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The Philadelphia ***Trumpet***

Judging By Fruits

**"Wherefore by their fruits
ye shall know them."**

(Matt. 7:20)

By Gerald Flurry

There is a little book discussed in Revelation chapter 10. There have been many theories about what it is. God has *finally* revealed the truth about the little book!

I will show you that the little book appears at the very end of this age. This little book is *not* the Bible.

One Vision

Lange's Commentary states that Revelation chapters 10 and 11 are one vision. A close study reveals that Lange is correct.

The little book is delivered by a mighty angel. It is a time when there is "no more delay" (v. 6, RSV translation). The little book is sweet as honey and bitter in the belly. It has to do with prophecy (vv. 10-11).

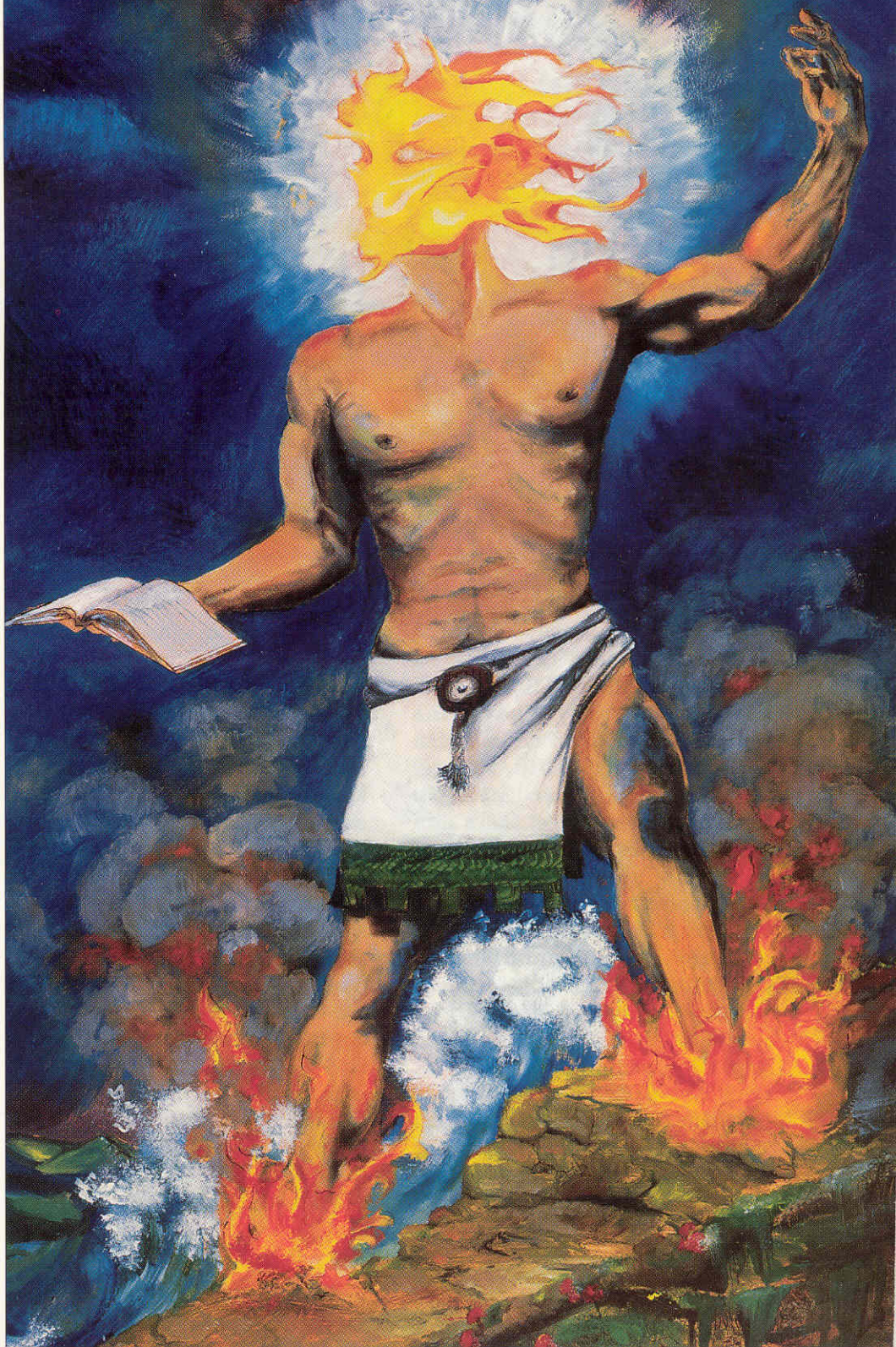
There should be no chapter break between chapters 10 and 11. Revelation 11:1-2 discusses a split in God's own end-time Church. (Write for our free article entitled "Measuring the Temple"). Verses 2 and 3 discuss the Great Tribulation and the two witnesses who prophesy at that time. And in verse 15 we see Christ reigning on the earth forever and ever. The vision continues through verse 19. So we can see that this is all one vision to be fulfilled in the very end of the end time.

