In 1961, when I was finishing my medical training and my twin brother Colin was completing his doctorate at the University of Sydney, we invited our former Australian Missionary College (now Avondale College) fellow student, Dr Desmond Ford (pictured), to speak on the subject of the Spirit of Prophecy to a combined gathering of the Sydney University and the University of New South Wales Seventh-day Adventist Students’ Societies. I had been president of the 84-strong member Sydney University Society in 1960, and Colin in 1961 and 1962.

As students at Avondale College, we had judged Desmond Ford to be the most academically brilliant, the most capable speaker and the most dedicated person in the student body. When he returned to Australia after completing his Master’s Degree in 1959 at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, then located in Washington, D.C., and his doctorate in Rhetoric at Michigan State University in 1961, we were confident that Dr. Ford would convincingly raise the flagging confidence that a few of the Seventh-day Adventist students attending those universities were showing. Around one hundred students were in attendance.

We were more than satisfied with Dr. Ford’s able presentation during the first three-quarters of that meeting. His praise of the positive impact of the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy upon his early days as a Seventh-day Adventist was both eloquent and helpful. It was no minor testimony.

But to our utter dismay, when nearing the conclusion of his presentation, Dr. Ford declared that Sister White sometimes included some mistakes in her inspired writings. By way of example, he conjectured that the age of the earth was not six thousand years, as Sister White declared no less than 40 times (see “Ellen G. White and Earth Science”, Journal of the Adventist Theological Society, volume 14, number 1, Spring 2003, p. 187).

We were not only dismayed — we were stunned! In private conversation after the meeting, Dr. Ford emphasized that he was not suggesting millions of years; only eight or ten thousand years, because scientists had dated the glaciers that spread into the United States at about 5000 B.C. Dr. Ford also commented that archaeological findings could not be accommodated by an earth which was merely 6000 years old.

By the dawn of the 21st century, Dr. Ford had “advanced” from a 9000-year old earth to one of millions of years. By then, he disputed the fact that the earth was created in six days and spiritualized the Biblical account of Creation.

Some years ago on Sydney radio station 2GB, Dr. Ford referred to a book published by the Association of Adventist Forums in 2000, Creation Reconsidered: Scientific, Biblical and Theological Perspectives. My son, Dr. Timothy Standish, who is a research scientist at the General Conference Geoscience Research Institute in California, had written a critique of the book, which was a collection of papers from a field conference held in the United States in 1984. He pointed out that the book "provides a historical perspective of liberal Adventists speaking at the time."
Genesis 1: continued from previous page

My son Timothy (pictured) further wrote:

“Several chapters are dedicated to critiques of other Adventist scholars’ attempts to reconcile the Biblical flood and a short chronology with the geological record. Strangely no chapter, not one, deals with evidence logically consistent with creation like biological complexity and the anthropic principles in physics.

“...the reader is left to assume that any literal interpretation of historical accounts given in the book of Genesis, especially those made by Adventist scholars who take the Bible at its word, is questionable....”

Dr. Ford said of this book on Radio 2GB:

“Here’s a book written by Seventh-day Adventists, leading theologians and scientists. And on page 300, I read this: ‘In wandering around the highways and byways of recent theology, I have not encountered one example of a serious, sustained theological argument confirming the creation of the world in six literal days a few thousand years ago.’

“Adventists! Adventists! From Adventists came Ellen White — the great evangelical Christian. But she wrote in the nineteenth century and so she used [Archbishop James Ussher’s chronology of the earth]. And George McCready Price [a Canadian Seventh-day Adventist creationist: 1870 - 1963] — a brave, generous, intelligent man — trusted Ellen White so much he perverted his science unknowingly. And that’s where our creation research movement comes from — it was spawned by George McCready Price. But it’s gone. Even the Adventists have thrown out that old approach.”

This was a very serious statement, for clearly Dr. Ford agreed with the statement from the book, Creation Reconsidered. The notion that the creation of the world in six literal days has no theological support indicated that Dr. Ford believed that God’s plainest words, written with His own finger in the Fourth Commandment, are a downright falsehood. It is very serious to imply such a charge. It also destroys the Scriptural testimony that God cannot lie (Titus 1: 2).

Our belief in the six-day creation about six thousand years ago was established in our faith on the basis of inspiration — long before George McCready Price was born. His work upheld that which God had previously established.

Furthermore, it is not correct to say that the literal and true understanding of Genesis 1 is “gone. Even the Adventists have thrown out that old approach.” We have done no such thing, either as faithful Seventh-day Adventists or on a denomination-wide basis. Such inaccuracies defame the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and I am sorry to have to report that these statements were made for the public to hear.

In this same radio interview with Dr. Gordon Moyes [a minister of the Uniting Church of Australia and formerly a member of the Upper House of the New South Wales Parliament] on August 3, 2002, Dr Ford spiritualized away the first chapter of Scripture:

“Genesis one — there is a beautiful parable of what happens. In the beginning, we are without form and void spiritually. Darkness upon our mind. We can’t distinguish between light and darkness. And the Spirit of God works upon us. And the word of God speaks to us and we begin to separate good from evil. Then the early fruit comes up — repentance and sorrow for sin, faith in God. Then life becomes more abundant. Then we become lights in the dark world, being conformed to the image of Christ, who was love. Then we enter into rest, which is the union of the heart with God. As every dew-drop reflects the sun, every extended passage of Scripture reflects Christ, the Sun of Righteousness. The prophets pointed to Him. Priests pointed to Him. Kings pointed to Him. The Temple pointed to Him. Every sacrifice pointed to Him.”

It may be possible to draw lessons from Genesis chapter one, but they do not replace the historicity of that which is described under inspiration in Scripture.

Desmond Ford’s wife, Gillian, had authored a document entitled, Genesis 1: The Light that Challenges the Darkness. The introduction was written by her husband. In it, he spiritualized the facts of creation in yet another way:

“For example — Christ is set forth as the last Adam, and he, too, falls asleep on the sixth day of the week, shouting ‘finished’ with His dying breath. And this took place in a garden where He hung on a tree, which, henceforth, would be both the tree of life and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. All this in order that His side might be opened so that He might have a bride — the church.

