



ZWTF

Zapping You Whenever Thoughts Flow

Volume 7, Issue 32

The infection of the world is nearly complete; we are surrounded.



I have been saying for years that there are very few members of the body of Christ alive on the earth today. Shockingly few. More and more fellow-believers are coming to agree. These are known as realists. I used to say that I would be surprised if there were 5,000 members of the body of Christ alive. Today, I am officially reducing that number by 50%. I've been too optimistic. Even with the new figure I believe my glasses to be overly rose-colored.

BABYLON ON PARADE

Babylon is no longer an isolated city on the plains of Shinar. It is no longer an isolated metropolis struggling to build a tower for its own name and in its own strength.

Today, the entire world is Babylon. Our Lord compared the latter days of this eon to the days of Noah.

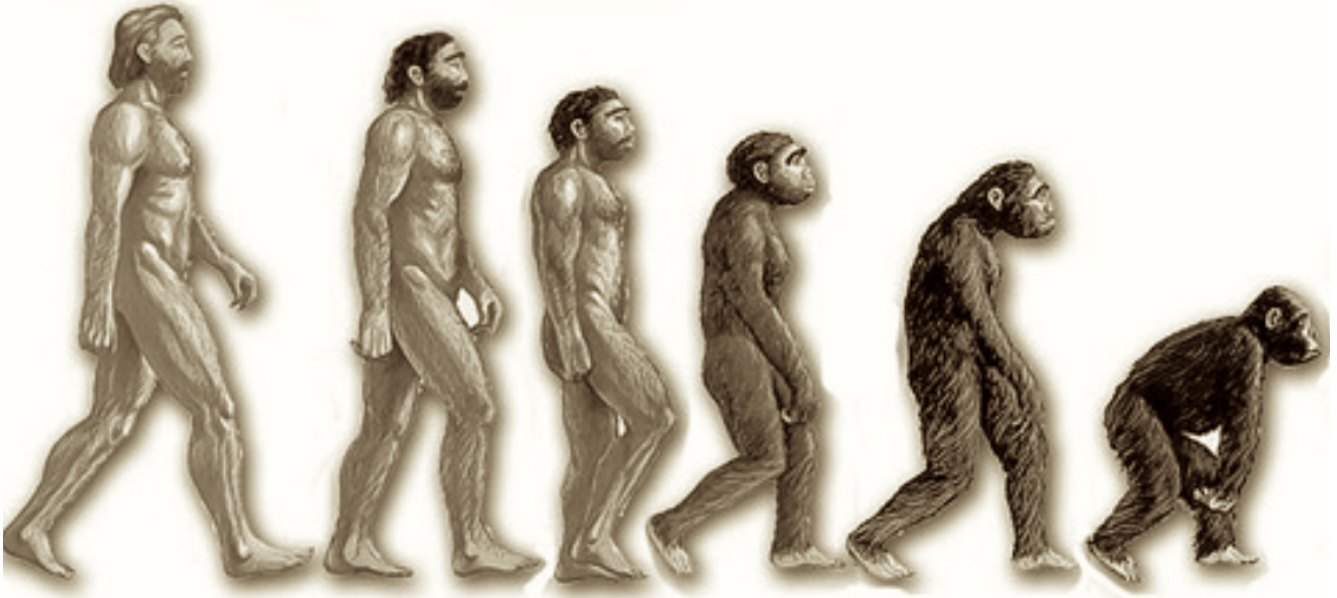
In the days of Noah, God saved eight people. This is the shock of Noah. Hold up your two hands in front of your face. Do you see your fingers? There are two fingers too many to count the number of the chosen survivors of that cataclysm. Contemplate this number: *eight*. Open a carton of eggs. Do you see the eggs? There are four too many eggs than are necessary to compute the survivors of that day. Before you leave a stop sign today to continue your journey through Babylon, count the number of sides on the sign. It won't take long. Have you done it? Splendid. That's how many people were saved in the days of Noah. The rest were killed by God. Here is Genesis 6:11-13—

Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth."

The Concordant Version of the Old Testament has put "ruined" for "corrupt" here, which is a more accurate translation. The definition of "ruined" is—

...reduced (as a building or place) to a state of decay, collapse, or disintegration.