"The Seven Thunders"

The little book has 7 thunders. The whole Bible is referred to as a book (Ezek. 2:9-10; Rev. 5:1-2). The "little book" is only a portion of what John saw in the book of Revelation.

"And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth" (Rev. 10:2). The mighty angel's feet are upon the sea and the earth. That means this message concerns the whole earth! The message is specifically for God's Church, but it concerns and is a warning to the whole

The Little Book



Painting by Ethan Amos

world. It's a revelation from God that affects the whole world dramatically.

The little book is speechless and silent. It has a thunderous message, but only if you read it. However, during the Tribulation, those 7 thunders are going to be pounded into the heads of those who reject them.

Notice, the angel "cried with a loud voice, as when a LION ROARS" (v. 3). It is like a lion's roar. It is a message that has one blast of thunder after another—a series of 7 thunders. THE LITTLE BOOK HAS AN IMAGE OF TERROR! It is prophecy about catastrophe!

"And I raised up of your sons

When the little book comes on the scene, it is a time of "FEAR" in God's Church and on the world scene.

for prophets, and of your young men for Nazarites. Is it not even thus, O ye children of Israel? saith the Lord. But ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink; and commanded the prophets, saying, Prophecy not" (Amos 2:11-12). Here, in the end time, God's own ministers are told to "prophecy not." This upsets God and His loyal followers and causes a Church split (Amos 3:3).

God's Philadelphia Church does prophesy. "Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets. THE LION HATH ROARED, who will not fear? the Lord God hath spoken, who can but prophesy?" (Amos 3:7-8). As in Revelation 10, there is the roar of a lion—a strong

prophecy message. One of God's Churches prophesies and one Church refuses to prophesy.

This conflict is very much a part of the little book with 7 thunders. AMOS 2-3 AND THE LITTLE BOOK HAVE THUNDEROUS MESSAGES LIKE THE ROAR OF A LION!

And it all happens in the midst of a Church split (Rev. 11:1-2). Just like in Amos 2 and 3.

Thunderous messages and a lion's roar are ominous signs! They are signs of a terrifying disaster in the very end time!

In the past, some of us have thought the little book was Mr. Herbert Armstrong's book, *Mystery of the Ages* (MA). That book is very profound revelation from God, but it covers a much more comprehensive subject than the little book. MA is not 7 thunderous messages like a lion's roar!

When the little book comes on the scene, it is a time of "FEAR" in God's Church and on the world scene. It's like a barrage of 7 thunders and a lion's roar as he is about to pounce on his prey!

In previous *Trumpet* articles, we showed that Ezekiel discusses the same end-time crisis in God's Church and in the world.

The Stormy Wind

Ezekiel is discussing a time when all of the people of Israel will "know" God (Ezek. 13:9). That is obviously a time yet to come. "Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and there was no peace; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered mortar" (Ezek. 13:10). This verse shows that in the very end time God's own people are "SEDUCED"—or drawn away from God. This couldn't apply to worldly religions or the rest of the world because God has already said in verse 9 that those people don't know Him. If you have never known God, you can't be "seduced" away from God! Only God's "little flock," or Church can be seduced.