“He was placed in a tomb — the symbol of chaos and the abyss. Before His death, darkness reigned for three hours as the Light of the World was gradually extinguished.

“Should we not follow the example of the apostles and use Genesis in this way rather than trying to meet the scientific exigency, which has only emerged after millenniums of human and church history?
“Never does the New Testament use the Old Testament for scientific purposes. Wherever time and eternity meet, metaphor must be used as at both ends of the Bible. The Bible never reveals supernaturally anything humans can themselves discover; just so, Christ, the Living Word, spoke only of the plan of salvation.

“If Genesis were intended as science, it would consist purely of equations. Written for oral use among the children of earth who would be illiterate through most of the coming millenniums, the inspired word speaks in a manner that all would be able to understand.

“As Christ took human symbols (Aramaic words) to express heavenly truth, so Moses, under inspiration, used contemporary idioms to tell WHO (not HOW or WHEN) CREATED THE UNIVERSE.” [capital letters and parenthesis in the original]

Dr. Ford’s statement that “if Genesis were intended as science, it would consist purely of equations” is most curious. Colin and I have read many science books and journals of high repute. We have yet to read a single one that consisted of equations alone. It is also noted that Dr. Ford not only again denied the literal account of Creation, confirmed in the clearest words written by God in the Ten Commandments, but that he cast doubt upon the book of Revelation when he referred to “both ends of the Bible.”

The esteemed American oceano-grapher, Matthew Maury (pictured) [1806 - 1873], was a man of God. Maury’s work on tides, winds, and the physical geography of the sea, dramatically cut times sailing boats took to reach their destinations and opened the way for the trans-Atlantic telegraphic cable to be laid. Critics in his day argued that the Bible was not meant to be a book of science and thus could not be used for scientific accuracy. His response was as telling as it was succinct:

“I have been blamed by men of science...for quoting the Bible in confirmation of the doctrines of physical geography. The Bible, they say, was not written for scientific purposes, and is therefore of no authority in matters of science. I beg pardon! The Bible is authority for everything it touches. What would you think of the historian who would refuse to consult the historical records of the Bible, because the Bible was not written for the purpose of history! The Bible is true and science is true, and therefore each if truly read, but proves the truth of the other.” A Life of Matthew Fountaine Maury, USN & CSN, pp. 158, 159. D. F. M. Corbin. Sampson and Lowe Company. London, England. 1888

The presentation of this evidence should not be construed as a personal vendetta against Desmond Ford, who was a fellow College student with Colin and me at Avondale in 1950. We will not help Dr. Ford return to truth and righteousness by muting our concern, nor would we help God’s people by refraining from warning them of the errors abroad. He has spoken and written publicly; likewise we reply publicly. The evidence of Dr. Ford’s beliefs are documented for all to evaluate.

While Dr. Ford voluntarily withdrew his membership from the Seventh-day Adventist Church when he returned to Australia after residing in the United States for a quarter of a century, he is still widely consulted by not a few pastors in our church. He was offered membership in the Avondale College Church in 2001, but declined it. His influence compels Colin and myself to cite his current views on Creation.

The New Theology, now promoted in the highest echelons of our church, is the most destructive of the numerous winds of doctrine blighting the Seventh-day Adventist Church — for it destroys every element of the faith and holy living. It is the most significant cause of the disunity in our church today. It is the most masterful of Satan’s wily arts in his purpose to destroy God’s faith and His remnant church.

In this time of an unprecedented tempest within the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the New Theology offers a tattered and dilapidated umbrella for protection from the spiritual tornadoes tearing Christianity apart. That which God’s people desperately require is not this “shelter” from the ferocious storm assailing our church, but rather a glorious mansion of refuge erected on the mighty foundations of the hewn rock of Scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy — foundations of which Christ is the Chief Cornerstone.


The Big Bang Exploded

Our readers are encouraged to procure a copy of this book, written by Russell and Colin Standish (printed by Hartland Publications in 1998), which addresses the Big Bang hypothesis that underpins the theory of evolution. The book reveals major flaws with evolutionism, showing how the Bible is utterly reliable in its statements on creation. This book can be obtained from Remnant Ministries for A$18 plus postage. Please contact us by using the details on the masthead of this paper.
“We confess that we are alarmed by the fact that some of our colleges seem to be drifting away from the standards and objectives established for them by their founders. We are alarmed by the secular climate that prevails on some campuses. We are alarmed by the strange winds of doctrine that blow on some campuses. We are alarmed by the lax moral standards that prevail on some campuses. We are alarmed by the feeble efforts put forth by some faculty members to create a spiritual climate that will prepare students for the greatest event in earth’s history — the second coming of Jesus.”  

Adventist Review, February 21, 1980

Both Pastor Pierson and Pastor Wood were well acquainted with what Desmond Ford had inculcated in the years he served as Chairman of the Theology Department at Avondale College in Australia. Among the aberrant teachings of Dr. Ford was the view that the world was much older than the age specified in the Spirit of Prophecy — 6000 years. The development of this premise by Dr. Ford led him to deny the literal account of Creation as recorded in Genesis 1, which he has not rescinded in the years following the withdrawal of his ministerial credentials for doctrinal apostasy in 1980.

On Dr. Ford’s website, he makes reference to the book he spoke about on Sydney radio 2GB ten years ago, Creation Reconsidered. He lists the names of some of the authors who allowed their papers to form the basis of the book's contents. They included:

* Raymond F. Cottrell: associate editor, Review and Herald (1957 - 1964)
* Jack Provonsha: professor of religion and ethics, Loma Linda University (1958 - 1985)

(Interesting sidelight: At the 1980 General Conference Session in Dallas, Texas, Pastor Kenneth Wood related to Colin and Russell Standish that he had received a letter from Dr Richard Hammill, who blasted him for what he wrote in his editorial about the state of the denomination’s colleges, lampooning him as the church’s version of the Ayatollah Khomeni (pictured) — the late hard-
line leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran [ruled from 1979 - 1989], who sanctioned the kidnapping of 52 staff members from the American embassy in Tehran and held them hostage for 444 days [November 1979 - January 1981]).