Decay, collapse and disintegration can obviously speak of more than a building or a place. In the above quote, it was "[the] ways" of that generation that had been corrupted. I believe that this generation eclipses that one, if only for the reasons that so much time has elapsed and society, overall, degenerates rather than improves.



DEVOLUTION

The false teaching of Evolution insists that all created matter is adapting and improving. The 2nd Law of Thermodynamics, however, states that, as energy is transferred or transformed, more and more of it is wasted. It also states that there is a natural tendency of any isolated system to degenerate into a more disordered state. Concerning this law, physicist Lord Kelvin has written—

This law observes the fact that the usable energy in the universe is becoming less and less. Ultimately there would be no available energy left. Stemming from this fact we find that the most probable state for any natural system is one of disorder. All natural systems degenerate when left to themselves.

In the spiritual realm, the false teachers of Christianity tell us that the moral world is also in a state of adapting and improving. This unwitting lie is based upon believers themselves supposedly becoming more spiritual and taking the gospel “to all nations.” This contingent believes that it will usher in a time of peace and wholesale godliness by means of its submission to the will of God. Then why is the world not reformed? The Christian belief in the improvement of the world through “spiritual” effort is as errant as Evolution. The moral as well as the physical world is decaying, collapsing and disintegrating.

Faith today is the exception, not the rule. Such has been the case in every era.

SINS AGAINST LIGHT

We live in a world of wholesale violence, corruption and unbelief. The original days of Noah were better than these, for back then Earth’s inhabitants had yet to receive a revelation of God, through Christ. There was light, but not immense illumination. Note: that world was merely “full of violence.” The antediluvians sinned more against nature than against revelation. Today the sins are compounded in that not only is nature violated but the brightest light to ever grace the earth is trodden underfoot. The atheistic world spits on the light; the religious world has hijacked it.

Since the original days of Noah, Earth has been visited and infected by four spirits (Daniel 7:1-7) that have organized humanity into four monstrous cults, each cult falsifying and thus nullifying the light, each to varying degrees. These four cults are: 1) Hinduism, 2) Buddhism, 3) Islam, and 4) Christianity. Even those claiming Abraham as their father, to whom came the only true divine ritual, murdered their own Messiah.

The spiritual state of the world—as the physical state—is one of degeneration.

PAUL SAID THAT IT WOULD GET WORSE

Paul lived in the very generation that crucified Jesus Christ. Heading the Roman Empire then was none other than Nero, a depraved megalomaniac and sociopath. And yet Paul writes in 2 Timothy 3:1-5—

Now this know, that in the *last days* perilous periods will be present, for men will be selfish, fond of money, ostentatious, proud, calumniators, stubborn to parents, ungrateful, malign, without natural affection, implacable, adversaries, uncontrollable, fierce, averse to the good, traitors, rash, conceited, fond of their own gratification rather than fond of God; having a form of devoutness, yet denying its power.

In comparison to his day, Paul called our day “perilous.” What better proof could there be (beyond the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics) that the world is degenerating rather than adapting and fixing itself?

Form has replaced substance in almost every division of life, but especially in the spiritual division. Paul called it “a form of devoutness.” A form of devoutness is form only; it denies the power of God. It takes God’s greatest works (salvation of the race, for instance) and denies them. Enemies of the cross of Jesus Christ, posing as His friends, surround us. Christians degrade the cross from a victory to an offer, surrounding us with this evil. Not even the inhabitants of Earth in the days of Noah feigned devoutness. Thus, they could not deny the power. They were too busy shedding blood. The tool of their realm was violence, not deception. They hadn’t the finesse for deception. Spiritual deception—conscious or not—is in many ways a more heinous sin than murder, for it murders God’s testimony while pretending to uphold it. It is no accident that Paul lists this sin last.

These sins go from bad to worse. The list culminates in those who are “fond of their own gratification rather than fond of God; having a form of devoutness, yet denying

its power.” The ultimate sin is to live a lie by which one defrauds God. It is to take the name of God in vain. It is using God’s name for one’s own expedience, to further one’s own work, to justify one’s own lust for power, and to fan one’s pride into self-illuminating flame.

POOR MONK

“The young people of the village have no manners. They are drinking, not working and are disrespectful to their elders.”