There is a "wall" that has been built within God's Church by treacherous ministers. The "wall" is likened to a part of God's physical temple. God's temple today is His Church. That WALL is erected with false doctrines by the Laodicean ministers within God's Laodicean Church.

"Say unto them which daub it with untempered mortar, that it shall fall: there shall be an overflowing shower; and ye, O great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind shall rend it" (v. 11). The Philadelphians are to "SAY UNTO THEM" that the wall is going to fall. We have a message to deliver to the Laodiceans. All of their "new truths" or "clarifications" are false doctrines and God is going to destroy those doctrines! But first God sends a "stormy wind" to "rend" (or crack) the wall. What we "say unto them" cracks this wall of false doctrines and the Philadelphians see it and come out of the Worldwide Church of God (WCG). It is a message filled with THUNDER.

This stormy wind is like the little storm that precedes the gigantic storm (nuclear holocaust).

The stormy wind comes in the form of the little book of Revelation 10. THAT LITTLE BOOK IS MALACHI'S MESSAGE! The little book is the vanguard of the STORMY WIND. It has 7 THUNDEROUS messages! Booklets like, *The Lion Has Roared*, *The Ezekiel Watchman*, our magazine, *The Philadelphia Trumpet*, our radio program and taped messages also comprise the stormy wind, filled with THUNDER. The Philadelphia ministers and members are also a major part of the stormy wind. All of these combined are cracking the Laodicean wall.

One WCG minister who studied *Malachi's Message* for 14 hours said "this is heavy stuff"! Instead of turning to God, he turned bitterly against God's Work. Many WCG ministers have found *Malachi's Message* to be

very THUNDEROUS and disturbing. Of all our messages, *Malachi's Message* has the most THUNDER. People read it and are often turned to God's Philadelphia Church. They see that it is a *revealed* message from God! Those who have the Philadelphia spirit know they must act. It is an ominous message of a coming nuclear disaster just before Christ returns.

"Lo, when the wall is fallen, shall it not be said unto you, Where is the daubing wherewith ye have daubed it? Therefore thus saith the Lord God; I will even rend it with a stormy wind in my fury; and there shall be an overflowing shower in mine anger, and great hailstones in my fury to consume it. So will I break down the wall that ye have daubed with untempered mortar, and bring it down to the ground, so that the foundation thereof shall be discovered, and it shall fall, and ye shall be consumed in the midst thereof: and ye shall know that I am the Lord" (vv. 12-14). God is going to destroy the wall and reveal the foundation of all this evil.

Malachi's Message

Our little book, *Malachi's Message*, contains seven thunders! There are two introductory chapters entitled "A Call to Remembrance" and "Hold Fast." Then the last seven chapters contain much thunder. First comes the chapter on the "Laodicean Era" (chapter 3). It's about most of God's own people and the nations of Israel being plunged into a nuclear holocaust and the worst slavery ever on planet earth. A very thunderous message.

The second thunder is "Following Elijah." A very serious controversy has developed in the WCG over whether to follow God's end-time Elijah (Herbert Armstrong) or reject him as the prophesied end-time Elijah along with his teachings. The Laodicean leaders are destroying what HWA taught. The Philadelphians continually

fight this change and get disfel-lowshipped from the WCG in the process. It is a loud crash of THUNDER that portends terrifying evil to come.

Who is leading this Laodicean apostasy away from God's end-time Elijah? The third thunder is entitled "End-Time Joshua." It is about a type of Joshua who appears just before Christ returns. Joshua is in the bonds of Satan and is leading God's people into the Great Tribulation (Zech. 3).

Thunder number four is about the "Man of Sin." God calls him the "son of perdition"—or destruction. This man is intent on destroying what God built through HWA. This means that this JOSHUA AND THE MAN OF

SIN ARE PROBABLY TWO DIFFERENT MEN! TWO OF THE MOST POWERFUL MEN IN THE LAODICEAN CHURCH ARE DESTROYERS OF WHAT GOD HAS BUILT! That is why the destruction is so devastating. This helps us to see why the little book is like a lion's roar and seven great thunders!

