

SUGAR LAND BIBLE CHURCH "BRINGING THE BIBLE TO LIFE FOR 38 YEARS 1982-2020





November 2020

Operation Christmas Child—We need your help to bring New Items for the Christmas Boxes to be filled on November 11, 2020

No liquid items please, New toys, New Children's books, New Coloring books and Crayons. New Personal Care Items, Note Pads and pencils, etc.

SLBC Children's and Youth Ministries

Don't forget to bring in those WOW items to pack those boxes!





Packing Party • Wednesday, November 11, 2020



Donation Drop Off Deadline Sunday, November 8, 2020

Missions for the Month



Time has flown, and we can't believe that it has already been more than a month since Rev. Canon Dr. Samuel Ekwue went to meet his Lord and Savior.

GOD IS FAITHFUL

While we still miss him dearly, we have been overwhelmed by the grace that God has shown during the funeral preparations and travels. Dr. Ekwue's funeral was held on Aug. 7 and was a huge success. People also came to Christ during the services.

Take a look at the <u>funeral brochure here</u> to gain more insight into Dr. Ekwue's life and ministry. Watch some of his recorded final statements about his vision for Nigeria.

It was truly a miracle for all four of his children to be able to travel to Nigeria to celebrate his life and bring back their mother, his wife, Patience to the United States.

Patience is now getting some much-needed rest. She will be going back to Nigeria to live once the proper accommodations have been made.



The Ekwue family at Samuel's gravesite. Left to right: Eb, Hope, Patience, Daniel, and Grace

CARRYING THE TORCH

Many of you may be wondering what will happen to the Evangelical Graduate Theological Seminary (EGraTS) vision now that Dr. Ekwue has passed.

Please rest assured that the desire of the EGraTS committee and its corresponding board in Nigeria is to continue the mission of empowering the next generation of Christian leaders in Nigeria.

The committees will be holding several meetings together between now and the new year to flesh out the details about how this mission will be

accomplished. More information will be presented in January.



Signs of the Times for 2020 (Part 9)

In our first installment, we observed that the Bible places much emphasis on the signs related to Christ's return (Matt. 24:33; Luke 21:28; Heb. 10:25, etc.). Observing these signs helps us ascertain that general time of human history in which we find ourselves. We noted that if the signs of the Tribulation period are rapidly approaching, and the rapture of the Church precedes the Tribulation period, then the rapture must be coming even faster. Thus, we began to ask ourselves, what are some of these signs that are

Andy Woods—Pastor

now setting the stage for the coming Tribulation period? We selected the following *seven* signs as deserving of analysis to be covered in this series:

- 1. Signs related to Israel
- 2. Signs related to international politics
- 3. Signs related to economics
- 4. Signs related to technology
- 5. Signs related to spirituality
- 6. Signs related to society
- 7. Signs related to understanding Bible prophecy

Therefore, this series is dedicated to exploring the *seven* signs related to the soon return of Jesus Christ. As a result of this teaching, may we all grow in our understanding of the unique time in which we now live. As dealt with in the prior installments in this series, there are several signs meriting discussion concerning the modern state of Israel. These include Israel's miraculous political rebirth in 1948, the recapturing of Old Testament Jerusalem in 1967, Israel's ambition to rebuild her third Temple, and her desire for peace at any cost with her hostile neighbors. We also examined Israel's mountainous regions and earthquake-prone topography as well as her burgeoning wealth. Moving away from signs related to Israel specifically, we then began to discuss signs related to the nations of the world and the kind of international political climate the Scripture predicts will exist on earth just prior to the return of Christ. In our last installment, we emphasized signs related to the nations' mindset toward Israel. In this installment, we will briefly focus on signs related to the thirst of the nations in the last days for a one-world government.

2. Signs Related to International Politics

According to prophetic Scripture, the nations of the earth must not only exhibit an attitude of hostility towards Israel in the last days, but they also must be open to the notion that their individual national sovereignty must be surrendered to an over-arching supra-national, transnational, or one-world government. Let us now move away from the subject of Israel and instead to another political trend; that is the whole subject of one world government.

Many biblical verses predict the existence of a coming one-world government just prior to the return of Jesus Christ. For example, Daniel 7:23 says, "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the other kingdoms and will *devour the whole earth* and tread it down and crush it" (italics added). Revelation 13:7-8 similarly predicts, "It was also given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and authority over *every tribe and people and tongue and nation* was given to him. All who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain" (italics add-

ed). Revelation 17:15 similarly predicts, "And he said to me, 'The waters which you saw where the harlot sits, are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues." What are all these prophecies speaking of? They are talking about the coming one-world government of the future antichrist. According to the Bible, someway and somehow, in the end times' scenario, the antichrist will preside over a future global government.