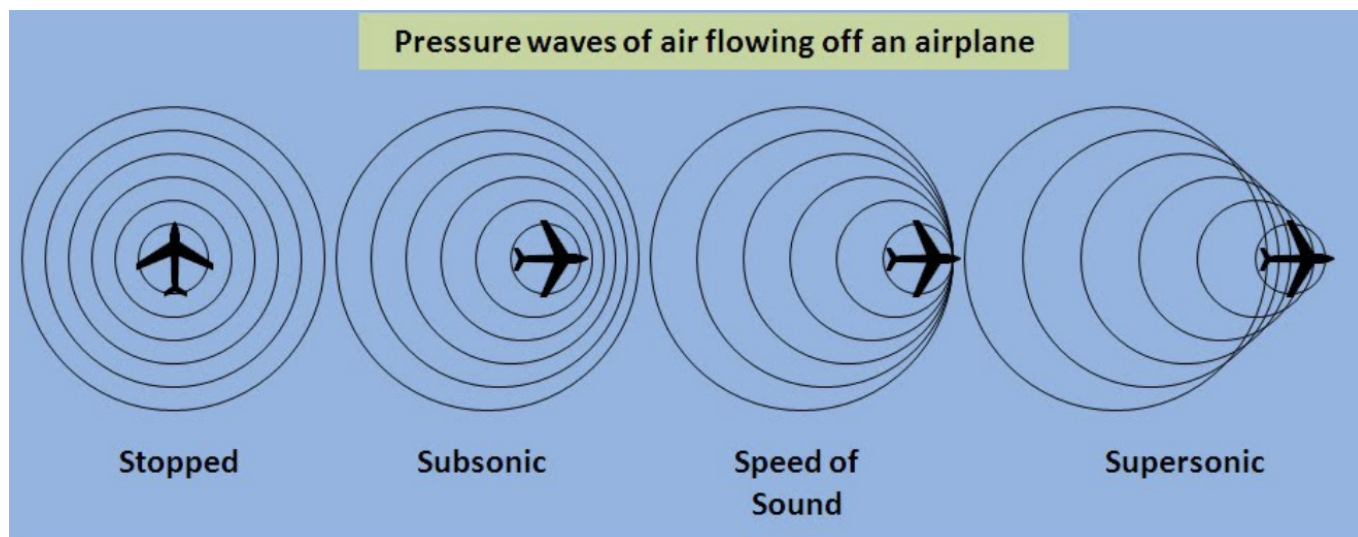
The above was written by an English monk in the 17th century.

UNPRECEDENTED ERA

People have told me, “This era is like every other. Every generation says that it’s living in the end times.” I have known by a simple exercise of common sense that this era is exceptional in every way.

From the time of Adam until 1885, humans traveled on land via horseback and other beasts. The earliest powered travel was by steamboat. The steamboat was invented in 1787. It plied the waters at 5 miles per hour—slower than a human being can walk.

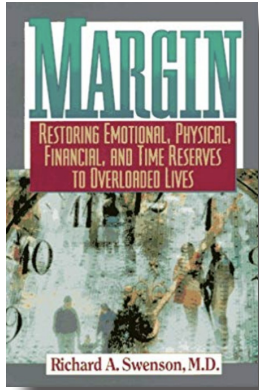
The crew of NASA’s Apollo 10 moon mission reached a top speed of 24,791 mph (39,897 kph) relative to Earth, en route to Earth from the moon on May 26, 1969. This is the fastest speed ever attributed to humans. Let us review: from Adam to 1787—a period of 5,787—years, humanity rode atop the backs of animals, traveling at 5 mph. Between 1787 and 1969—a period of only



182 years—our speed of travel has increased from 5 to 24,791 miles per hour. We've been to the moon and to Mars—all in the last 182 years.