The men listed by Desmond Ford, who had occupied such high positions in the denomination, were included with the scientists in the church who no longer believed in the flat creation of this earth — of whom Dr. Ford stated that they “belonged to one of the most conservative religious bodies in the world — Seventh-day Adventism.” To Dr. Ford, the repudiation of the fundamentalist interpretation of Creation signifies an enlightened and progressive stance towards the subject on the origins of life in the universe, including our planet.

As early as 1971, the secular press in America reported on the calls for change that were being made within the denomination — with liberals demanding new patterns of thought and new methods of operation to direct the church’s course.

“As a first step toward recovering the dissenting spirit of the past, liberal Adventists contend, the church ought to rid itself of its dependence upon an exaggerated Biblical literalism. Officially, Adventists hold fast to the belief that the world was created in seven days of 24 hours each, and they peg the age of the earth at about 6000 years. But, says one scholar at Andrews University, ‘you will find few seminary professors who admit to the 6000 year theory, and many Adventists no longer believe that the days of Creation were each 24 hours long.’” Newsweek, June 7, 1971

Having espoused his developing views on this subject for over five decades, Dr. Ford now contends that there are four options for Christians to choose from in the Genesis account of Creation:

“1: Those who take Genesis 1 as a literal account of a six-day creation.

“2: Those who hold the ‘gap’ theory. They view Genesis 1 as the account of the reconstruction of the world after eons of geological time.

“3: There is the conformist group who view each day as representing thousands of years (Jehovah’s Witnesses for example, and the fine astrophysicist, Hugh Ross).

“4: Those who see the chapter as a liturgical hymn of praise and ode to the Creator, to be interpreted as literature and not as science.

“The writer of this present article belongs to the fourth group, which includes the majority of well-known evangelical scholars today. John Stott, according to Billy Graham, is the most respected pastor in Christendom, and he holds to this view, which can be found in his commentary on Romans.” Website of Desmond Ford: Genesis and Science

Furthermore, Dr. Ford quoted two evangelicals on his website who advocated that Genesis chapters 1 to 11 is “an inspired retelling of ancient oriental traditions about the origins of the world”; that it is doubtful whether the author had historical and scientific questions in mind when he wrote about Creation, the Flood, and the Tower of Babel; and that none of the accounts in those chapters constitute “myths”, nor are they classified as “history” in the modern sense of eyewitness, objective reporting, but rather “convey theological truths about events, portrayed in a largely symbolic, pictorial literary style.”

By including these statements on his website, one can safely assume that Dr. Ford agrees with such remarks, thus positioning himself totally against the plain words of Scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy.

Sister White (pictured) had warned us of the consequences of abandoning the fundamental pillars of our faith, which include the Biblical account on creation, embodied in the fourth commandment of the Decalogue. She wrote:

“It is impossible to estimate the evil results of removing one of the landmarks fixed by the word of God. Few who venture to do this, stop with the rejection of a single truth. The majority continue to set aside one after another of its principles until they become actual infidels.” The Great Controversy, p. 349. 1884 edition

Acceptance of the New Theology has led its proponents and adherents to repudiate one after another of the cardinal doctrines of our faith, which underpin our reason for existence as Seventh-day Adventists. It is no small wonder that so many thousands of Seventh-day Adventists have left the faith, even rejecting Christianity altogether, on account of believing and following the tenets of the New Theology to their logical conclusions.

“And this is the object which Satan seeks to accomplish. There is nothing that he desires more than to destroy confidence in God and in His word….There are many who seem to feel that it is a virtue to stand on the side of unbelief, skepticism, and infidelity. But underneath an appearance of candour and humility, it will be found that such persons are actuated by self-confidence and pride. It is a terrible thing to lose faith in God or in His word.” Ibid, p. 349

Therefore, let us place our full confidence in the creation account in Genesis, which will give meaning to the keeping of the seventh-day Sabbath and anchor our faith to all the teachings of Scripture.
The glory of God is intimately bound up with the physical, intellectual and spiritual growth of His people. Because of the indivisible interrelationship of these three aspects of humanity, it is impossible for spiritual and intellectual God-given potential to be achieved without a thorough attention to simple healthful living. Thus the apostle Paul declared,

“Whether therefore ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.” 1. Corinthians 10: 31

Attention to health is part of the gospel presentation. The servant of the Lord says,

“The gospel is to be presented, not as a lifeless theory, but as a living force to change the life. God desires that the receivers of His grace shall be witnesses to its power.” Desire of Ages, p. 826

In Eden, the basics of healthful living was established upon useful vigorous manual labour linked with a simple vegetarian diet (see Genesis 1: 29). Such a program of plain living is still the basis of physical health.

“A plain diet, free from spices, and flesh meats, and grease of all kinds, would prove to be a blessing to you....” Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 83

It is well to keep in mind that it was not only the gnawing pangs of hunger that caused suffering to Christ but the awesome sense of guilt that resulted from the accumulated indulgence of appetite by fallen humanity (see God’s Amazing Grace, p. 164 — Ellen G. White devotional for 1974).

Because intemperance is the supreme manifestation of idolatry, it is the basis of all of man’s moral ills. It was at issue in the fall of our first parents; and in man’s redemption, it was the first work of Christ on earth (see Ibid, p. 164).

While Peter is not dealing exclusively with diet, yet his counsel to “abstain from fleshy lusts which war against the soul” (1. Peter 2: 11) is very rele-

vant to diet. There is no doubt that

“Our eternal destiny depends upon strictly temperate habits” Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 234

For not only does intemperance reveal the egocentric dominance of the carnal mind, but it also greatly weakens man’s ability to resist temptation and to take hold of the power of Christ — which alone can effect victory in a person’s life.

There are those who claim to be earnestly waiting for Christ’s return who, nevertheless, are still engaged in eating flesh. Yet we are told that

“Among those who are waiting for the coming of the Lord, meat eating will eventually be done away; flesh will cease to form a part of their diet.” Ibid, p. 381

If we truly believe that Christ’s return is imminent, it will be fully reflected in our dietary habits. Today many claiming a desire to enter the heavenly Canaan are just as indulgent as was Israel of old when seeking the earthly Canaan (see Exodus 16: 3; Numbers 11: 4 - 6, 31 - 33).