A big part of the destruction is discussed in thunder number five—"Prophecy Not." At a time when all of the prophecies spoken by HWA are being fulfilled, the Laodicean leaders say "prophecy not." But God commands His loyal people to prophesy. This leads to the sixth thunder—"Church Division." We'll see more on this as we continue. The seventh thunder is the last chapter. It has the

Malachi's Message

to

God's Church Today

Gerald Flurry

Malachi's Message was first printed in January, 1990, exactly four years after Mr. Armstrong died. Since then, its thunderous message has been received by thousands worldwide.

PCG Photo

same title as the little book—"Malachi's Message." The message of the little book revolves around the book of Malachi. It's about the prophet Malachi going to a corrupt Church of God and correcting the rebellious ministers. Of course, the message is for us today. The ministers and people are warned that their eternal lives are in jeopardy! There is no more thunderous message than that!

An Unwritten Vision

The book of Revelation talks about 7 spirits, 7 angels, 7 seals, 7 trumpets, 7 plagues, and 7 thunders. "And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a

Imagine, the message of this little book was revealed 1900 years ago! However, it was not written until 1989!

voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not" (Rev. 10:4). The angel told John NOT to write this vision of the little book.

Imagine. The message of this little book WAS REVEALED 1900 YEARS AGO! HOWEVER, IT WAS NOT WRITTEN UNTIL 1989! *MALACHI'S MESSAGE* IS AN UNWRITTEN PART OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION!

Why did God reveal the message 1900 years ago, and not record it until the very end? If HWA had known all of the context of *Malachi's Message*, he would have obviously warned us about this Judas-type betrayal. The course of events would have been altered dramatically. Then God

would NOT know by our fruits who truly loves Him and who doesn't! God wouldn't know who would follow Him and who would follow a man. God revealed it 1900 years ago because it was a part of the book of Revelation. But part of it was left unwritten until now.

The "man of sin" was revealed to us in a great falling away from God (II Thes. 2:3). We didn't understand until it happened. But we still would *not* have recognized this treachery for what it really is, without *Malachi's Message*. God took HWA out of the way and then clearly revealed what was happening.

God commanded Abraham to sacrifice his son. Abraham was doing as God commanded. But when Abraham drew back the knife to slay his son, God stopped him and said "now I know that thou fearest God" (Gen. 22:12).

God gives us free moral agency and has chosen not to know our fate individually.

After HWA died, God let the mystery be revealed (II Thes. 2). After this test, God can say "now I know who will obey me." It is THE master test of God's people after HWA's death.

Now God will know who is Laodicean and who is Philadelphian. He will know by our "fruits."

No More Delay

"And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, And swore by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer" (Rev. 10:5-6). The expression, "time no longer" is better translated "no more delay" (see RSV and Anchor Bible). When the little book is delivered, there is a *major turn* in world events and events IN GOD'S LAODICEA AND PHILADELPHIA CHURCHES! Events go from moving

slow TO MOVING SUPER FAST!

The king of the south and the king of the north are fast rising to power and asserting that power (Dan. 11). The times of the Gentiles (Rev. 11:2) are building fast, even *within* Israel. The nations of Israel are going to experience more and more intense problems with the Gentiles within their borders. As the Gentiles rise, Israel is collapsing.

The Laodicean Church has changed so fast since the little book was published, that *many* have said it's more like a worldly church than God's Church! They have made over 35 major doctrinal changes since HWA died on January 16, 1986!

And look how the PCG has grown since *Malachi's Message* was first mailed just prior to January 16, 1990. Already we have bought and paid for two new buildings with over 6800 square feet, and are producing the best magazine in the world, have covered the U.S. and New Zealand with radio, have published many advertisements, are employing 9 full-time ministers and 6 full-time administrative employees and we are receiving an income of well over one million dollars a year. All of this was accomplished in roughly 2 1/2 years!

