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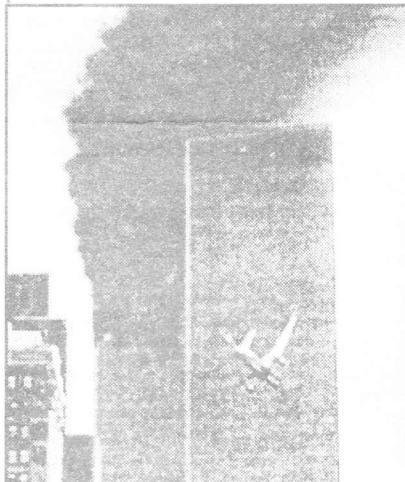
Dear Prayer Supporter,

TWO THOUSAND AND TWO! The New Year is already upon us and what an eventful year it purports to be.

Could it be that this is the year our Lord will blow His trumpet and call the Church into His holy presence? Whether this be so or not, the secret of happiness—both eternal and temporal—is to walk in obedience and faith before Him. So, as Dorothy and I will pray for you these coming months, that will be our prayer—both for you and for ourselves. *So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom* PSALM 90:12. Happy New Year!

Though this letter is being written well ahead of time, the advantage is that we have already read “tomorrow’s newspaper!” Yes, the horrific events we witnessed in 2001 are a solemn foreboding of terrors that yet await a Christ-rejecting world. It is in the context of a “one world religion,” a “one world government” and a “one world economy” that the Antichrist will arise with his agenda to carry as many souls as possible through a reign of terror into an eternal fire.

It was back in the 1980’s that a book by Clair Sterling was published by *Reader’s Digest—The International Terror Network*. At that time this book thoroughly pinpointed existing “safe houses,” terrorist organizations and many leading terrorists. Surely it was not a coincidence that shortly after publication we were told that the European Publishing House



The great day of the Lord is near. . . . That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of waste and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of the trumpet and alarm against the fortified cities and against the high towers ZEPHANIAH 1:14-16.

in Rome was blown up and within a week or two the book was withdrawn from Canadian bookshelves. This book led us to conclude that the “purpose of terrorism is to terrorize!” And now, 20 years later, terror is the worldwide decaying compost upon which Satan will proceed with his global acceptance of the anti Christ agenda.

Dorothy and I recently received a news letter from Chris Thomas, the General Director of *Torchbearers International*. His astute

observations and salutary warning are worthy of quotation.

“Chilling days in challenging times . . . the service from Yankee Stadium hosted by Oprah Winfrey was a unified call to prayer and to praise a common God . . . The conflicting and contradictory theological pillars of diverse faiths were strangely and joyfully wedded in the generic rhetoric and liturgy of fashioned statements and prayers carefully crafted to be politically correct and accommodating.

“ . . . As Christians, the nature of the truth we have embraced and the faith built upon it does not allow for compromise or assimilation. This proved to be the harsh reality for those who returned to Judah from exile in Persia. This will prove to be the experience of those who resist a ‘united World Religion’ with its international appeal to peace and prosperity.”

The terror atrocities of 9/11 that brought peoples of diverse faiths to Yankee Stadium were followed by a rash of Muslim apologists who sought to distance Islam from the use of violence. But does the Koran teach otherwise? The following quotations from a translation of the Koran by Arthur J. Arberry will help you form your own opinion.

Quotes from the KORAN (Qur’an)

“The Christians say, ‘The Messiah is the Son of God.’ **That is the utterance of their mouths, conforming with the unbelievers before them. God assail them! How they are perverted!** (Sura 9:30).” **“Fight the unbelievers totally** (Sura 9:35).” **“O believers, fight the unbelievers who are near to you and let them find in you a harshness** (Sura 9:125).”

“Then, when the sacred mouths are drawn away, **slay the idolaters wherever you find them, and take them, and confine them, and lie in wait for them at every place of ambush** (Sura 9:5).” **“Fight the leaders of unbelief . . . Are you afraid of them? You would be better to be afraid of God, if you are believers. Fight them, and God will chastise them at your hands and degrade them, and He will help you against them** (Sura 9:10).”

“Surely those who disbelieve in Our signs – **We shall certainly roast them at a Fire . . . that they may taste the chastisement. And those that believe, and do deeds of righteousness, them We shall admit to gardens underneath which rivers flow, therein dwelling forever and ever. Therein for them shall be spouses purified (lit chaste virgins) and We shall admit them to a shelter of plenteous shade** (Sura 4:55-60).”

In vivid comparison to the above selected quotations from the Koran, the Lord Jesus said to His disciples *Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them who despitefully use you, and persecute you* MATTHEW 5:44. No, the love of God never demands a change, neither does love exact a change by violence. God's love, when truly understood, will *produce* a change! That is the dynamic of the Gospel!