While meat eating is not declared to be a sin, nevertheless we cannot ignore the direct command:

“Individually, you will not subsist upon the flesh of dead animals, neither will you put one morsel in the mouths of your children.” Ibid, p. 294

It is important to note that in the Bible, the eating of blood and fat are just as explicitly condemned as the eating of swine’s flesh or unscaled fish (see Genesis 9: 3, 4; Leviticus 3: 17; Acts 15: 20).

The stimulation of flesh eating not only affects the physical life but has devastating moral consequences:

“The moral evils of a flesh diet are not less marked than are the physical ills.” Ibid, p. 383

We are further warned that many who are presently not fully converted on the question of meat eating

“Will go from God’s people to walk no more with them.” Ibid, p. 382

But there are many other areas of diet that are involved in health reform. Many wrongly believe vegetarianism is the ultimate in healthful living. Thus many church potlucks represent the most unhealthy combination of foods that are rich in oil content and that have highly refined sugar. Both are
Temperance will be achieved when the totality of our life is dedicated to Christ. Perhaps nothing is more important than simple faith and trust in God. This comes by a Spirit-directed daily study of God’s Word. This relationship with God is the basis of the fulfillment of every other health principle in the life.

In recognition of this, it is time for God’s children to take hold of Paul’s counsel to the Corinthians:

“Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.” 2 Corinthians 7: 1

The perfection of Christian character is at stake in healthful living.

“God desire us to reach the standard of perfection made possible by the gift of Christ. It is our work to obtain a knowledge of those principles, and by obedience to co-operate with Him in restoring health to the body as well as to the soul.” Ministry of Healing, pp. 114, 115

We need the grace of God for these victories to be achieved in our lives, for

“It is His grace that gives men power to obey the laws of God. It is this that enables him to break the bondage of evil habits.” Prophets and Kings, p. 233

Yet there is another area of Christian living that needs special review — the area of dress. The principles of dress, no less than diet, are based upon the glorification of God rather than the glorification of self. Thus both Peter and Paul (see 1 Peter 3: 3, 4 and 1 Timothy 2: 9, 10) point to the principle of the beauty of the life rather than the beautification of the body as the basis of true Christian example. Surely the time has come to put away those rings, necklaces, bangles, bracelets, earrings, etc., together with ostentatious make-up — which be-speaks of concern for the outward appearance rather than an inner transformation. This does not, however, give the Christian license to carelessness in dress. Simple, modest and appropriate attire should be worn at all times and especially on Sabbath. The trend toward casual dress on Sabbath is in keeping with the irreverence and lack of respect for God that is characteristic of this age. The true principles of Sabbath-keeping will lead to careful Sabbath-dressing, which will be a reminder of the special day that the Sabbath surely is.

It is well for God’s remnant people to evaluate the influence of the unisex movement, and the homosexual and lesbian activities upon dress patterns in the world in the light of what is written in the following statements:

“The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman’s garment: for all that do so are [an] abomination unto the Lord thy God.” Deuteronomy 22: 5

deleterious to health. In 1977, the preliminary report on the causes of cancer was released by the United States Senate Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, which was chaired by the 1972 Democratic presidential candidate, Senator George McGovern (pictured). It pinpointed the high ingestion of fats, both saturated and unsaturated, as a major contributor to many forms of cancer. We have perhaps just as much to fear, if not more, from refined oils (including margarines) as we do from refined sugar. It would be far better to put away all refined sugars, fats and oils — relying upon sugars and oils as they are found in their natural complex states in fruits, grains, vegetables and nuts. The result would be improved physical, mental and spiritual life.

We cannot overlook the deleterious effects of tea, coffee, cola and other soda drinks. Self-control — which in its fullest sense is Christ-control — will lead to the elimination of all those articles from the diet. Paul tells us that Christ is the author of self-control and self-discipline (see 2. Timothy 1: 7). The indulgence of appetite is the index of an impenitent life — a lack of self-control.

While emphasizing the bases of improper diet, we must not overlook the problem of overeating — even of the best food. Such indulgence also leads to physical debilitation, which affects spiritual and moral growth. The advantages of two meals a day for most people and a light early evening meal (if a third is taken) should be carefully considered.

Yet diet is only one, albeit one of the most important, health principles of God. The other health principles include exercise, sunshine, fresh air, pure water, temperance in all phases of life, rest, and trust in God.

If we follow God’s plan of rural living, spending considerable time in gardening and other non-competitive outdoor activities, we will get the necessary aerobic exercise (meaning that in which the heart beat and breathing rate is significantly raised each day for at least 15 to 30 minutes so as to strengthen the heart and lungs) as well as sunshine and fresh air. Pure water is harder to obtain today, but in good well or stream water, or in distilled water, this can still be obtained.

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“There is an increasing tendency to have women in their dress and appearance as near like the other sex as possible, and to fashion their dress very much like that of men, but God pronounces it abomination.” Testimonies for the Church, volume 1, p. 457

While emphasizing that healthful living and dress standards do nothing to merit salvation, they are both integrally bound up with the demonstration of people who will glorify God and vindicate His character. Christ’s victory over self-centredness in each of our lives is dependent upon allowing Him to gain the victory over every trait that would militate against the work of the Holy Spirit within us. While not saved by this work, we cannot be saved without it.

A copy of this booklet can be obtained from the editor.

Prevention of Western Diseases Through a Vegetarian Diet
By Elvis Placer

The New York Times, August 18, 2011, reported that former United States President Bill Clinton (pictured) had drastically changed his diet to become a vegan to stave off any more heart problems. He has had two major heart surgeries since leaving office in 2001 — a quadruple bypass operation in 2004 and another operation to open up a blocked artery in 2010.

Throughout the years he served as Governor of Arkansas (1979 - 1981, 1983 - 1992), Bill Clinton developed a legendary reputation for being an avid devourer of junk food — hamburgers, french fries, fried chicken tortillas, steaks, barbecue sausages, ice-creams, etc. At one time, during his campaign for the presidency in 1992, Bill Clinton visited a certain store in New Hampshire and ordered a dozen doughnuts. He was well on his way towards finishing the box of doughnuts when an aide restrained him from eating any more (Website of CNN: From Omnivore to Vegan: The Dietary Education of Bill Clinton, August 18, 2011).