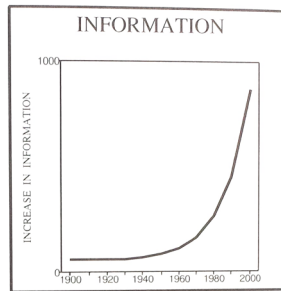
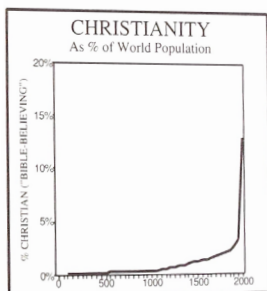
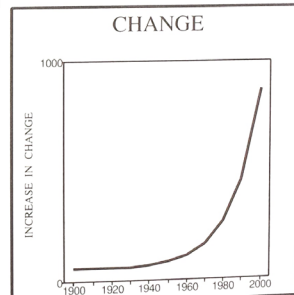
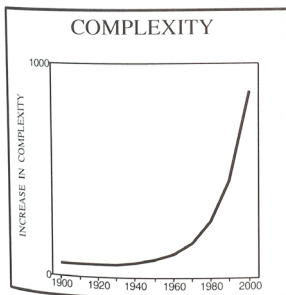
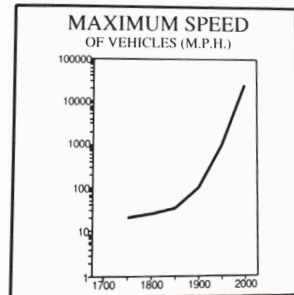
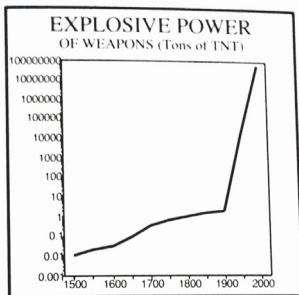
It's probably nothing.

NO MARGIN



In a book titled “Margin,” Dr. Richard A. Swenson makes the case that ours is an unprecedented era of stress. (And this was in 1995.) Some charts at the back of the book—showing the unprecedented levels of stress and complication of this era compared to other eras (thank you Paul and the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics)—impressed

me so much that I photographed them. (The charts beginning at the year 1900 can be flat-lined back to Adam.) Excuse the poor reproduction of the charts; I did the best that I could with what I had—



THE INCREASE OF KNOWLEDGE

The prophet Daniel wrote in Daniel 12:3-4—

The intelligent shall warn as the warning of the atmosphere, and those turning many to righteousness will be as the stars for the eon and further. Now you, Daniel, stop up the words and seal the scroll until the era of the end, when many shall swerve as knowledge shall increase.

One can interpret this either that knowledge in general will increase, or knowledge of the prophecy will increase. Both are true. As for human knowledge, consider the following article from an anonymous writer at “getalongwithgod.com”—

Let's say that one were to measure all the accumulated knowledge that humanity gained from the beginning of recorded history until 1845. Now assign to that knowledge a value of one inch. Using that same scale, if one then measures the knowledge gained from 1845-1945, that time frame would be represented by three inches—three times as much in just 100 years. If one were to measure the knowledge gained from 1945-1975 it would be represented by the height of the Washington Monument (555 feet). Now can you imagine the distance needed to scale the increase of knowledge from 1975 to the present? It's immeasurable.

Buckminster Fuller created the “Knowledge Doubling Curve.” He noticed that, until 1900, human knowledge doubled approximately every century. By the end of World War II, knowledge was doubling every 25 years. Today things are not as simple, as different types of knowledge have different rates of growth. For example, the knowledge in nanotechnology is doubling every two years and clinical knowledge every 18 months. But on average, human knowledge is doubling every 13 months. According to IBM, the build-out of the “internet of things” will lead to the doubling of knowledge every 12 hours.

The following is from an anonymous author at countdown.org—

The total amount of the world's newly generated digital information is expected to have exploded by 60%—to 8 exabytes [in 2005] from 5 exabytes in 2003, according to figures and extrapolations developed by the University of California at Berkeley. That means that [in one year] the world will generate 57,000 times the total of all information in the Library of Congress.

An exabyte is 1,000,000,000,000,000,000 bytes, or 1 billion billion. All human spoken words in history are calculated to be 5 exabytes. Information in magnetic media (such as business digital information) account for more than 90% of this staggering total. U.C. Berkeley estimates that global information increases about 30% per year.

- ▶ Online information doubles every 6 months
- ▶ Corporate information doubles every 18 months
- ▶ Scientific information doubles every 5 years
- ▶ Biological information doubles every 5 years
- ▶ Useful genetic information doubles every 18–24 months
- ▶ The sum total of human knowledge doubles every 2–3 years (and is soon expected to double every year)
- ▶ Printed knowledge doubles every 8 years
- ▶ Technical knowledge doubles every 3 years
- ▶ Medical knowledge doubles every 7 years.
- ▶ Each year around a million books are printed (that's titles, not copies), 25,276 newspapers are published (that is separate newspaper titles), 40,000 scholarly journals, 80,000 mass-market periodicals, 40,000 newsletters.
- ▶ Estimates based on the Netcraft Web server survey for January 2008 show there are over 155.5 million distinct websites, an increase of over 33 million from six months before.