The following testimony (as printed at the back of the book *Your Quest for God*) wonderfully demonstrates the transforming power of the love of God even in the Islamic world.

A Letter from Iraq

"I was in a Muslim (Scheltey) house. My family taught me how to pray and fast as a Muslim. I dressed like a Muslim women, covering my face so no man would sin if he looked in my face.

*"Because of all this, I had a lot of time with nothing to do. Therefore I used my empty time listening to many radio programs and heard many Bible messages. One day I saw my sister-in-law with some nice stickers with pretty colors. Then I wrote my first letter under my sister-in-law's address. Your reply contained the book **Your Quest for God**.*

"I tried to understand what it meant to quest for God . . . in chapter seven there is a question, 'Does God really love me?' In particular I stopped at the paragraph which says: 'God show His love for you by what He did for you on the Cross. When you understand the meaning of the Cross you do not need any further proof that God loves you.'

"I read this chapter more than 100 times. Then I began to understand without any doubt that the Cross was the only way for me."

Now, as the world draws ever closer to the Rapture of the Church, we know that politics will increasingly lay claim to Jerusalem—first by negotiation then by militarization. God says: *Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the peoples around about, when they shall be in siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. And in that day I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all peoples; all they that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the nations of the earth be gathered together against it* ZECHARIAH 12:2&3.

Let us ever remember that Zechariah declared of Jerusalem, *He that toucheth you toucheth the apple of His (JHVH's) eye* ZECHARIAH 2:2.

In this connection, it is interesting to note that the appellation Jerusalem appears in the Hebrew Old Testament version 635 times; Zion (another name for Jerusalem) appears 161 times; in the New Testament Jerusalem is mentioned 142 times; **but Jerusalem is never mentioned once in the Koran!**

As in the days of Herod Satan sought to abort God's eternal and redemptive purpose for mankind by inciting the slaughter of all male babies under two years of age, so today Satan plots to nullify the purposes of God for King Jesus to return to

Jerusalem. Angrily, the devil bewails God's mercy towards fallen man and his proffer of eternal salvation to sinners, who, when believing in the Savior's Finished Work on the Cross, are assured of Heaven. But the devil knows that his ultimate doom is in the lake of fire. Christ died for sin and for sinners but not for evil as it is personified in the demonic world. And Satan is sure angry!

Now, with world-wide attention being drawn to Jerusalem, the following letter will be of encouragement to you as you read how your gifts and prayers continue to bless precious people in Israel—and in so many other countries around the world. Thank you in His precious Name.

A Letter from Jerusalem

Jerusalem, 25 October 2001

Richard & Dorothy Bennett
P. O. Box 28444
Bellingham, WA
U. S. A. 98228 - 0444

Dear Richard and Dorothy,

Thank you for your loving letter of Oct. 5th and your faithful prayers, through which you participate in spreading the Good News of the Messiah among the Jewish people. Thanks especially for remembering our son Samuel. His health has been steadily improving since he left the hospital. Praise the Lord!

We still have plenty of "Food for Faith" in both Hebrew and Russian. "Quest" in Russian is down to about 800 copies since the last printing of 10,000 in May of last year. If you are able to help with a reprint of the same quantity — the cost is US\$ 11,773.

The past months have been very eventful, with focal points in different parts of the world: New York, Washington, Afghanistan, Iraq. But this only appears to be true. The Bible says that the focal point of the world's attention in the last days will be Israel. Even the leaders of world wide terrorism testify to this truth, when they state that their murderous attack on America was just one step toward their ultimate goal: freeing Jerusalem!

Our enemy, the "father of lies" is tremendously active, and anti-Semitism is raising its head the world over. If God will not intervene and reverse the present developments, we will soon see Israel standing completely alone.

Even though we have not known peace-like conditions for over a year now, the Lord still makes the work of spreading the Gospel possible.

Throughout the past twelve months, 160,000 books have been printed, both for evangelism and edification, and in addition to the Bible in Hebrew and Russian we presently offer a wider choice of literature than ever before. The Lord is graciously supplying — also at this difficult time — to be able to always refill our shelves and keep local evangelists supplied.

God wants Israel to know Jesus, their Messiah and Savior. He longs for the salvation of His chosen people.

- Please pray that the Good News will continue to be heard here in Israel;
- Pray that God will keep the doors and hearts open for His Word;
- Pray for the Body of Christ in Israel, for wisdom and courage in witnessing about Him who is the only Way to the Father — for Jews and Gentiles alike.

Yours in Him

Victor Smadja

BOOK PUBLISHER

Evangelisation
Edification
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course

BIBLE
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Victor Smadja,
Chairman



KEREN
AHVAH
MESHIHIT

Yes, by faith, together with you, we will respond to this request from Jerusalem.

With love, in the bonds of Calvary,

Richard & Dorothy Bennett