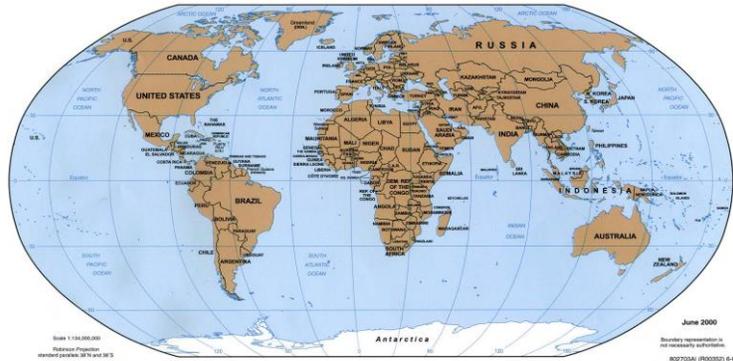


MOGA NEWSletter

Spring 2015

Issue #1



*“to proclaim
the great and
glorious news
of Salvation
of the Lord
Jesus Christ*

Greetings in the wonderful name of our lord and Savior!

First, I want to apologize for taking so long getting out the newsletter, but 2015 has moved extremely fast. This year I left Grand Rapids on the 25th of January and headed to Hot Springs Natural Park, Arkansas for the winter. I will be returning just as this first Newsletter hits your homes. Some people laughed at me for going to Arkansas for the winter, but it was warm. On one Saturday in February it was 78 degrees and the next day there was SNOW, SNOW, and more SNOW! (While here I caught this crazy flu that was going around and it lingered for almost three weeks.) However after snow for a week comes warmth and now it is beautiful here. In fact, it is hard to think about leaving here to head back to Michigan. Yet it's time to head home to the great State of Michigan and enjoy the spring

coming there. While in Arkansas I got to experience all types of seasons; rain, snow, ice, sleet, and sun. I am so thankful to be able to work, play and just relax when I needed too. The Lord showed me some thing through his nature while here too; When I arrived here, Lake Catherine's water table was down over 6 feet. There was a lot of beach, and rock. Between my place and the water in the canal (which was connected by a bridge) was so low it was becoming stagnant. The lake (is controlled by the Lake Catherine Damn) was so low it looked like a river. I remember speaking to the ranger at the office of the Damn and asked him when the water would flow? He said "oh some time in the first week of March..." Well, nothing happened. The second week came

along and nothing except a lot of rain. I was wondering when and if we would ever see the water come to its full potential as promised. Then on Sunday night a gushing of water came flowing and all of a sudden the low dry areas of the lake became full of water wiping out any sand, or rocks that were seen before. The canal went from a stagnant area to a very full and deep area of water full of life. This reminded me of the sinner who is living in a world of drought and a lost condition. He or She is wondering Lord will you save me? Please save me, and then when you least expect it the flood gates of Salvation and grace just fill you from head to toe. Stagnant waters are washed away through the blood of the Lamb. Praise God! Another look at this is when a Christian who has

Mercies of God Association has a Facebook page www.facebook.com/MerciesofGodAssociation and as of this writing we are at 920 likes. We were at 1000, but people turned away after reading the doctrinal stance we uphold. It is good because they must have read it and now they have heard. On our Facebook page we shared a video of the U.S. Army singing at their worship service in California and we had over 3kw people view it around the world. We had some horrific response from people who were **“ANGRY”** because it might offend the Muslim community. The other reason, “it makes Christians sound militaristic”. Well, we kept it up on our site and over all the majority of people loved the song. We will stand for our Lord no matter what. “Onward Christian Soldiers Marching as to war, with the Cross of Jesus going on before...”

“Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, there’s just something about that name. Master, Savior, Jesus, like the fragrance after the rain. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, let all Heaven and earth proclaim, kings and kingdoms will all pass away, but there’s something about that Name. I sing praises to your name o Lord, praises to your name o Lord, for your name is great and greatly to be praised. I give glory to your name o Lord, glory to your name o Lord for your name is great and greatly to be praised.

At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light, and the burdens of my heart rolled away. It was there by faith I received my sight and now I am happy all the day.

Death’s chilling water, one day I will be crossing. I will not fear for His hand will lead me safe ore. And then one day,



“Something to think about”

Have you ever wondered how Jesus Christ could be crucified on Friday and be resurrected on Sunday after being buried for three days? Well, that's impossible! You cannot squeeze three days between Friday and Sunday. By no stretch of the imagination is it possible to stretch the period from Friday evening to Sunday morning into "three days and three nights".

We believe that Jesus Christ died on a Wednesday. We do not believe that Jesus died on Friday. Let's turn to Matthew 12:40, and notice Christ's own prophecy pertaining to His death, burial, and resurrection.

"For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth (Matthew 12:40)." "Three days and three nights" means seventy-two hours. Jesus defined the length of a day in John 11:9.

Our Lord said, "Are there not twelve hours in a day?" Well, if there are twelve hours in a day, then there are twelve hours in a night. And therefore, three days and three nights would be 72 hours. Anything less than 72 hours would not fulfill the prophecy of Jonah or the words of Jesus Christ. Perhaps you're wondering why the vast majority of Christians accept the Friday-to-Sunday burial of Christ if it is wrong?

The only answer that can be given is tradition. "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain

deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ (Colossians 2:8)."

This is a tradition not taught in the Bible. Ash Wednesday and Lent also are not in the Bible. Even the word Easter is pagan, and it is not found in the Bible.