LEARNING IN VAIN

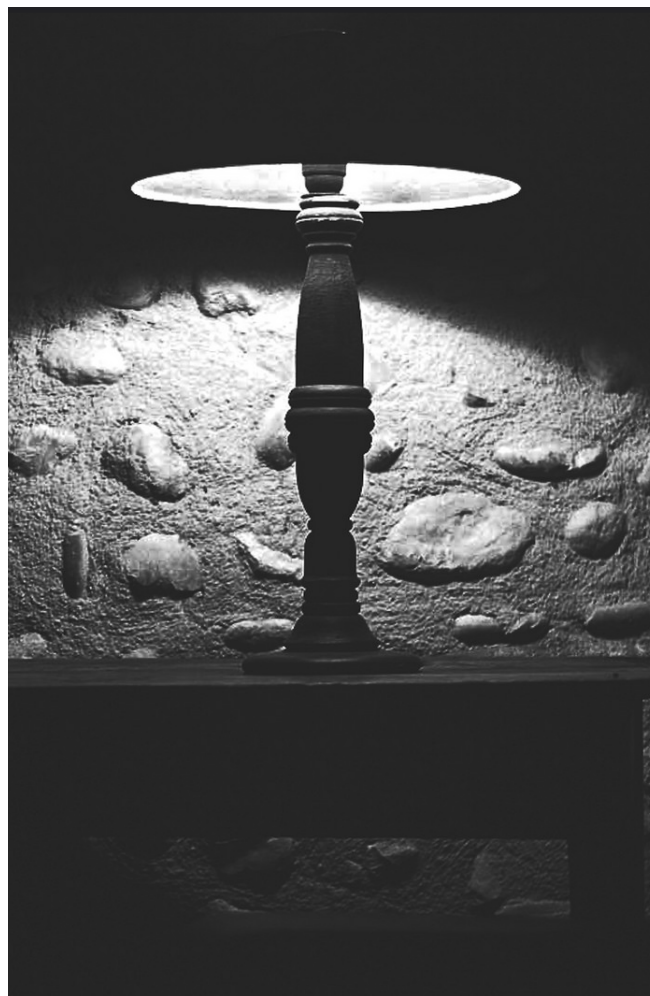
An increase of knowledge by no means indicates an increase in wisdom. In fact, the lack of wisdom *in the face* of so much knowledge (light) only increases the force with which humanity slaps God's face. When so *much* light is rebelled against, judgment increases. This is why our day is worse than that of Noah. As Paul writes in Romans 1:19:22—

[They are] retaining the truth in injustice, because that which is known of God is apparent among them, for God manifests it to them. For His invisible attributes are described from the creation of the world, being apprehended by His achievements, besides His imperceptible power and divinity, for them to be defenseless, knowing God, not as God do they glorify or thank Him, but vain were they made in their reasonings, and darkened is their unintelligent heart. Alleging themselves to be wise, they are made stupid.

Jesus highlighted this principle of “more light/more judgment” in Matthew 11:20-24—

Then He begins to reproach the cities in which most of His powerful deeds occurred, for they do not repent. “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the powerful deeds which are occurring in you occurred in Tyre and Sidon, long ago they would repent, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. Moreover, I am saying to you, For Tyre and Sidon shall it be more tolerable in the day of judging than for you. “And you, Capernaum! Not to heaven shall you be exalted! To the unseen shall you subside, for, if the powerful deeds which are occurring in you had occurred in Sodom, it might remain unto today. Moreover, I am saying to you that for the land of Sodom shall it be more tolerable in the day of judging than for you.”

No other era has ever gained more knowledge of the universe in so short a time. Ignoring God in the face of *such* light subjects *this* era to a more severe judgment than that experienced by any other era. The exponential “curve” of complexity, destructive power, speed, religion, change, and information is now vertical. Such “progress”



cannot be sustained. A breaking is nigh that will rival the Deluge. How could anything rival the Deluge? The waters of Noah's flood killed relatively instantly and without pain. The 3 1/2 year period of the Tribulation protracts and progressively ratchets up the torment of humanity.

