would save his brethren on an old rugged cross some two thousand years ago. There has been no more sacrifice for sin since that day. Only God through his Spirit calls his children out of darkness into his marvelous light, and saves their souls forever. It is too late to add one's name in the Book of Life.

—Elder Lynwood Jacobs

AT THE FORUM

In ancient Greek and Roman cultures, the forum was a public place where one could go hear men speak on whatever subject they wished. Other speakers could follow, agreeing, or disagreeing and debating. The forum's purpose was for both entertainment and learning. Remember, in those days, Greeks and Romans had no TV or radio talk shows. The forum was something like a comedy club, usually without the comedy—at least intentional comedy. You could always laugh at a man and not necessarily with him.

Luke describes the forum at Mars Hill in Athens: "For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing

else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing (Acts 17.21)."

Nowadays, on the Internet there are modern forums carried on as a written discussion or argument in print, which gives everyone the opportunity to express their views. Anyone may write anything they want to write about anything they please. Everyone may express themselves freely. Readers may react, freely answering what anyone else has written, and so on, ad inf. About the only things prohibited on Internet forums are excessive profanity, gross vulgarity, and threats to kill or maim some of the other participants.

For many years Brother Hoyt Sparks has been the Administrator of an excellently maintained forum where all sorts of biblical comments and Bible-related articles are regularly posted. His Predestinarian Forum is located at <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/predestinarian/conversations/messages> (all one line with no spaces).

Internet Forums are a matter of public record, not copyrighted, so they may be freely quoted. People post notes on these forums and use other social media at their own risk.

Back in 2007, several participants on Brother Sparks' forum were debating details about the future millennial kingdom on earth. The following five items should bring our readers up to date from 2007 until this writing:

(Item 1.) On January 8, 2007, Elder James F. Poole wrote the following public note to the forum's participants on Brother Hoyt Sparks' forum on the Internet:

To: predestinarian@yahoogroups.com
 From: jamespoole1@verizon.net
 Date: Mon, 8 Jan 2007 21:15:24 -0500
 Subject: Re: premillinianism

Brethren:

Perhaps someone can provide us with information, based on scripture, relative to what is today called the millennial reign of Christ on earth.

Having known many persons of this persuasion I am somewhat surprised by their silence. No one has ever given out any substantial ideas, or even perceived theories, of what is to take place in this 1000 year kingdom, or reign of Christ. At least I have not heard from them. Rumor has it that there will be a restored throne, a new temple, universal peace, and many other benefits worthy of the reign of God on earth. But, is this so?

"While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease (Genesis 8:22)." In pondering this text there comes to mind several questions: will there be any suspension of this text? If not, could it not be possible that there would remain the attending weather problems so common now? Ice storms? Floods? Tornadoes and hurricanes? Will these things affect the nations, assuming there will be nations? There are to be nations, are there not? It would be a pleasure to learn of these matters in this wondrous kingdom of Christ on earth.

Again, assuming there will be nations, will their depravity be suspended for the 1000 years, or will they, the nations, continue in enmity against God as previous to the kingdom? Any light on the conduct of these nations will be greatly appreciated.

Also, will the earth's plates that cause so many earthquakes about our globe be frozen in place for this earthly kingdom,

or will these sad disasters continue to plague mankind, even while Jesus is supposed to be reigning in absolute authority. Would earthquakes disrupt the prevailing peace or would they somehow have no effect as they now do?

On another point, where will all the elect from all ages be housed in this future kingdom? They surely are beyond numbering, so what will they all do for a 1000 years. Will they be crowded together, possibly in Palestine or maybe even in a desert place where there would be more room? I shall resist asking what will happen to all those positions of mayor, governor, senators and so on that that Arminian millennial hawks promote for the dutiful.

And, what will Christ himself be doing all this time? Will he heal the sick? Then there must be sickness. Cure deformities and disease? These too must be prevalent then. Will Jesus go out among the people? If so will he use modern transportation or walk, sandals and so on. I ask this, not casually, but in genuine sincerity.

Another area of concern is the future of the various habitations on earth. Will Las Vegas be somehow reformed, vile nature and all, or will they be deprived of their natural inclinations? What of all the other places, almost without number, of base conduct, and the venting of human emotions unfit for mention here? Will they bow in submission to the personal reign of Jesus? If so, will they bow in hypocrisy or will they somehow be born again? If born again, will they be added to the Church that Jesus built? What of the millions of jobs related to war? Gone,

or will they simply start producing plow shears without number?