What are people looking for today? The answer to this question is that many are seeking a one world government as the only solution to humanity's global problems. One globalist put it as follows:

The inescapable fact traumatized by the energy crisis, the population crisis, the armaments race and so forth is that nationalism, as we have known it in the nineteenth-century and much of the twenty-first century is much of an anachronism today as was State's rights when Calhoun preached it and Jefferson Davis fought for it. Just as we know, or should know, that none of our domestic problems can be solved within the artificial boundaries of the states, so none of our global problems can be achieved within the largely artificial boundaries of the nations (Henry Steele Commager; as quoted in Pat Robertson, *The New World Order*, p. 147-48).

What he is here saying is that the problems that face our planet are so big and global in nature that we must move into global solutions to have any hope of solving them. Only global government is in the proper position to bring forth these global solutions. In other words, for the betterment and ultimate survival of humanity, the individual nations must learn to acquiesce their political power and independence to an overarching global government.

Interestingly, on a smaller scale, this same transition of power has occurred as the United States has gradually acquiesced from a states' rights ideal and instead to a centralized national government. When you read the United States' Constitution, what you discover is that the true source of power was to originally reside within the individual state governments rather than the national government. After all, James Madison, in the *Federalist Papers*, in Federalist no. 45, declared: "The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government, are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite" (Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay, *The Federalist Papers*, trans. Clinton Rossiter (New York, NY: Penguin, 1961), 292). Our Constitution's Tenth Amendment also well captures the Founders' original design of state power and limited national power, when it says, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution nor prohibited by it to the States are reserved to the States respectively or to the people."

Is it not interesting how this original design has been reversed? Over the course of time leading right up to today, the true source of power is no longer the individual states but rather the Federal government. Consequently, many now refer to the federal government as "Fedzilla," given its gargantuan size relative to the individual states. According to the above quote by Commager, just as the transition from state to national power was necessary to resolve America's national problems, a similar transition must take place from national power to global authority to resolve our global problems. Such thinking is commonplace among today's global elite.

To such an observation, people typically complain, and counter-argue, "oh, come on, now you are getting into conspiracy theories!" However, when the global conspirators expressly reveal their true intentions, we are no longer dealing with conspiracies allegedly hatched in a smokey, back room somewhere. By contrast, we are just reading what they have said and taking them at their word! For example, notice the quote from David Rockefeller, which is easily accessible from his Memoirs:

For more than a century ideological extremists...have seized upon well-publicized incidents...to attack the Rockefeller family for the inordinate influence they claim we wield over American political and economic institutions. Some even believe we are part of a secret cabal working against the best interests of the United States, characterizing my family and me as 'internationalists' and of conspiring with others around the world to build a more integrated global political and economic structure – one world, if you will. *If that's the charge, I stand guilty, and I am proud of it* (David Rockefeller, *Memoirs*, p. 405; italics added).

Quite obviously, with overt admissions such as represented in the above quote, we are not dealing with mere conspiracy theories any longer. In other words, it is not just me allegedly inventing what is happening behind the scenes. Interestingly, as these globalists get closer to accomplishing their goal of ushering in a one-world

government, they seem to become more and more overt and transparent concerning their true intentions. These all represent *political signs* of the end of the age. They include the hostility of the nations toward Israel and the desire of the global elites to usher in a one-world government.

In our next installment, we will leave our emphasis upon signs related to Israel and international politics and turn instead toward the prophesied economic signs of the last days.

(To Be Continued...)

Scripture for the Month

Psalm 2

Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?

The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying,
Let us break their bands asunder,
and cast away their cords from us.
He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh:

the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath,

and vex them in his sore displeasure.
Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.
I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me,
Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance,
and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.
Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron;
thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth.

Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish *from* the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little.

Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

We appreciate all of the prayers and support we have received thus far. Please know that the mission will continue, and we would love for you to maintain your partnership with EGraTS. If you would like to amend your financial support for any reason, please email info@egrats.org so that those adjustments can be made.

We are trusting God for His will to be accomplished and for His name to continue to be glorified as we forge ahead in this new chapter of the ministry. Thank you to those who have chosen to take this journey with us.

Continuously in Prayer,

The EGraTS Committee



The Boys Brigade leading the hearse.

The family walking up to the altar for prayer



Patience with her daughters receiving condolences from friends and family.



Eb shoveling dirt onto Samuel's final resting place.



Grace and Hope dancing and celebrating Samuel's life.