Many people are woefully ignorant of the harmful effects of the typical Western diet. The following statement well articulates people’s general attitude towards what they eat and describes the true nature of those articles of food that lack the necessary nutrients to sustain the living human organism:

“Measured in terms of taste, volume, and variety, Americans eat very well indeed. But expensive or tasty food is not necessarily good food. Most Americans assume that it makes little difference what they put into their stomachs as long as they are full. Magically, everything that goes in somehow will be converted into perfect health. They scoff at the thought of proper diet.

“Yet, many of these same people are fastidious about what they feed their pedigreed dogs and cats or their registered cattle and horses.

“Dr. George M. Briggs, professor of nutrition at the University of California, and member of the Research Advisory Committee of the National Livestock and Meat Board, has said: ‘The typical American diet is a national disaster….If I fed it to pigs or cows, without adding vitamins or other supplements, I could wipe out the livestock industry.’ National Enquirer, December 5, 1971, p. 2.” World Without Cancer, pp. 56, 57. G. Edward Griffin. American Media Incorporated. Westlake Village, California. 1974

In 1994, a medical book was published in the United States, the main emphasis of which was that the majority of diseases that are prevalent in the affluent Western nations (like Australia and America) are largely caused by dietary factors. The book further stated that a change of diet towards plain, non-stimulating, plant-based fare could contribute to the prevention and reversibility of those medical ailments and disorders.

The contributors to this book, Western Diseases: Their Dietary Prevention and Reversibility (Humana Press. Totowa, New Jersey), suggested that the high rate of premature deaths in the Western world that are not related to the consumption of alcohol, tobacco, drugs and other narcotics, nor to traffic accidents and chemical pollution, are largely attributable to eating foods that contain too many calories, excessive amounts of saturated fats and refined sugars, and that are deficient in dietary fibre. The medical scientists who worked on this book were struck by the fact that the majority of the most common diseases in the West today were mostly rare and even unknown in those countries before World War I — and are still rare throughout much of the Third World. The book admits that medical science was very slow to recognize the link between diet and non-infectious diseases until two medical researchers published their findings in 1960 and 1966.
The editors of this informative book wrote:

“The enormous relevance of this discovery was slow to take root in the [medical] profession. Doctors are not trained to confront disease in the outlook of Louis Pasteur [French chemist and microbiologist, 1822 - 1895], who remarked, ‘Whenever I meditate on a disease, I never think of finding a remedy for it, but rather a means for preventing it.’ It will require a whole change of outlook for the question, ‘How can this be prevented?’ to acquire anything like equal prominence with, ‘How can it be cured?’” Western Diseases: Their Dietary Prevention and Reversibility, preface p. viii

The editors then outlined the objective of bringing this book before the medical profession and the general public:

“This book is an attempt to draw attention not only to the fact that a huge proportion of diseases responsible for death and suffering in the Western world are potentially preventable, but also, in several instances, are actually reversible without recourse to drugs or surgery.” Ibid.

One of the contributors to this book outlined the most effective means of prevention in combating the scourge of non-infectious diseases in our society:

“There is one optimal diet — rich in whole grain cereals, legumes, tubers [potatoes], vegetables, and fruits, low in fats, sugars, and salt — that will not only prevent a whole spectrum of Western diseases but will contribute to their reversibility.

“The rich Western diet emerges as the primary, essential, necessary cause of the current epidemic of premature atherosclerotic disease [heart attack] followed by cigarette smoking as an important secondary or complementary cause.

“The other hand, a simpler diet of foods-as-grown emerges more and more as the primary, essential lifestyle agent to prevent and reverse these Western diseases.” Ibid, p. 305.

Almost a century and a half ago, through the light God had given to Sister White, Seventh-day Adventists began to proclaim the benefits of adopting a balanced vegetarian diet. In one of her books that was especially prepared for the general public, Ellen White wrote:

“Grains, fruits, nuts, and vegetables constitute the diet chosen for us by our Creator. These foods, prepared in as simple and natural a manner as possible, are the most healthful and nourishing. They impart a strength, a power of endurance, and a vigour of intellect, that are not afforded by a more complex and stimulating diet.” Ministry of Healing, p. 296

Numerous studies into the lifestyle and eating habits of health-conscious Seventh-day Adventists have consistently shown them to have longer life spans and significantly lower rates of coronary heart disease, cerebrovascular disease, diabetes, renal stones, cancer and many other disorders (Western Diseases: Their Dietary Prevention and Reversibility, p. 23).

Medical scientists are increasingly confronted with the indisputable fact that only plant-based foods, such as fruits and vegetables, have all the preventative and remedial properties which are absolutely necessary to ward off and reverse a myriad of illnesses and diseases, ranging from the common cold to various forms of cancer. The infinite wisdom and intelligence of God is manifestly seen in His apportioned endowment of vitamins, minerals, proteins, antioxidants, and amino acids to the fruits and vegetables, legumes and grains, nuts and herbs, to offer optimum health in harmony with God’s eight natural laws ("pure air, sunlight, abstinence, rest, exercise, proper diet, the use of water, trust in Divine Power — these are the true remedies.” Ministry of Healing, p. 127).

The Natural Health Federation (USA) posthumously bestowed its President’s Award for 1986 on Ellen G. White in recognition of her “pioneering” and far-sighted “efforts in Natural Health.” These included the promotion of the use of herbs and natural treatments (such as hydrotherapy) in healing the sick; her uncompromising condemnation of alcohol, tobacco, coffee, and tea; and her advocacy of adopting a...
a nutritious vegetarian diet for the attainment of optimal health.

The late Dr Clive McCay (pictured) [1898 - 1967], who served for many years as professor of nutrition at Cornell University, New York, offered high praise for the soundness of the health principles contained in Ellen White’s books (he was not a Seventh-day Adventist): He wrote:

“Her basic concepts about the relation between diet and health have been verified to an unusual degree by scientific advances of the past decades…."