Human life! How long will man live? Surely death would be banished from the presence of Jesus. Will there be any births? Then sex will remain, will it not? Can all humans have sex, or only those that can do it without sin?

On we might go. A thousand questions come to mind but these should suffice. Any information will be appreciated but it is to be hoped that all answers will be based in biblical fact and not simple speculation.

To each who may help I extend my sincere thanks.

James Poole

Should any millennialist desire to castigate me for my ignorance, they may forget it. I already know all about it.

*

Item 2.) On December 18, 2013, Brother Hoyt Sparks wrote the following to Elder Poole:

Greetings Elder Poole:

This email you sent in 2007 has been hanging in my suspense file all these years and I do not find where a response was made by anyone. Did you receive any responses? If you did, would you please let me know?

Hope all is well with you and yours.

God bless,

Hoyt D. F. Sparks, SL

*

(Item 3.) Elder Poole replied to Brother Sparks:

From: jamespoole21@...

To: hoytsparks@...

Subject: RE: premillinianism

Date: Sat, 21 Dec 2013

Brother Hoyt:

Thank you for the email and for whatever interest my questions may have proved as beneficial. No, to the best of my reckoning, I never received a single response. I am truly sorry that is the case for I would really love to know the mind of those that hold to a thousand year reign of Christ on earth at some period.

Would you be offended if I re-publish my letter again elsewhere? Perhaps there are some more advanced thinkers of the pre-mill persuasion today that would offer us their wisdom. Please let me know if you do not mind.

Hoping you and all the brethren there are living under the felt blessings of God. Remember me as you pray. Age is taking its toll on me at an advancing rate.

God bless,

Jim Poole

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(Item 4.) In my (CCM's) watching this exchange last December, trying to remember the earlier (2007) comments by all participants, it seemed to me that both Elders Leon King of Alaska and Royce Smith of Oklahoma City had amply responded to Elder Poole's letter, above, (in Item #1). Generally, the subject was thoroughly discussed by Elders King, Poole, Smith, and others. Elder King had even posted his 45-page statement on the subject, Why I Preach the Thousand-Years Reign of Christ on This Earth.

On 28 February 2014 I called Elder King to ask if he knew of this latest exchange (December 18-21, 2013) between Brother Sparks and Elder Poole (Items 1, 2, and 3, above). Elder King replied that he did not know of it. By email I then sent copies of Elder Poole's 2007 letter, Brother Sparks' Inquiry dated 18

December 2013, and Elder Poole's reply dated 21 December 2013 (Items 1 through 3 above).

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(Item 5.) Elder King then wrote the following response to me and to Elder Poole's email of January 8, 2007:

I read through the E-Mail exchange you sent. Seems I recall the discussion, but I cannot be sure. I did reply to a question on the forum about the pre-mill position, but I do not recall who posed the question—don't remember much of anything about the discussion. Somewhere in all this I did post my message, "Why I believe and preach the 1000-years reign of Jesus Christ." Personally, I am more convinced of it than ever. I believe the problem comes in one's approach to the Holy Scriptures. From my youth, I was blessedly taught the literal approach to the Holy Scriptures. In my view the Bible was not written for "scholars," but for common people who could understand the meanings of words, that is, if they are born of God.

As to the great host of questions posted by Brother Jim Poole, I must say that I know there are many questions for which we do not have answers. Yet, I believe enough is revealed to give us some understanding of the character of the Millennial Reign.

In the Beloved,
Leon King

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Elder King continues:

Here are some of his questions, and what I think concerning them. Certainly I could never give him or anyone else an answer to every question:

[Note: For clarity's sake, Elder Poole's questions (from Item 1) are in italics—Ed.]

Rumor has it that there will be a restored throne, a new temple, universal peace, and many other benefits worthy of the reign of God on earth. But, is this so?

