# **AUGUST 2017 Newsletter**

**CLEAVER OF TRUTH MINISTRY**

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**“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword”… Hebrews 4:12**

**Dear Friends and Family,**

 Rodney and I will not be putting out a news letter next month… (September). We will be on a much needed vacation. Our next newsletter will be in October.

 During the month of July my grandson has been with us. He has been such a blessing to us. He has done some of the much needed work around our home. The things he has done would have taken Rodney and I a long time to do.

 We have learned that although Rodney and I seem to be in good health, there are many things we are limited to do because of our ages. When you are in your 80’s you need to change your way of doing things. You need to be sensible and even though you know you can still climb that ladder, you need to realize that just one fall can be disastrous for you and your spouse as well.

 We thank God for His watch care over us, but we don’t want to be presumptuous. He gave us a brain to reason with. We just need to exercise it!

 “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones”. Proverbs 3:5-8

**Message for this month: A COLONY IN SPACE**

 **The following story is a true story about a man who, after living a life of crime, was suddenly given time, lots of time, to think. Fortunately, for him, it was not**

**too late to change.**

**HARRY ORCHARD**

 **A loud, official knock sounded at the door of the hotel room. The sheriff stood outside. "Orchard, you're under arrest," he stated.**

 **Shortly, Harry Orchard found himself in the county jail. That day marked the end of a long career in organized crime.**

 **Life began for him in 1866 on a farm near Toronto, Canada. Every Sunday he was sent to church. By the age of 22 he married a sweet Scottish lassie and together**

**they worked to establish their home. It was a happy home and all seemed to be going well. Life was off to a good start.**

 **After four or five years of marriage, however, plagued by debt, Harry began taking steps that led him down the wrong path.**

 **First it was an occasional drink and a game of cards. Next came frequent gambling and many nights away from home. Little dishonesties crept into his business practices.**

 **One winter day Harry and his wife went to visit an uncle who was a minister. They intended to stay a day or two, but an unexpected blizzard snowed them in for two weeks. During this time God spoke to his heart, and Harry gave his heart to Jesus. He vowed to turn his back on the world and live for God. Peace returned to their home.**

 **Unfortunately, Satan was there to destroy that decision. Back home, Harry had a court case pending where he had to face a previous dishonest transaction in his business. He was determined to confess the whole thing and make it right, but at the moment of truth he weakened and covered the whole affair with lies.**

 **His vow to God was broken, his new Christian experience was gone. From then on Harry plunged deeper and deeper into sin. Desperate for money, Harry set fire to his business, collected the insurance, then skipped the country with a friend's wife.**

 **Alone before long, he eventually moved to Idaho and began working in the mines in 1899. Those were the days of the "wild, woolly west." Crime was prevalent, and labor unions ruled the country with a reign of terror. At first, Orchard despised the ruthless tactics used by the unions. Later, however, he became convinced that their cause was justified. The cruelty used by officials who were sent in to correct the situation enraged him. He didn't understand that two wrongs do not make a right.**

 **He gave himself over to getting revenge. For years he was a skillful and willing tool for the leaders of the labor unions who were anxious to remove any man who stood in their way. For a price, he became guilty of the blood of scores of innocent people.**

 **The day of reckoning finally came. After taking the life of former Governor Frank Steunenberg of Idaho, he found himself for the first time behind bars. It was a jarring experience. He felt like a caged animal. Deprived of his freedom he had time to do something that he hadn't done for years. He had time to think. In fact, he had nothing to do but think. As he lay in his cell, the dreadful deeds of the past forced their way into his consciousness. Beginning with his boyhood, each scene marched through his mind. As he reflected, conviction and remorse began to take hold of him. Desperately he tried to fight these feelings but to no avail. For weeks the struggle continued. Nights passed where he was unable to close his eyes all night due to the thoughts that chased each other wildly through his mind.**

 **After three long weeks in the local county jail, he was moved to the penitentiary at Boise for "safekeeping." The struggle in his mind intensified.**

 **He was placed in solitary confinement. His meals were handed to him in silence.**

**For ten days he was not permitted to communicate with anyone in any way.**

 **This angered him, but here again there was nothing to do but think without interruption.**

 **Try as he would he could not get away from those terrible scenes that seemed to haunt him. He was not deeply concerned with the charges that were being brought against him, for though he was guilty, he knew it would not be difficult for the labor union leaders to build an alibi to acquit him. He also knew that any money needed to buy his freedom would be used.**