In 2 Timothy 3:7, Paul puts humanity's crime in the clearest light possible, using the fewest words—

...always learning and yet not at any time able to come into a realization of the truth.

This generation has perfected such a deplorable state.

MY CURRENT MENTAL STATE

I don't have what it takes to continue the *Evil Empire* novel just now. Writing a novel like this requires a lightness of spirit and a creative energy that has left me. So until God replenishes it (if ever He does), I'll be bringing you old-fashioned truth in the old-fashioned way.

I have never felt more "out of" this world. The world is passing me by. I walk among the Earth's inhabitants, but I do not know them. Who are they and how did I get here? The generations of old dabbled in obvious evils; ready ills; observable and prosecutable crimes. The devil today occupies a people whose form of devoutness denies the very thing and relegates the cross of Christ to a mere attempt on God's part to save. Never has such evil worn a more righteous-looking veil. Religion is the best cloak that evil ever had. Today, more religion exists on the planet than at any other time in human history.

Never have so many sinned against so much light. The increase of light in conjunction with the corresponding increase of unbelief increases the sin and therefore the severity of the judgment necessary to bring humanity to an awareness of its sin.

A WANDERER

The book of Hebrews describes my present mental condition. The experience of these believers mimics mine in many respects. Or perhaps it's that mine mimics theirs. Here is 11:13-16; 37-40—

...not being requited with the promises, but perceiving them ahead and saluting them, and avowing that they are strangers and expatriates on the earth. For those who are saying such things are disclosing that they are seeking for a country of their own.

15 And, if, indeed, they remembered that from which they came out, they might have had occasion to go back.

16 Yet now they are craving a better, that is, a celestial; wherefore God is not ashamed of them, to be invoked as their God, for He makes ready for them a city

37 ...they wandered about in sheepskins, in goatskins, in want, afflicted, maltreated

38 (of whom the world was not worthy), straying in wildernesses and mountains and caves and the holes of the earth.

39 And these all, being testified to through faith, are not requited with the promise of God concerning us

40 (the looking forward is to something better), that, apart from us, they may not be perfected.

BEDTIME PRAYER

There is a lovely little prayer that parents of my day taught their children to pray before bedtime. I prayed this prayer myself—

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep,
If I should die before I 'wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take

These days, my prayer is not quite as eloquent or positive. It is to the point, though—

"Lord, kill me before morning."



This is no joke. God hears my prayer, but does not answer it in accord with my wishes. I can only assume that He has more for me to do.

THE ENEMY SURROUNDS US

Infidels and idolators—dressed in the sheepskin of righteousness—surround us. The very priests of God mocked the crucified Christ. His pain then is ours now; it is a new generation of religionists. A psalm details for us the anguish of Christ. This is from Psalm 22:1-17—

My El! My El! Why have You forsaken me? Far from my salvation are these words of my roaring. My Elohim, I am calling by day, yet You are not answering, and by night, yet there is not stillness for me. But You are holy, the One dwelling among the praises of Israel. In You our fathers trusted; They trusted, and You delivered them. To You they cried out, and they escaped; In You they trusted, and they were not put to shame. But I am a worm and not a man, a reproach to humanity and despised by the people. All those seeing me, they are deriding me; They are opening up the lip; They wag their head, saying, He hands over himself to Yahweh; let Him deliver him!— Let Him rescue him, if He delights in him! Indeed You were the One rushing me forth from the belly, causing me to trust on my mother's breasts. On You was I flung from the womb; from my mother's belly, You have been my El. O do not be far from me, for distress is near, because there is no one helping. Many young bulls surround me; Sturdy ones of Bashan, they compass me about. They open their mouth wide against me like a lion, ravening and roaring. Like water I am poured out, And all my bones are disjointed. My heart has become like wax; It is melted in the midst of my bowels. My vigor is dried up like earthenware, and my tongue clings to my jaws; To the soil of death You bring me low. For curs have surrounded me; The crowd of evil-doers, it has encompassed me; They dig into my hands and my feet. I number all my bones; They look; they stare at me (Psalm 22:1-17).