“In spite of the fact that the works of Ellen White were written long before the advent of modern scientific nutrition, no better overall guide is available today.”  
*Review and Herald, February 26, 1959*

Whilst medical science is still verifying the health principles that we as a people have known for almost 150 years, it is deeply regrettable to learn of Seventh-day Adventists around the world who are disregarding the light of health reform in their own individual lives, often treating it with disdain and contempt. Sister White was compelled to write at one time:

“In the vision given me in Rochester, New York, December 25, 1865, I was shown that our Sabbath-keeping people have been negligent in acting upon the light which God has given in regard to health reform, that there is yet a great work before us, and that as a people, we have been too backward to follow in God’s opening providence as He has chosen to lead us.”  
*Testimonies for the Church, volume 1, p. 485*

When one reads the views put forth on chat forums on the internet, justifying the “moderate” use of alcoholic beverages (like light beer and red wine) amongst Seventh-day Adventists, it should cause us to ponder the consequences of rejecting the light of truth that God has given to His people through the Spirit of Prophecy. Lamentably, the scourge of alcohol addiction and drug dependency has made its blighting effects felt amongst a sizeable percentage of the youth who attend the denomination’s colleges in the Western world, as this report from America in 1984 revealed:

“Between 40 and 45 percent of male students at Adventist colleges in North America drink beer, wine or spirits,” declared Winton Beaven, assistant to the president of Kettering College of Medical Arts, at the first board meeting of the newly formed Institute of Alcoholism and Drug Dependency at Andrews University. “For female students, my estimate is 20 to 25 percent,” he said.

“Beaven said that after spending much time and talking with many students, he had received adequate basis for the assertion.”  
*Adventist Review, September 17, 1984*

Thirteen years after this report was printed, the Institute of Prevention and Addictions at Andrews University, in its analysis of research data taken from eight Seventh-day Adventist colleges in North America in 1995 and 1996, was forced to declare (notwithstanding its valiant efforts to put a positive image to its findings) that almost 40% of the students surveyed had admitted that they regularly drank alcoholic beverages (*Adventist Education, April/May 1997*, p. 41). Whilst a percentage of those students would not have been Seventh-day Adventists, yet the probability cannot be dismissed that a large proportion of those surveyed would have classified themselves as such. The problem had not lessened with the passage of time.

The servant of the Lord warned us:

“No people are saved because they have great light and special advantages, for these high and heavenly favours only increase their responsibility. The more and increased light God has given make the receiver more responsible.…."

“If church members do not act the part God has assigned them, the movement of health reform will go on without them and it will be seen that God has removed their candlestick out of its place. Those who refuse to receive and practice the light will be left in the background. Let not this matter be treated differently.”  
*Manuscript Releases, volume 13, pp. 339, 340* (Manuscript 78, 1900)

In light of this particular warning and all the material contained in this article, let us follow every health principle that has been given to us by God, not only for our present physical well-being but also for our spiritual development and eternal destiny.

“[God] designs that the great subject of health reform shall be agitated, and the public mind deeply stirred to investigate: for it is impossible for men and women, with all their sinful, health-destroying, brain-enervating habits, to discern sacred truth, through which they are to be sanctified, refined, elevated, and made fit for the society of heavenly angels in the kingdom of glory….If man will cherish the light that God in mercy gives him upon health reform, he may be sanctified through the truth, and fitted for immortality.”  
*Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 70*  
*Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 70*  
*Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 70*
On March 16, 2012, President Barack Obama signed Executive Order No. 13603, National Defence Resources Preparedness, which allows an American president to declare martial law at any time he deems necessary. The provisions in the order allow the military, in conjunction with all government departments, to utilize the resources of the nation — food, water, energy, transportation, telecommunications — for national defence during peacetime and in times of national emergency.

For the purposes of clarification, a couple of terms shall be defined to make this article easier to understand:

**Executive Order:** An order or directive issued by the American president, who is the head of the executive branch of the national government. Effectively, it is government by decree or edict.

Executive orders usually end with this notation:

“This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.” Website of the White House: Executive Order, National Defense Resources Preparedness, March 16, 2012

Accordingly, executive orders cannot be overturned by the Congress, nor (except in very rare circumstances) are they reviewed by the Supreme Court, nor can anyone take the government — including its departments, agencies, entities, officers, employees, and agents — to court for any reason relating to the implementation of these executive orders.

**Martial Law:** The dictionary definition is:

“Exercise of military power by a government, etc., in time of emergency (war, riot, etc.), with the temporary suspension of ordinary administration and policing.”


Martial law also means the curtailment or complete suspension of civil liberties — such as the withdrawal of the writ of habeas corpus (the right of someone unlawfully imprisoned to gain freedom through a court order and have their case brought before a jury), limitation on freedom of movement (eg: imposition of night curfews), restriction on freedom of association, suppression on freedom of information (eg: censorship of the press), and circumvention on freedom of buying and selling (eg: food, clothing and petrol rationing), etc.

History offers a sobering testimony to the devastating consequences that arise from the partial or complete suspension of the nation’s civil liberties. Two examples are briefly given to highlight the ramifications of such drastic actions on the part of national governments:

**Germany:** On January 30, 1933, Herr Adolf Hitler (pictured) was sworn in as Chancellor of Germany. His party (the National Socialist German Workers Party [Nazi Party]) did not win an outright majority at the November 1932 federal elections, having to rely upon two smaller political parties to form a coalition government.

On the night of February 27, 1933, a suspicious fire ravaged the German parliament building (the Reichstag) in Berlin. Having accepted the claims made by the Nazis that this was an act of treason perpetrated by communist insurgents against the government, the German president, Paul von Hindenburg, issued an edict for the nation the very next day. Entitled, The Decree of the Reich President for the Protection of the People and the State, its provisions included the following words:

“Article 1: Sections 114, 115, 117, 118, 123, 124, and 153 of the Constitution of the German Reich are suspended until further notice. Therefore, restrictions on personal liberty, on the right of free expression of opinion, including freedom of the press, on the right of assembly and the right of association, and violations of the privacy of postal, telegraphic, and telephonic communications, warrants for house search-
es, orders for confiscations, as well as restrictions on property, are also permissible beyond the legal limits otherwise prescribed.” Website of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum: Holocaust Encyclopedia — Translation into English of the Decree of the Reich President for the Protection of the People and the State

As a consequence, all publications critical of the government were banned from circulation, and thousands of people were arrested — on orders from Adolf Hitler.