 **It was the eternal side of life that troubled him now. He often had boasted that he did not believe in God, but deep in his secret heart he believed there was a God and that he must face Him. Alone and imprisoned, he finally wondered it he could ever make his peace with God.**

 **As he realized how terrible his life had been, the guilt pressed him down with a weight that seemed to be more than he could bear. The devil harassed him with the thought that he had gone too far and that God would not listen to his cry. Suicide was an appealing thought until he would realize that he was not ready to die.**

 **The thought came forcibly to his mind that if he would frankly confess his terrible deeds, God might still forgive him. Then the seriousness of his crimes would plague him again and banish the possibility of forgiveness from his mind.**

 **Days and weeks passed with this towering question ever on his mind. At times he thought he would fight it out in court until acquitted and then change his life and seek God's mercy and forgiveness, but this plan brought nothing but darkness. Only one course of action brought him the tiniest ray of hope to make a full confession regardless of the consequences.**

 **After months of deliberating, he virtually came to this decision. Then he would think that he could never go through with it. The thought of the shock it would be to the world and the monster that he would be pictured as, were appalling to him. He felt that he could make public his confession only if he could receive God's forgiveness and then die. He wanted the earth to swallow him up so that he would never have to look upon the face of man again.**

 **The mental agony was terrible. The one thing that overshadowed all others and made the rest sink into insignificance was the desire first of all to make his peace with God. When he surrendered, his cold, hard heart began to melt, and the first real tears in years came to his eyes. What a relief they were! That night**

**he made a solemn vow to confess to all men the terrible sins of his evil life.**

 **The following morning he began to write out his awful confession which he later gave to the world from the witness stand.**

 **When the trial came, the labor union leaders were there to prove his testimony false since it laid bare their own criminal plans and actions. Lawyers were hired to confuse him and prove his story false. Throughout the grueling days of cross-examination, he clung to God to help him to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, though he knew that his plea of guilty carried with it nothing but the death sentence.**

 **When the lawyers finished cross-examining him, they were constrained to express their amazement at the consistency of his long sordid story. When he was finished, he was sentenced to be hanged. But in his heart there was peace, for now he knew he was forgiven and had become a new creature in Christ Jesus.**

 **Not long after being returned to the penitentiary, he heard that his sentence was being commuted from a death sentence to a sentence of life imprisonment. As**

**he faced the thought of life imprisonment, he felt overwhelmed. Dying seemed easier than living. Again he struggled as he learned to submit to the will of God for him.**

 **Life was not easy in the prison, but he determined by the grace of God to make the best of it. Day by day he went to his Saviour for the help that he needed in struggling with the nature and habits that had controlled him for so long.**

 **God worked miraculously to change him. A chaplain proved to be a valuable spiritual counselor to him and he eventually had the joyous privilege of following Christ's example of being baptized.**

 **He saw a touching revelation of the love of God when Julian Steunenberg, the son of the former governor whom Orchard had murdered, came to see him to tell him that he and his mother had forgiven him and wanted only for him to turn to God for forgiveness and the salvation of his soul.**

 **For nearly fifty years Orchard walked the grounds and halls of prison. He made himself as useful as he could and became a financial asset instead of a burden to the state. At his death his one expressed wish to be buried outside of the penitentiary was granted to him.**

 **In his personal testimony he states, "Were I to live a thousand years, and had to spend every one of them in prison, I would still say that I am glad in my heart that I burned all the bridges behind me when I turned my back upon the old life of sin that dragged me down to the committing of such terrible crimes."**

**By the time of his death at the age of eighty-eight, the hardened expression and shifty eyes of the criminal that had first entered the prison had been changed. The lines of his face seem to radiate from his presence. God had re-made him.**

 **The most important questions we need to answer are: "Am I ready for Jesus' coming? Is my heart right before God?" The answer to these questions will determine where each of us will be, not only during the millennium, but also throughout eternity. May God be with you as you seek daily to know that there is nothing between your soul and the Saviour!**

 **Adapted from "Harry Orchard The Man God Made Again" An Autobiography (Taken from Macartney's Illustrations pg. 322)**

 **DECODING THE BOOK OF DANIEL AND**

**REVELATION (con’t)**

**Read Revelation Chapter 2**

**We are about to study ‘The Seven Churches of Asia Minor’. They were literal churches in the days of the apostles. They also represent seven periods of time from the apostolic days down to the end-time. Each church has its own personality and characteristics, which we will study. Their names are: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardus, Philadelphia and Laodicea.**