One day in a meeting, we decided there would be a need for more building space in 6 months. The very next day the owner of the adjoining two story building offered to sell us his building. Within one month we bought it!

Events have accelerated as never before, since *Malachi's Message* was first mailed!

From the time we started mailing the little book (Jan. 1990), the world and God's two end-time Churches have entered into a time of NO MORE DELAY. America, Britain, biblical Judah (called Israel today) and God's Laodicean Church are racing toward a nuclear disaster and captivity! That is the thunder and lion's roar contained in the little book!

Sweet and Bitter

"But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets" (Rev. 10:7). It is a time when the mystery is finished. The firstfruits have become God. HWA did not live to help usher in this event. But the Philadelphia Church of God today does.

"And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth. And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter" (vv. 8-10). The people who eat *and digest* the little book are God's people. Those people who eat and digest it become Philadelphians. God's people who refuse to eat and digest it become Laodicean and enter into the outer court (Rev. 11:1-2). They and the world reject the little book and fail to understand the prophesied events. Only God's very elect understand the prophecies of the little book.

THE LITTLE BOOK IS A PROPHETIC SECTION OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION! It is silent and speechless, but it has a thunderous, lion-roaring message! It's about the worst storm ever to strike this earth—the Great Tribulation!

Why is it sweet as honey? Because the Philadelphians see that Christ removed the LAMP from the WCG and they follow in the lighted path. They no longer have to remain in the WCG and listen to false doctrines. They still see that we are going to be in God's Headquarters temple forev-

er by following Jesus Christ. And we clearly see that Christ is about to return and righteously rule this violent, sick world! That is a very sweet message.

But the message is also very bitter. "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, UNTIL THEIR FELLOWSERVANTS ALSO AND THEIR BRETHREN, THAT SHOULD BE KILLED AS THEY WERE, SHOULD BE FULFILLED" (Rev. 6:9-11). Most of the WCG members are going to die in the Tribulation. Only those who come to the PCG shall escape. The Laodiceans ARE GOING TO BE SLAUGHTERED AND MARTYRED AS THEIR BRETHREN THROUGH THE AGES HAVE BEEN! It has been prophesied for thousands of years!

And not only that, probably 50% of them will enter into the lake of fire (Matt. 25:1-10). MANY of God's own people must face death and be slaughtered like sheep. Facing this experience is what brings many of them to repentance.

This is very *bitter* to God's Philadelphians. They see the coming disaster for their beloved brethren. The PCG WARNS and WARNS and hopes many will respond to be delivered to a place of safety.

"Prophecy Again"

"And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings" (Rev. 10:11). The Greek word "before" would better be translated "about" or "concerning" (see RSV Trans. and *Lange's Commentary*). The Moffatt Bible

translates it "of." The point is, nobody has to personally appear BEFORE kings. God just says we must preach a message of prophecy that is ABOUT "many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings."

So we have a big job to do. We must warn God's Laodicean Church and Israel (even the world) of what is coming. However, this job could still be done in a very short amount of time. But it will take time to do it. We don't set dates.

The little book is about prophecy. And God wants that message and more to be delivered to the Church and the world.

Mr. Herbert Armstrong had to PROPHECY AGAIN—but only in *type*. Verse 11 mainly applies to the PCG AFTER HWA DIED.

There should be no chapter break between Revelation 10 and 11. "And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein" (Rev. 11:1). The word "rise" literally means "to rouse" from sleep. The WCG went to sleep after HWA died. THEY STOPPED PROPHESYING! So now God tells the PCG today to "rouse" ourselves and to prophesy. "But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months" (v. 2). The word temple is *naos* which means inner temple where God dwells. God no longer leads the WCG. Now God leads the PCG, or the inner temple.

The outer court or Laodiceans went to sleep and stopped prophesying. The inner court rises up and prophesies again the way HWA did.

First HWA prophesied. When he died, the WCG stopped prophesying. Now God raises up the PCG to prophesy again. This is the 5th thunder (7th chapter) of *Malachi's Message*!