In the national elections held on March 5, 1933, the Nazi Party was re-elected, albeit with a slim majority. To consolidate his power and eliminate all opposition, Adolf Hitler ordered the Enabling Act to be passed through the Reichstag on March 23, 1933 — which was done with the support of the Catholic Centre Party and other smaller political parties. The Act allowed the government to pass laws without the consent and participation of the parliament. A state of emergency was declared. All political parties, except the Nazi Party, were soon abolished. Martial-law measures were speedily implemented, removing the right of the people to protest against the deprivation of their civil liberties.

Moments before the Enabling Act was passed, Adolf Hitler declared before the Reichstag, which met at the Kroll Opera House:

“By its decision to carry out the political and moral cleansing of our public life, the Government is creating and securing the conditions for a really deep and inner religious life….it will be concerned for the sincere cooperation between Church and State….The national Government, seeing in Christianity the unshakable foundation of the moral and ethical life of our people, attaches utmost importance to the cultivation and maintenance of the friendliest relations with the Holy See.” The Nazi Persecution of the Churches: 1933 - 1945, p. 20. J. S. Conway. The Ryerson Press. Toronto, Canada. 1968

The first world government to recognize Nazi Germany, conferring it with legitimacy, was the Vatican. A concordat was signed (pictured) between Germa-
As with the systematic extermination of Protestants during the papal Inquisition in the Dark Ages, the suffering and death inflicted by the Nazi establishment upon many millions of people — notably the Jews (pictured above) — serves as an everlasting reminder of the destructive nature of totalitarian dictatorships. Notwithstanding this, after World War II, the world witnessed many more regimes who had declared martial law and imposed an authoritarian approach to the rule of law.

The Philippines:

Upon gaining victory in the national elections, Ferdinand E. Marcos (pictured) was sworn in as President of the Philippines on December 30, 1965. Four years later, amidst claims of widespread electoral fraud and vote-buying on a massive scale, President Marcos was re-elected for a second term. Discontent with his government rose sharply during the first few months of 1970, prompting President Marcos to consider the idea of imposing martial law. A bomb explosion at a political rally held at the Plaza Miranda in Manila on August 21, 1971, led President Marcos to secretly sign Proclamation No. 889, suspending the writ of habeas corpus. The first effects of this proclamation were immediately seen: “Metrocom police were free to arrest virtually anyone without warrants and to imprison them indefinitely without bringing formal charges.” Delusions of a Dictator, p. 113. William C. Rempel. Little, Brown, & Company. Toronto, Canada. 1993

All this was a prelude to the proclamation that was enforced on September 23, 1972, putting the whole of the Philippines under martial law. Following his televised address to the nation, President Marcos promulgated several orders, stating that he would govern the nation and direct the operation of the entire government, including all its agencies and instrumentalities, and exercise all his powers as Commander-in-Chief of the Philippine Armed Forces. Furthermore, all rallies, demonstrations, and group actions like strikes and picketing were prohibited. Subsequent to his inauguration of the “New Society”, mass arrests of political and religious dissidents were rapidly undertaken. By 1977, between 60,000 to 70,000 Filipinos were detained in military stockades for daring to voice their dissent against the President (Far Eastern Economic Review, September 30, 1977). Nepotism, despotism, embezzlement, political repression, human rights violations (such as the use of torture to extract confessions) marked the rule of President Marcos over the Philippines following his declaration of martial law.

To project a more positive image on the international stage when Pope John Paul II visited the Philippines in February 1981, President Marcos suspended martial law in January 1981. However, he continued to rule by decree, notwithstanding the then American Vice-President George H. W. Bush’s assertion that President Marcos had adhered to “democratic principles and to the democratic process.” The assassination of his main political rival in August 1983, executed by agents with ties to the President, marked the beginning of the end of his reign, which eventually came in February 1986. The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Manila, Cardinal Jaime Sin, called for “People Power” to challenge the authority of the President (following the rigged election results held earlier that month). A few days later, President Marcos and his family were exiled to Hawaii, where he died in September 1989.

United States: Two men from the United States Senate, Frank Church (Democratic Party, Idaho) and Charles McMathias (Republican Party, Maryland) issued a joint statement in 1973 to express their deep concerns about the nature of the executive orders that allow the American president to unilaterally declare martial law. They wrote:

“The President has the power to seize property, organize and control the means of production, seize commodities, assign military forces abroad, call reserve forces...to duty, institute martial law, seize and control all means of transportation, regulate all private enterprise, restrict travel, and in a plethora of particular ways, control the lives of all Americans....

“Most [of these laws] remain a potential source of virtually unlimited power for a President should he
choose to activate them. It is possible that some future President could exercise this vast authority in an attempt to place the United States under authoritarian rule.


The Bible speaks of lawmakers that devise laws which violate the principles of justice in these terms:

“Woe unto them that decree unrighteous decrees, and that write grievousness which they have prescribed; to turn aside the needy from judgment, and to take away the right from the poor of My people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless.” Isaiah 10: 1, 2

“Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with Thee, which frameth mischief by a law? They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous, and condemn the innocent blood. But the Lord is my defence; and my God is the rock of my refuge. And He shall bring upon them their own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own wickedness; yea, the Lord our God shall cut them off.” Psalm 94: 20 - 23

To Be Continued in the Next Edition.....

Documents Released from the Vatican Secret Archives

By Elvis Placer

For the first time in its 400 year history, the Vatican Secret Archives has released 100 original documents for public display, from March to September 2012, at the “Lux in Arcana” (Latin for “light in mystery”) exhibition in the Capitoline Museums in Rome, Italy.

Established in 1612 by Pope Paul V, the Vatican Secret Archives is located underground near St. Peter’s Basilica. It now has 85 kilometres of shelves containing over 30,000 ancient parchments and millions of documents spanning 12 centuries. Access to the archives is restricted to elite scholars who satisfy the Vatican’s strict criteria for entrance.