In the King James Version the word "Easter" does occur in Acts 12:4, but is a mistranslation. The word Easter comes from the word Ish-tar and is the same as Astaroth, a pagan deity. We celebrate the resurrection of Christ again from the dead. In order to explain the Good Friday tradition, the proponents say that Christ was buried during parts of three days and nights.

That is Christ was buried for part of Friday, part of Saturday, and a part of Sunday. Sometimes people ask, "Didn't the Jews count part of a day a whole day or part of a night as a whole night?" Whenever you have the expression "day and night" mentioned together in the Hebrew Scriptures, it always means a full day and a full night.

For example, "And the evening and the morning were the first day (Genesis 1:8)"; "And the evening and morning were the second day (Genesis 1:13)"; "And the evening and morning were the third day (Genesis 1:13)"; and so on. Other examples are Esther 4:16; 5:1; II Samuel 30:12-13 and Jonah 1:17, where you will find the expression "three days and three nights," and in every instance it means

full days and full nights--not part of a day and part of a night.

Let's see what the scriptures teach us as we look at an example in the life of Christ. The Scripture says, "And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered (Matthew 4:2)." Jesus fasted forty days and forty nights. If we say, as some do, that "three days and three nights" does not mean "three days and three nights", then we must also say that "forty days and forty nights" does not mean "forty days and forty nights". Where do we stop? Do we say that we really can't be sure about anything? Of course not!

We believe the Bible to be literal. Part of the confusion has come from verses like John 19:31. This verse says, "The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the Sabbath day (for that Sabbath day was an high day), besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away."

The Sabbath in John 19:31 is not the regular Saturday Sabbath. It was the Passover Sabbath, which occurred on Thursday of the crucifixion week. Note that John 19:31 says, "For that Sabbath day was an high day." If it were talking of the Saturday Sabbath, then Christ would have been crucified on Friday. All the feast days God gave to Israel were considered Sabbaths though they did not fall on Saturday. Jesus was crucified on the preparation (Wednesday) of the Sabbath (Passover Sabbath) which was Thursday.

Now at what time of the day did Jesus die? It was around three in the afternoon on Wednesday. "And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: And having said thus, he gave up the ghost (Luke 23:44-46)."

When it says the ninth hour, it means the ninth hour since the break of day. In other words, it was three o'clock in the afternoon. Jesus was taken away from the cross and hurriedly buried the same afternoon before sundown or 6:00 P.M. Now remember that the Jewish day always begins at sundown or at about 6:00

P.M.

Our day begins at midnight, but the Jewish day began at sunset. In Leviticus 23:32, the Lord said, "From even unto even shall ye celebrate your Sabbath. If you count 72 hours from late Wednesday afternoon at around 6:00 P.M., then Jesus would have been in the tomb until late Saturday afternoon at around 6:00 P.M.

So, a Sunday morning resurrection is not what the Bible teaches. We believe that Jesus was resurrected on Saturday evening at about 6:00 P.M. Jesus was placed in the tomb at around 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday. Seventy-two hours later would be at around 6:00 P.M. on Saturday, exactly when the first day began (Sunday).

When the women arrived at the tomb early Sunday morning, Jesus was already gone. The Gospel is summed up in I Corinthians 15:3-4, "...Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the Scriptures."

Those who arrived early Sunday morning simply discovered an empty tomb. The angel said, "He is not here, for He is risen (Luke 24:6)." One objection to a Wednesday crucifixion is found in Luke 24:21, which says, "But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, today is the third day since these things were done." This conversation takes place on Sunday, the day of resurrection.

The answer is found in the word "since." Counting from this verse, Sunday is the third day, Saturday the second day, Friday is the first day SINCE the Passover. The Thursday Passover (Jewish reckoning) had its night on what we would call Wednesday night and twilight of that night, meaning between 3:00 P.M. and 6:00 P.M., is when Christ was crucified. The twilight of Thursday afternoon would have counted as the twilight of Friday night which began at 6:00 P.M. by Jewish reckoning. So we see there is no conflict.

This was written by Brother Paul Foltz who has been a friend of the Ministry and to Dr. and Mrs. Nortier. I found this on Facebook and I know some of you do not use Facebook, but I was sure you would find this interesting. If you would like to respond to Brother Paul, here is his address: Brother Paul Foltz 1545A Government Street, Ponce de Leon, FL, United States 32455. Brother Paul is a retired Minister and served in Baptist Churches in FL, AL and SC.

UPDATE

For some of you who are wondering about some broadcast and why the newsletter is so late? A month ago, we had a water break on the second floor, and water and tile crashed all over our computers that send out the broadcast. The computer was destroyed as well as the Monitor and some CD's. We had to spend extra funds for a new computer and just now purchased one. So, you might have experienced some repeat broadcast. We apologize, but now are behind and have to recreate files. Please pray we can get this done and if you would like to make an extra donation towards the cost of the new computer system please feel free to send it to MOGA 1553 Knapp Street NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505.

FREEDOM RADIO NETWORK

For those who are listening to Freedom Radio Network at 9pm EST on Sunday night, there will be some changes taking place; we plan on broadcasting Dr. Larry Montgomery's program on the 39 stations around the country. We hope to have this in place on or before the 1st of May.

WITH SINCERE THANKS

We also once again want to say thank you to all those who support Mercies of God Association. Without your prayers and financial support we would not exist. This has been a trying year with the death of some donors, and computer problems. It is not easy to work with stations anymore without using the internet. No longer do stations receive CD's it is all done through the internet.