< Elder King > : I believe it is so. The Lord Jesus Christ will be given the throne of His father, David. When the Angel Gabriel came to the virgin Mary at Nazareth, he made some very interesting statements about the child Mary should bear. Notice: (Luke 1:31-33 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call His name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David: And He shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of His kingdom there shall be no end.) How do we approach these statements? Are they not literal? Did Mary conceive in her womb and bring forth a son? Yes, she did. Did they call His name Jesus? They did. It is said He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest. Is that true? It most certainly is. Gabriel said, "And the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of his father David." Is this literal? If the preceding statements are all literal, it would be strange indeed to spiritualize this or call it a metaphor. What does it mean? It means exactly what it says. Has the Lord God given Jesus Christ the throne of His father David? He has not—it is yet future. Moreover, Gabriel said, "And He shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of His kingdom there shall be no end." If the Lord Jesus is given the throne of David, then He surely shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; we would all agree that His kingdom shall have no end. These are literal statements. Some have not yet occurred. The Lord Jesus Christ is not now sitting on the throne of His

father David—no; He is sitting at the right hand of the Father where he ever lives to make intercession for us. He is, I believe, now continuing His role as our great high priest who is continually interceding for us. He shall continue in that role until He returns as King of kings and Lord of lords to both subdue the armies gathered against Jerusalem and to begin His reign as King over all the earth.

“While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease (Genesis 8:22).” Brother Poole asks, Will there be any suspension of this text?

< Elder King > : This which God pronounced just after the world-wide flood of Noah must continue while the earth remains. We believe the Lord is very able to control and make the weather bearable for all who are on the earth during that great Sabbath. Personally, I have no doubt that He sends the extreme cold, the devastating heat, the storms and tempests, the tornados and hurricanes, the droughts and the floods all according to His own purpose. Is He, then, unable to minimize the effect of the weather in such a time? That does nothing to destroy the truth of the text.

Will these things affect the nations, assuming there will be nations? There are to be nations, are there not? It would be a pleasure to learn of these matters in this wondrous kingdom of Christ on earth.

< Elder King > : There shall be nations! Yea and Amen! The chief nation shall be the nation of Israel. Is it not because the Lord Jesus Christ shall reign as king over all the earth from Jerusalem? When the battle of Armageddon occurs in Revelation 19:17-21, the army which comes against Jerusalem from

ALL nations shall be destroyed. The beast and the false prophet shall then be cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. There shall be some left of the nations that come against Jerusalem besides the army. What of them? “And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.” (Zech. 14:16). The chapter mentions specifically the nation of Egypt. If there are those left of the nations which came against Jerusalem, as there most surely shall be, then they could compose nations. Perhaps not political nations as we think of them in our time, but people of differing kindreds, and tongues. The 14th chapter of Zechariah is a wonderful proof chapter of the destruction of the armies that come against Jerusalem, the coming of the Lord with His saints, the great geological change in the land of Israel, and the kingship of our Lord over all the earth.

Again, assuming there will be nations, will their depravity be suspended for the 1000 years, or will they, the nations, continue in enmity against God as previous to the kingdom?

< Elder King > : I believe the Lord shall be king over all the earth when He sits on the throne of His glory—and at that time, the twelve apostles of the lamb shall sit on twelve thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Israel shall have been gathered from all the nations of the earth where they are now scattered, brought into the wilderness, pass under the rod, and brought into the bond of the covenant. The rebels shall be purged out and they shall serve the LORD in the land promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Please see Ezekiel 20:33-44). I cannot say whether or not the

depravity of man shall be suspended, but I rather doubt it since the Lord shall rule over them with a rod of iron. I do not know what all that means, but a rod of iron most certainly suggest that righteous judgment is meted out immediately. Too, the saints, those who were in the first resurrection, shall reign with Him over the nations with a rod of iron (Revelation 2:26-27). We are told that there shall be a time when "there shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed." (Isa. 65:20). This cannot be the eternal age since, when that comes with the new heavens and the new earth, there shall be no more death. Never has there been heretofore a time such as this describes.

Also, will the earth's plates that cause so many earthquakes about our globe be frozen in place for this earthly kingdom, or will these sad disasters continue to plague mankind, even while Jesus is supposed to be reigning in absolute authority. Would earthquakes disrupt the prevailing peace or would they somehow have no effect as they now do?

< Elder King > : I'm not qualified to answer such a question, but I will say this. Perhaps the final great earthquake near the end of the Revelation which causes every mountain to fall and move every island out of their places, shall be enough to settle whatever tension exists in the tectonic plates which underlie the crust of the earth. I believe the Lord set all these plates in motion when the flood came. The fracture of those plates was undoubtedly done when the fountains of the great deep were broken up and the waters from beneath rushed up to join with the rain and the gigantic downpour from above to flood the earth. I

believe the earth was one continent of land at that point in time and was divided in the days of Peleg, some years after the flood and after Babel. In any case, it is God who controls the earthquakes and He can most certainly prevent them. It may be that they are dictated by the laws He put in place, but he could undoubtedly rescind the laws for a thousand years.