**The one that holds the seven stars in His right hand and walks among the seven candlesticks is Jesus. The stars are the angels (leaders) of the churches and the candlesticks are the churches. Seven denotes completeness or perfection.**

**Jesus sends a message to Ephesus, I know your works, labor and patience and that you cannot bear them which are evil and you have tried them which say they are apostles and are not and found them liars. You have born and had patience for my names sake and have labored and not fainted. Nevertheless I have somewhat against you. You have left your first love. He says to repent and do thy first works or I will come quickly and remove thy candlestick out of its place unless you repent. You hate the deeds of the Nicolaitanes which I also hate. He that has an ear, hear what the spirit says to the churches. He that overcomes will I give to eat of the tree of life which is in the middle of the garden of God.**

**To Smyrna He says, these things said the first and last which was dead and is alive; I know your works, tribulation and poverty (but you are rich) and I know the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews and are not but are of the synagogue of Satan. Fear none of the things you will suffer. The devil will cast some of you in prison, Ye may be tried and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful and I will give you a crown of life. He that overcomes will not be hurt of the second death. He had no bad thing to say of Smyrna it was a pure church.**

**To Pergamos**

 **He that has a sharp two-edged sword says, I know your works, where you live and even where Satan’s seat is.**

**Note: the two edged sword is the old and new testaments. Evidently Satan’s seat is in this church.**

 **You hold fast my name and have not denied my faith. Some among you have the doctrine of Balaam who taught the children of Israel to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit fornication. You also have them which hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes which I hate. Repent quickly or I will come and fight with the sword of my mouth. He that has an ear hear what the spirit says to the churches. To him that overcomes will I give to eat of the hidden manna and a white stone and a new name that only you will know.**

**Note: Nicolaitanes were adulterous worldly party type people.**

**Note: White stones in ancient days were used as a pass or like a credit card today.**

**Thyatira**

**These things says the Son of God whose eyes are like a flame of fire and feet like fine brass. I know your works, charity and faith and thy patience and works and the last to be more than the first. I have a few things against you because you suffer that woman Jezebel which calls herself a prophetess to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication and to ear things sacrificed to idols. I gave her time to repent and she repented not. I will cast her into a bed and them which commit adultery with her into great tribulation if they do not repent of their deeds. I will kill her children with death. All of the churches will know that I am the one that searches the reins and hearts. To the rest in Thyatira which have not this doctrine and have not known the depths of Satan, I will put on you no other burden. That which you already have hold fast till I come. He that overcometh till the end will I give power over nations and he shall rule with a rod of iron. I will give him the morning star. He that has an ear hear what the spirit says to the churches.**

 **We will study about the last three churches next time….**

**SO YOU WANT TO BE A GOOD PARENT**

 **What are the basics for those who desire to be the kind of parents God wants? Let me suggest four:**

1. **Shower them with love. Children are always changing. But an atmosphere of love makes the change easier. Paul wrote, “Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged” (Colossians 3:21). The more hugs, kisses, and tenderness they receive the better. This is not just the rule for mothers, but for dads, too.**
2. **Remember you are their teacher. God commanded Israel to “teach . . . diligently” God’s will to children (Deuteronomy 6:7). It is much easier to punish children when they do wrong than to teach them, but your role as a parent is to teach. Do not expect others to teach your children what God expects you to teach.**
3. **Don’t be afraid to discipline. Discipline is hard work. It’s tough to punish your precious little boy or girl. But God said, “He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him promptly” (Proverbs 13:24). “Promptly” means that the parent does not procrastinate, but takes the necessary action. Some things should be observed during discipline:**

 **(1) do not injure the child,**

 **(2) do it in love, not anger, and**

 **(3) apply it promptly, fairly, and consistently.**

 **The word discipline comes from a Latin root that means “instruction.” Solomon said, “Chasten your son while there is hope” (Proverbs 19:18). This means don’t wait too long to start. YOUR CHILDREN’S FUTURE DEPENDS ON YOUR BEING A GOOD, FAIR, LOVING DISCIPLINARIAN.**

1. **Show them the way. Children learn from what they see. Make your life what you want your son’s or daughter’s to be like. Children imitate parents. Do you want them imitating your lifestyle, service to the Lord, and work habits? They will. Set the proper example for them.**

**THYROID**

 **The thyroid, a butterfly shaped gland found at the front of the neck just above your collarbones, makes the thyroid hormones – which control your metabolism (how the human body uses energy.)**