REDUCED ARMY

In Judges 6-8, the army of Gideon is surrounded by the Midianites. But God said to Gideon—

Your army is too large. If Israel should win the victory, they would say, “we won it by our own might.” Send home all those who are afraid to fight. The army of Gideon is too many to defeat the Midianites.

God reduced the army of Gideon from 32,000 to 300 men. With this small group, God defeated the Midianites.

Is our little group—the body of Christ—any larger than this? Do the living members of the body of Christ amount to 300? To fewer?

Paul inspired many to believe his evangel. But how many was “many?” In Romans chapter 16, Paul recognizes thirty-three people. To some of the names he adds, “and the brethren with them,” or “all the saints with them.” Let's suppose that, for every name mentioned in Romans, there are seven associated brethren. This adds up to a total of 231 people. Paul established fourteen ecclesias that we know of, but let's say that there were twenty and let's also assume that each ecclesia contained as many members as the Roman ecclesia. This brings us to a grand total of 4,620 people—4,620 people alive in



that day who embraced the gospel of Paul in spite of the Circumcision, of the antagonism of the Jews, and of the condition of the world. And this was in Paul's heyday.

But what happened to these 4,620 believers—assuming that they were true believers in the first place and not the feigned variety, of which there were probably several (1 Corinthians 15:2)? In his last letter (written to Timothy), Paul wrote—“Of this you are aware, that all those in the province of Asia were turned from me” (2 Timothy 1:15). Even in Paul's day, during his lifetime, the apostasy ravaged the saints. “All those in the province of Asia” would have included the Ephesians, to whom Paul wrote his highest truths. Since then, the world has gone steadily downhill.

In how much worse condition, therefore, is the body

of Christ today? This is why I believe that even 2,500 current believers in Paul's evangel is generous. Whatever it was in Paul's day, it is far fewer today. It must be so, for the condition of the physical and spiritual world has deteriorated (2 Timothy 3:1-5). I don't know how many people you imagined were believers in Paul's day, but if you read his letters, you are impressed by the fact that the ecclesias are small, intimate groups. Even my figure of 4,620 first-century members may be generous. No matter how small it was then, it is even smaller now.

I am not saying that God has not retained for Himself a remnant of body members throughout every age since Paul. Of course He has. If He does this for Israel (Romans 11:5), then He certainly does it for us. But these believers are fewer and fewer as the apostasy and the "perilous periods" wear on.

"CONGRATULATIONS"

We will be amazed to finally meet Paul and to laud his great faith. But the apostle will be even more anxious to meet and laud us, whose faith survived the perilous periods predicted by him so many years before. Indeed, the apostle will marvel that there were any of us at all. For this, he will bow down in awe of us. His day was

nothing in comparison—Paul will realize that, even if we do not. Paul saw visions, spoke to Christ, was taken to the third heaven and performed miracles. We have seen nothing, spoken to no one, have been taken nowhere and performed nothing. Indeed, the apostle will bow low to *our* great endurance and faith. Mark these words.

THE NATIONS SURROUND ISRAEL

At the end of this eon, the nations will surround Israel, to wipe her out. Revelation 16:13-16—

And I perceived, out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the wild beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits, as if frogs (for they are spirits of demons, doing signs), which are going out to the kings of the whole inhabited earth, to be mobilizing them for the battle of the great day of God Almighty. ("Lo! I am coming as a thief! Happy is he who is watching and keeping his garments, that he may not be walking naked and they may be observing his indecency!") And they mobilized them at the place called, in Hebrew, "Armageddon."

There are 195 nations on the earth today. The kings of every nation ("the whole inhabited earth") will mobilize against God's favored nation. That's 195-1. This passage reminds me of the bulls who surrounded Christ. And the enemy that surrounded Gideon. The odds are stupendously unbalanced. But does this matter to God? No. God likes these odds.

Thus also with us today. We are surrounded by bulls. Every single leader of every single religion opposes us. The eight people of Noah's family faced an enemy in the billions. How are we any different? It is no wonder that we are aliens here, and that we "wander around in goatskins; afflicted" (Hebrews 11:37).

If there *are* more than 2,500 of us alive, I don't know where they are. Wherever they are—if they do exist—I thank God for every one of them.

The odds are stacked wildly against us, and yet, through Christ, we conquer and reign victorious. Scriptural precedent is with the minority. Even so, I cannot help but cry out—

Come quickly, Lord Jesus. —MZ