On another point, where will all the elect from all ages be housed in this future kingdom? They surely are beyond numbering, so what will they all do for a 1000 years. Will they be crowded together, possibly in Palestine or maybe even in a desert place where there would be more room? I shall resist asking what will happen to all those positions of mayor, governor, senators and so on that Arminian millennial hawks promote for the dutiful.

< Elder King > : Good question. I believe the whole earth shall be an agrarian based society but still with cities. Some believe that only the martyrs of the time of great trouble shall be resurrected and reign with Christ (Rev. 20:4-6). I believe that all those in positions of power on earth shall be one of God's children in a resurrected glorified body. They shall be scattered around the globe, not just in Palestine. The twelve apostles shall be reigning over Israel, the LORD king over all the earth, and David the prince of Israel. There is a teaching parable of Jesus in Luke 19 which suggests strongly that his faithful people shall have "rule over cities." In this parable, the nobleman delivered unto his ten servants ten pounds with instructions to "occupy till I come." Upon the nobleman's receiving of the kingdom, he called his servants into account. The first said, "Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds." "And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant; because thou has been

faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities." And so with the one with five, etc. In other words, those who are now the wicked rulers over the people of the earth shall be replaced by God's faithful children. I realize that it is God who works in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure, so in the end, the places they fill shall be those places which the Lord had determined from before the foundation of the world—placed there all of grace.

And, what will Christ himself be doing all this time? Will he heal the sick? Then there must be sickness. Cure deformities and disease? These too must be prevalent then. Will Jesus go out among the people? If so will he use modern transportation or walk, sandals and so on. I ask this, not casually, but in genuine sincerity.

< Elder King > : I do not know precisely what He shall do. I do know that the LORD shall be king over all the earth and the law shall go out from Jerusalem. I would think that the great physician will bring sickness to naught in this blessed time. When the Scripture says, "Nothing shall hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain (Isaiah 11:7-9); And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea." No hurt—no destruction! That certainly suggests doing away with sickness, deformity, et al. As to transportation, I doubt that the saints or the Lord Jesus shall need it. If He could in His resurrected body walk through a closed door and leave the tomb with the great

stone in place, physical barriers and distance shall not be a problem for the great I AM. Those in physical bodies on earth shall doubtless use some form of conveyance. Some of them shall have to travel great distances from their homes to Jerusalem to keep the feast of tabernacles. By the way, has there ever been a time on earth when cows and bears feed and their young ones lie down together? The lion eat straw like an ox? The sucking child play on the hole of asp? Not yet? But, they shall when Jesus comes and sets up His visible kingdom on this earth.

[End of Elder Leon King's comments.]

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Our thanks and appreciation to Elder King for providing his observations on this important subject. Elder King's correspondence (Item 5) is printed here in The Remnant with his permission.

Again, we express our appreciation for Brother Sparks and his seemingly tireless work in maintaining the Predestinarian Forum.

Never to overlook the providential grace, guidance, and wisdom the Lord has given Brother Sparks in this continuing endeavor, above all we thank our Lord Jesus Christ who is our All in all.—CCM

JEREMIAH 30.3

For, lo, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, saith the LORD: and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.

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ELDER STANLEY PHILLIPS

We are saddened to announce that Elder Phillips passed from this life on February 28, 2014.

Elder Phillips contributed many articles to the pages of The Remnant and produced countless valuable books of doctrinal writings and Baptist historical information.

He worked on producing books by many of the American Primitive Baptist writers of the Absolute Predestinarian faith and order, and had other books in preparation at the time of his passing. Having heard nothing directly from his family and survivors, we are presently unaware of the status of those books. It was our happy privilege to advertise the books he produced. If we do hear from whoever finishes his works in progress, we will be happy to let our readers know about their availability and how to order them. For now, we only know of the ongoing sale of a number of his books through the Gospel Mission Books web site located at www.gospelmissionbooks.com on the internet.

BLOOD MOONS

When the moon is totally eclipsed, it takes on a dark, shady, reddish orange color. This happened on April 15, 2014, as the first of four "blood moons" in this year and next. Four eclipses coming together such as this are known as a tetrad.