Notice it says "prophecy again" (Rev. 10:11) not "restore all things" again. Mr. Armstrong *emphasized* the Gospel and also prophesied. Our work *emphasizes* prophecy—it revolves around prophecy.

God has already "restored all things" through HWA. There is no need to restore again. But there is an urgent need to PROPHECY AGAIN, because God did not reveal many of the prophecies to HWA.

God's PCG must prophesy again in the midst of a Church split—inner court and outer court.

The PCG Work revolves around the little book. It's the only book we have. We have booklets, but only one little book.

If the Laodiceans fail to heed our warning, they must enter into the times of the Gentiles and be enslaved. Why does God mention the times of the Gentiles and not the Tribulation? It's probably because it helps us to see the shortness of time better. The Gentiles are rising inside and outside the nations of Israel. Israel is collapsing from within and is to be attacked from without.

The Philadelphians are to rise and measure the Laodiceans—many of them are measured for destruction. A GREAT PORTION OF THAT MEASURING IS HOLDING ON TO WHAT HWA TAUGHT! The word "measure" means to judge by any rule or standard. What HWA taught has a lot to do with our standard. But of course, God's word is how we measure them and ourselves. Just "rising" or rousing ourselves out of sleep spiritually is measuring the Laodiceans.

But notice, it says we must measure the "altar" also. The altar is where the priests served in the temple. So it is referring to God's ministers today.

Measuring the Ministry

The little book, or *Malachi's Message*, is aimed first and foremost at the ministers. The prophet Malachi corrected them

most of all. The sinning ministers offer polluted bread to God's people (Mal. 1). Of course the message is also for the temple, or God's people. They were following the priests' instruction.

"And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you" (Mal. 2:1). What commandment? The one in the book of Malachi which warns the ministers to stop causing people to stumble at the law (Mal. 2:7-8).

Who in this very end time has a little book warning God's own ministers and people to stop polluting God's word? Who has a little book, warning God's ministers to repent? The very title of our little book is *Malachi's Message*. The whole message is built around the book of Malachi.

The root word of *commandment* means to delegate or commission anyone with commands from God. The PCG was commissioned by God to deliver the little book—or *Malachi's Message*.

"If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the Lord of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart" (v. 2). If they will not HEAR or LAY IT TO HEART, God curses them. They can't hear a message or lay it to heart unless someone delivers it to them! The PCG has delivered the little book or *Malachi's Message*!

"Behold, I will corrupt your seed, and spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your solemn feasts; and one shall take you away with it" (v. 3). If you look up the expression "solemn feasts" (#2282 in *Strong's*), you will see that 90% of the time this expression means God's Holy Days, and that's what it means here.

Who in this end time keeps God's Holy Days but pollutes them? (Even God's Sardis Church has lost His Holy Days.) Who in this end time has God's LAW, and

is causing God's people "to stumble at the law"? This could only refer to the WCG. And who is warning the WCG of these sins? Only the PCG is! "And YE SHALL KNOW that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant might be with Levi, saith the Lord of hosts" (v. 4). The Laodiceans and the whole world are going to know God sent *Malachi's Message*! A mighty angel delivered it directly from God to man!

The Sun Shines Again

"And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire" (Rev. 10:1). The throne of God is pictured as being circled by a rainbow (Rev. 4:3). The picture here is like the sun shining after a deadly storm!

The little book is ultimately the best news possible. After the roaring lion and the thundering storm, God intervenes and saves man from himself.

Some of us may have known a few details of *Malachi's Message* before it was printed. Two or three people have said they understood most of it before it was written. THAT IS A HORRIBLE FALLACY! *Malachi's Message* was delivered to me and the PCG in 1989. A MIGHTY ANGEL DIRECTLY FROM GOD REVEALED IT! There was no need for the mighty angel to come if a few already understood the message! I hope all of us would challenge such views.

Malachi's Message is a new vision from a mighty angel. It's a NEW REVELATION—not something somebody already knew!

This new revelation is God's way of saying that we must give the little book a special importance and the majesty it deserves.

Only then can we properly respond to the great Work of God—much of which revolves around the little book. ♦