 **Hypothyroidism, also known as an underactive thyroid is basically a sluggish-functioning thyroid gland.**

 **Hypothyroidism is a vastly under-rated problem. There can be several medical conditions directly affecting the thyroid itself, but by far, the leading cause of hypothyroidism is iodine deficiency.**

 **It is estimated that at least 72% of the world’s population is currently iodine deficient, according to the World Health Organization.**

 **Women are especially prone to hypothyroidism because of their physical makeup and the extra demands of childbirth.**

 **Additionally, many instances of hypothyroidism and iodine levels are missed or glossed over by the mainstream medical community.**

 **When there is insufficient (or no) iodine in the foods we eat, our thyroid gland doesn’t have the raw material it needs to do its job.**

**SYMPTOMS OF HYPOTHYROIDISM:**

 **. Weight gain**

**· Cold hands and cold feet**

**· Dry, itching and flaky skin**

**· Constipation**

**· Fatigue or feeling continually “pooped”**

**· Brain fog or an inability to concentrate**

**· Sleep disturbances, especially early morning awakening**

**· Depression – sometimes severe**

**· Thinning hair or hair falling out in clumps**

 **There are literally dozens more symptoms, all stemming from the same source - hypothyroidism.**

 **Dr. Joseph Mercola Links Health Conditions with Iodine Deficiency and Hypothyroidism**

**“…your thyroid problem could actually be an iodine deficiency problem.”**

 **Today our nutrition is many times abysmal. Fast foods, junk food, foods grown in nutrient depleted soils – these just can’t give the human body what it needs to thrive. Now add three “modern day improvements” – fluoride, chlorine and bromine – and our thyroid is taxed to the max.**

 **FLUORIDE (Fluorine) - Fluoridated water is neither benign nor beneficial . To begin with, the fluoride found in our drinking water is anything but natural. It is actually hydrofluosilicic acid, a by-product of heavy industry, especially the fertilizer and aluminum industries. What are other uses for this substance? Try…Scrapped off factory chimneys and smelters, it is rightfully considered a poison and treated as a dangerous bio-hazard when handling. However, this EXACT same substance is then mixed into our drinking water, and by some yet unknown alchemical reaction (*sarcasm*) what was minutes before a deadly industrial waste suddenly becomes a so-called “healthy” adjunct to our basic water supply.**

 **PROBLEMS WITH FLUORIDE**

**The major problems with fluoride are two-fold. The first is Iodine Displacement - fluoride slowly but surely displaces iodine in our thyroid. The second is Dosage -the more water one drinks, the more fluoride one consumes. Also, we must take into account every time we shower or bath, our skin absorbs huge amounts of fluoride (and chlorine) – much more so than drinking.**

 **When we also consider that fluoride is found in most toothpastes, each day becomes a gamble as to just how much fluoride is actually entering the body.**

 **FACT: There is enough fluoride in a tube of fluoridated toothpaste to actually kill a child!**

 **CHLORINE - is another iodine-disrupting halide. Yes, chlorine does kill many pathogens in our drinking water. However, it does have its dark side. Skin exposure to chlorine from swimming in a chlorinated pool, bathing or drinking city water leeches iodine from the thyroid gland.**

 **Think of it, every time you take a shower from the standard municipal water supply (especially here in the USA), the skin absorbs both chlorine and fluoride - which slowly poisons the thyroid gland.**

 **You should note that while water filters are readily available to eliminate chlorine from both your drinking and shower water, they are just about useless for filtering out fluoride. (The fluorine molecule is exceedingly small and much harder to trap.)**

 **BROMINE - is the third bad-guy in this story. Used in baked goods, breads, pastas, upholstery, plastics, medications, fire-retardants and soft drinks, bromine is an endocrine disrupter – and similar to fluoride in that it competes for the same receptors that are used to capture iodine, displacing iodine from your body.**

**Potassium bromate is added to dough in order to make it more elastic, fluffy and white. Before bromating agents were added to our flours and pastas in the early 80’s, the substance of choice was… iodine! This is one of the untold scandals in our food industry, as bromine is banned from food in Europe and even China!**

**BROMINE ACCUMULATES IN THE BODY**

 **“If the body has too much bromine and not enough iodine, thyroid hormone can be brominated instead of iodinated. Studies have shown that the breasts and other tissues that normally store iodine can accumulate bromine instead of iodine.” Dr. David Brownstein**