Lunar eclipses happen every year or two. There is nothing unusual about that. What makes this tetrad so amazing is that all the eclipses fall on one of the "feast days" of Jehovah, listed in Leviticus 23. In 2014 and 2015, they are:

April 15, 2014: Passover (Nisan 15)

October 8, 2014: Feast of Tabernacles (14-15 Tishri)

April 4, 2015: Passover (Nisan 15)

September 28, 2015: Feast of Tabernacles (Tishri 15)

Coming between these there will be a total solar eclipse on March 20, 2015, which is the Hebrew new year, Nisan 1 (See Exodus 12.2).

These dates on our pagan calendar mean nothing. Converted to God's calendar, these celestial happenings are unspeakably significant.

While eclipses and tetrads occur every once in a while, they do not ordinarily occur on Jehovah's feast days. Only two tetrads occurred on Jehovah's feast days in the twentieth century: one after Israel became a nation in May of 1948, and one about the time of the six days war in 1967, when Israel regained control of Jerusalem. The next feast day tetrad preceding the twentieth century was when the Jews were expelled from Spain in 1492.

Every time God sends the blood moon sequence, something significant happens to Israel. Nor is this "left to chance." God, not man, controls the sun and moon. The "odds" of this tetrad falling on Jehovah's feast days, if "left to chance," are like winning the lottery a dozen times. And we do not believe in "chance."

ELECTRONIC BOOK BY
ELDER DAVID K. MATTINGLY

Good news! Elder Mattingly's book, **God's Execution of His Will Concerning Good and Evil Deeds**, is still available for a while longer. Chapter headings include "Evil Deeds," "Good Deeds," "Providential Ways God Controls Mankind's Evils," and "A Brief Look at the Future Concerning Elect and Reprobate Persons." This is some of the finest writing we have seen on the subjects Elder Mattingly addresses.

This book of 65 pages and seven chapters is only available as an e-mail attachment. Order it from d.kenneth2@att.net and say "REQUEST FOR BOOK" in the subject line.

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The book, "Pagan Festivals of Christmas and Easter," by Shaun Willcock, is a concise, 64-page booklet on the origins of "religious holidays." It has been appreciated by our readers since we first advertised it. Copies may be ordered from The Remnant at

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The following is an outline of principles the readers of The Remnant may expect to see maintained in this publication. Under no circumstances do the publishers or writers for The Remnant seek to delineate herein a standard of doctrine or views to be imposed upon the readers. Rather, we set these principles before the readers that they may know what general principles guide our efforts. All attempts at declaring articles of faith will be marred by prejudices and frailty, and ours are by no means any exception.

We believe these principles are, in the main, harmonious with the articles of faith published by predestinarian associations and churches of the old order of Baptists known as Primitive, Particular, or Old School Baptists the world over.

1—The eternal existence, sovereignty, immutability, omnipotence, and perfections of Jehovah God; He has revealed Himself as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and these sacred Three are One; Jesus Christ was and is God manifest in the flesh, and in Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;

2—The Old and New Testaments in their original languages are the verbally inspired word of God, and they are the complete and only valid guide of faith and practice; the King James Version is the preferred English translation;

3—The will of the eternal God is the first cause of all causes;

4—The absolute predestination of all things;

5—The eternal personal election of the redeemed in Christ, before the world began, and their eternal, vital union with Him; their number is fixed, certain, and sure, and can neither be increased nor diminished; their fall in

their federal head Adam into spiritual death, total depravity, and just condemnation; their utter inability to recover themselves from this fallen state;

6—The blood atonement and redemption by Jesus Christ are for the elect only, and are both efficacious and effectual in accomplishing the will and purpose of God to reconcile His people unto Himself;

7—The sovereign, irresistible, effectual work of the Holy Spirit in quickening the elect of God; the new birth is by the direct operation of the Holy Spirit without the use of any means;

8—The final preservation, perseverance, and eternal happiness of all the sons of God, by grace alone;

9—No works are good works other than those which God Himself has so designated; none of the works called good are left up to men to perform or not, at the creature's discretion; nor do the works of the creature, either before or after regeneration, result in merit accruing to his account in God's sight;

10—The peaceable fruits of righteousness are the certain result of God's working in His people both to will and to do of His good pleasure, and His people will be found walking in paths of righteousness for His name's sake;

11—The separation of church and state;

12—The principles outlined in the Black Rock Address of 1832;

13—The bodily resurrection, first of Christ, and also that of all the dead;

14—The final and eternal judgment; and,

15—The bliss of the redeemed and the torment of the wicked are both eternal and everlasting.