Dear Center for Creative Ministry,

This eLetter provides you with the latest version of Contemporary Comments.

In the right side bar you can also secure the Sharing Scripture facilitator guides:

**Sharing Scripture** - Fourth Quarter: October 5 - December 28, 2013. Title: "The Sanctuary" These excellent discussion sheets are designed to enhance your Sabbath School class or small group. Suitable for photocopying, Sharing Scripture contain thought questions and exercises that transform ordinary study times into dynamic learning adventures.

Grace to you!

Center for Creative Ministry

Contemporary Comments

"Atonement: Purification Offering"

November 2, 2013
It’s been a bumpy ride for the new United States health care law, especially regarding the HealthCare.gov web page rollout. Opponents to the law want immediate answers to why the system is not working correctly. Supporters are scrambling to quickly fix the problems.

Heated exchanges have raised the temperature in Congress! For instance, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee are pressuring Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius to provide details on the web pages troubles.

"It is clear you and other high-ranking HHS officials either provided false testimony to Congress or did not know how badly the development of the HealthCare.gov was proceeding. Either scenario, if accurate, is inexcusable and demands accountability from your department," the lawmakers wrote in a letter sent to Sebelius on Friday. "Your failure to provide Congress information that would shed additional light on these problems is a troubling indication that you are refusing to hold people accountable for this costly and failed enterprise."1

In a flurry of statements, readers of the news hear about blame, mismanagement, quick improvements, patience, delay, disaster, extend the period, penalties, transition period and signs of trouble. We certainly can conclude, regardless of our political leanings, that there is no perfect system.

In our Sabbath school lesson for this week, we continue to study God’s system of fixing things. The sanctuary service offering that we focus on this lesson is the purification offering, the most critical sacrifice which points directly to the atonement of Christ on the cross of Calvary. The problem of sin in our world was remedied when Jesus shed blood for our transgressions.

Our lesson explains the method by which an Israelite in the Old Testament would bring an offering, usually a lamb without blemish, to the sanctuary. After laying hands on the innocent lamb and confessing one’s sins, the offering was sacrificed. The blood was then handled very carefully since it symbolized the transfer of sin.

When the plan of salvation was rolled out, Satan did everything he could to put “glitches” in the system of rites. Though spiritual leaders through the centuries eventually lost sight of the purpose of the sanctuary and even condemned the perfect Lamb of God, we know that it has all come together perfectly. It's a plan we can count on.

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1. PBS

About Us
Since 1988, the Center for Creative Ministry has been serving local church leaders and individuals around the world. Formerly known as the publishers of ABBA Newsletter and the Baby Boomer Ministries Resource Center, we have now broadened our generational/ministry focus to include our children. The Center for Creative Ministry took on its new name on June 1, 1996.

The Center for Creative Ministry, formerly Baby Boomer Ministries, is a privately funded and managed para-church ministry fully recognized by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. We are dedicated to supporting the local church in outreach and nurture ministries by providing resources, information, training, and consulting.