 **Doctors usually will order blood tests (Thyroid Panel) to see the levels of T3, T4 and TSH ( [Thyroid Stimulating Hormone](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/003684.htm%22%20%5Ct%20%22_new)) circulating in your blood. If you have low levels of T4, and higher than normal TSH, that’s usually an indication of hypothyroidism. Your pituitary gland is producing more TSH - trying to stimulate the thyroid gland to produce more thyroid hormone.**

 **Iodine is a necessary element needed by the body for the production of the thyroid hormone. Our bodies do not make iodine, but it is an essential part of the human diet. Fortunately, iodine is found in a variety of foods, with seafood offering the greatest doses. Fruits and vegetables offer significant quantities of the element except in areas where iodine is not present in the soil, including the Great Lakes, Appalachian and northwestern regions of the United States, as well as most of Canada.**

 **Fruits offer the least amount of iodine, lagging behind vegetables, meat, dairy and bread, which all have less than half the content found in seafood. Still, fruits grown in iodine-rich soils can prove beneficial, with certain types being especially potent with the element. The best fruits to eat are pineapple, coconut, strawberries, rhubarb, mango, dates, apricots and balsam apple. Strawberries provide more than 140 percent of the recommended daily amount (RDA).**

 **Vegetables offer a solid source of iodine, with some variety between items. Topping the list are potatoes, which offer around 60 micrograms per serving. Other vegetables include artichokes and spinach. The best possible source for iodine in the form of a vegetable is kelp (a sea vegetable), with an incredible 415 mcg of iodine.**

 **Oats, buckwheat and lentils offer the most significant quantities. Some Spices such as cinnamon and herbs such as fennel and hyssop provide ample amounts. Try hazelnuts or black walnuts.**

**FROM KATIE’S COOKBOOKS**

**CONDENSED CELERY SOUP**

**3 cups celery, chopped**

**2 cups water**

**3 Tbsp cornstarch**

**2 tsp chicken-like seasoning**

**½ onion, chopped**

**1 ½ cup soy milk**

**4 Tbsp flour**

**Cook celery and onions in water. Place 2/3 of cooked celery/onion mixture in blender with remaining ingredients. Blend until smooth. Add remaining cooked celery and onions. Blend only 2 seconds, just to break up pieces. Pour mixture into a medium saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium heat stirring constantly. Boil 2 minutes. Divide into 3 containers (1 ¼ cup each) and freeze. Use in recipes in place of commercial condensed celery soup)**

**CONDENSED MUSHROOM SOUP**

**1 ½ cup fresh mushrooms, chopped**

**1 ½ cup soy milk**

**2 tsp chicken-like seasoning**

**4 Tbsp unbleached white flour**

**½ cup onions, finely chopped**

**1 cup water**

**1 tsp basil flakes**

**3 Tbsp cornstarch**

**Sauté mushrooms and onion in a little water. Place 2/3 of cooked mushrooms/onions mixture in blender with remaining ingredients. Blend until smooth. Add remaining cooked mushrooms and onions. Blend only 2 seconds, just to break up pieces. Pour mixture into a medium saucepan. Cook over medium heat until thickened stirring frequently to keep from burning. Divide into 3 containers (1 ¼ cup each) and freeze. Use in recipes in place of commercial condensed mushroom soup.**

**Recipes were submitted by Debbie Borland. If you have a good vegetarian/dairy and chocolate-free recipe you would like to share send it to us!**

 **Remember God loves you and so do we.**

**Katie and Rodney Armstrong**

**A COLONY IN SPACE**

***Space colonization* (also called *space settlement, or extraterrestrial colonization)* is permanent human habitation off the planet** [**Earth**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth)**.**

**Many arguments have been made for and against space colonization. The two most common in favor of colonization are survival of human** [**civilization**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civilization) **and the** [**biosphere**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biosphere) **in the event of a** [**planetary-scale disaster (natural or man-made)**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_catastrophic_risk)**, and the availability of additional resources in space that could enable expansion of human society. The most common objections to colonization include concerns that the** [**commodification**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commodification) **of the cosmos may be likely to enhance the interests of the already powerful, including major economic and military institutions, and to exacerbate pre-existing detrimental processes such as** [**wars**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War)**,** [**economic inequality**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economic_inequality)**, and** [**environmental degradation**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environmental_degradation)**.**[**[2]**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_colonization#cite_note-Dickens-MR-2010-11-2)[**[3]**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_colonization#cite_note-Dickens-MR-2008-02-3)[**[4]**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_colonization#cite_note-Dickens-MR-2017-03-4)

**No space colonies have been built so far. Currently, the building of a space colony would present a set of huge technological and economic challenges. Space settlements would have to provide for nearly all (or all) the material needs of hundreds or thousands of humans, in an environment out in space that is** [**very hostile**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effect_of_spaceflight_on_the_human_body) **to human life. They would involve technologies, such as** [**controlled ecological life support systems**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Controlled_ecological_life_support_system)**, that have yet to be developed in any meaningful way. They would also have to deal with the as-yet unknown issue of how humans would behave and thrive in such places long-term. Because of the present cost of sending anything from the surface of the Earth into orbit (around $2,500 per-pound to orbit, expected to further decrease)[ a space colony would currently be a massively expensive project.**

**There are yet no plans for building space colonies by any large-scale organization, either government or private. However, many proposals, speculations, and designs for space settlements have been made through the years, and a considerable number of space colonization** [**advocates**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_advocacy) **and groups are active. Several famous scientists, such as** [**Freeman Dyson**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freeman_Dyson)**, have come out in favor of space settlement.**

**On the technological front, there is ongoing progress in making access to space cheaper (**[**reusable launch systems**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reusable_launch_system) **could reach $10 per-pound to orbit)[ and in creating automated manufacturing and construction techniques**

**Survival of Human Civilization**

***Main article:*** [***Space and Survival***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_and_survival)

**The primary argument calling for space colonization is the long-term survival of human civilization. By developing alternative locations off Earth, the planet's species, including humans, could live on in the event of** [**natural or man-made disasters on our own planet**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_catastrophic_risk)**.**

**On two occasions, theoretical physicist and cosmologist** [**Stephen Hawking**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephen_Hawking) **has argued for space colonization as a means of saving humanity. In 2001, Hawking predicted that the human race would become extinct within the next thousand years, unless colonies could be established in space. In 2006, he stated that humanity faces two options: either we colonize space within the next two hundred years and build residential units on other planets, or we will face the prospect of** [**long-term extinction**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_extinction)**.**[**]**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_colonization#cite_note-10)

**In 2005, then** [**NASA**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NASA) **Administrator** [**Michael Griffin**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_D._Griffin) **identified space colonization as the ultimate goal of current spaceflight programs, saying:**

**“... the goal isn't just scientific exploration ... it's also about extending the range of human habitat out from Earth into the solar system as we go forward in time ... In the long run a single-planet species will not survive ... If we humans want to survive for hundreds of thousands or millions of years, we must ultimately populate other planets. Now, today the technology is such that this is barely conceivable. We're in the infancy of it. ... I'm talking about that one day, I don't know when that day is, but there will be more human beings who live off the Earth than on it. We may well have people living on the Moon. We may have people living on the moons of Jupiter and other planets. We may have people making habitats on asteroids ... I know that humans will colonize the solar system and one day go beyond.”**

**Evidently these people do not realize we already have a savior, a person to save us from all natural or man made disasters who already has a plan for man to live in space. This world and everyone in it has an opportunity to travel in space with no cost. The plan these people are proposing will be extremely expensive. Not only would it be expensive it will be impossible.**

**Surely these people have heard that God has a plan to save everyone and to recreate this world. Why don’t they forgo all the trouble and expense and go with God’s plan?**

**God has rules that need to be obeyed and conditions that must be met. Evidently they do not want to obey the rules and meet the conditions.**

**Not meeting the conditions and obeying the rues is sin. The Bible says, “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 6:23**

**Following the plan man has devised will still lead to death at old age or from sickness, while following God’s plan guarantees eternal life. It doesn’t make sense not to follow God’s plan.**

**When Adam sinned and disobeyed God he lost more than most of us realize; He lost his righteousness and his face-to- face communication with God. He passed on to his descendents the propensity to sin.**

**In order to control the masses the ”powers that be” withhold essential information from them so that they will not have good judgment to make good decisions. Without truth or good knowledge we are impaired thus we become deceived easily.**

**Like the people who think they can start a colony in space and save themselves when God already has a plan to save us. Where are our senses? Are our brains impaired?**

**God wants to create in us a new heart, not the one that pumps blood but the one we think with. “But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ !” 1 Corinthians 2:14-16**

**This is what we need and Adam lost it when he sinned; along with his robe of righteousness he lost the mind of Christ.**

**A colony in space**

**“And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,**

**Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;**

**And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:**

**On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.**

**And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.**

**And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof.**

**And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.**

**And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. Revelation 21:10-17**

**“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.” 1 Corinthians 2:9**

**“And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” Joshua 24:15**

 **Rodney Armstrong**