The items that are displayed in the “Lux in Arcana” exhibition include the papal bull excommunicating Martin Luther in 1521 (pictured), the letter from King Henry VIII to Pope Clement VII requesting the annulment of the king’s marriage to Catherine of Aragon (written in 1530 and signed by 83 members of the House of Lords), and the court proceedings against Galileo Galilei, bearing his signature (he was tried by the papacy in 1633 for stating that the Earth revolved around the sun, which he was forced to recant upon pain of death).

A news reporter offered a perceptive appraisal as to why the millions of documents held in the secret archives of the Vatican have never been publicly released:

“It’s easy to understand why the Vatican keeps these documents under the highest security: apart from their antiquity, many relate to atrocities committed by the church in the name of religion, and the Vatican is reluctant to publicize past errors.” The Sunday Age, March 17, 2012 Melbourne, Australia

In 1998, Pope John Paul II reluctantly released a small number of files from the Vatican Secret Archives pertaining to the trials of heretics from the Spanish Inquisition. The records meticulously document the systematic methods employed by the papacy to persecute and exterminate those who were accused of heresy. The material formed the basis for the production of a four-part documentary series that was screened on Australian television in 2009. It was entitled, Secret Files of the Inquisition.

Seven out of an estimated 2 million documents from the papacy of Pope Pius XII (1939 - 1958) are also on display at the exhibition, in an attempt by the Vatican to show that the pontiff was concerned about the Nazi persecution of the Jews. Critics justifiably claim that the rest of the documents hidden in the vaults may tell an entirely different story. Heaven alone has recorded every secret and public deed of the Vatican with unerring accuracy, by which everything shall be brought to judgment and be rewarded accordingly (Ecclesiastes 12: 14).
Four years have passed since the death of my husband, Pastor Russell Standish — the beloved founder of Remnant Ministries. At first it seemed an impossible task to assume his mantle and continue the ministry, but through God's grace and in His strength we have done so.

No longer are the books being written, but the many already written are constantly being distribut-ed throughout Australia and overseas. Russell's voice is now silent, his pen stilled, but the mighty messages of truth he proclaimed continue. They will continue until Jesus comes.

Remnant Ministries has a loyal and faithful staff, whose every effort is put forth to further God's work. Our Speaker is now Elvis Placer, whose messages are much appreciated for their well-researched and meaningful insights into history and current events in the light of God's Word. He has a wide Bible knowledge, and often uses power-point slides to give his messages more impact. He held a very successful evangelistic series in the Philippines last year. Another such series is planned for next year.

Nikolai Millen, our long-time office clerk, regularly presents sermons in ethnic churches in Melbourne. He conducts Bibles studies, and visits the aged and the sick. On alternate Friday nights, Nikolai and his wife Ivanka conduct Bible studies in their home for many young people, who are also given a meal.

Remnant Ministries continues its series of camps or one-day meetings near the end of the year, when Pastor Colin Standish and another guest speaker from overseas come to present their messages. These meetings are held throughout Australia and New Zealand. Later this year, Elvis Placer will be the guest speaker at a camp meeting in Vanuatu. Other meetings will be held during the year when a number of speaking tours shall be undertaken around Australia.

Remnant Ministries continues to send vast numbers of Bibles, books, magazines and other materials overseas. This is a vital component of our work. The Remnant Herald is published six times a year.

We continue to sponsor translations of Spirit of Prophecy books and some material written by the Standish brethren into foreign languages. In recent times, we have trialled a new initiative: instead of sending English-language Bibles to some African countries, we have purchased Bibles in the required languages from a reputable local company. Not having to pay postage has effectively halved the cost of the Bibles. We still send English Bibles to India — notwithstanding the multitude of languages and dialects, there is wide understanding of English in that country.

In addition to sending literature, Remnant Ministries is able to help in practical ways through the donations sent by our readers. Since 2008, we have provided motorbikes for ministry work in both Vanuatu and Malaysia. We have sent funds to African countries for the purchase of bicycles and for a vehicle to be used in ministry work. Funds sent for a printer greatly enhanced the work of the Nigerian ministry concerned. In India, an elderly minister was able to have eye surgery on two occasions through the funds we provided.

We are currently sponsoring two students from China for four years of ministerial study at Hartland College, in the United States. We consider this venture to have tremendous potential for the spreading of the Three Angels' messages, when these young men eventually return home.

We are presently sending regular financial aid to pastors in Vanuatu, Malaysia and Nigeria. We are also providing support for an orphanage in Kenya for food for the twenty children, several of whom are HIV-AIDS affected. A regular amount is sent on a monthly basis, and we are currently appealing to our readers to help in the purchase of an acre of arable land for food gardens. When the garden is functioning, we will no longer need to fund food purchases.

We thank our readers for supporting us with funds and prayers. Both are vital to the ongoing life of our ministry. May God richly bless you!

This year marks 20 years since Remnant Ministries was established. A special edition of “The Remnant Herald” will be issued in September to commemorate this anniversary.

The Great Controversy, 1858 ed.

A reprint of the first edition of this classic work is available from our office. Very few Seventh-day Adventists have seen or read this particular edition of The Great Controversy (which is currently known as Spiritual Gifts, volume 1). This book is not intended to replace the later editions but serves as excellent reference material in showcasing Ellen White’s first account of the Great Controversy theme. The book costs A$10 plus postage.

Remnant Herald No. 142, May/Jun 2012
In our first issue this year, we brought before our readers the needs of a group of 20 orphans in Keroka Township in Kenya. Thank you very much to everyone who opened their hearts and wallets to donate money to this cause. We have been sending the funds on a regular basis to assist with basic food necessities. We also financed the purchase of shoes for the orphans (pictured), and Johnson Charani — who heads and pastors the group caring for the children — said the little ones danced for joy when they were given the shoes.

To provide a more permanent source of food for the orphans, it is desirable that they set up food gardens to grow fruits and vegetables. A parcel of suitable land measuring one acre is currently available near the orphanage. We have been sent an official valuation report on the property, which is only 100 metres from a river and is flood-free. Presently a maize plantation is growing on the land, which is producing good crops because of the fertile soil. The Faith Gospel group has twelve personnel who would voluntarily till the land and grow the crops. We need to raise US$6642 to purchase the land. This is a tangible way of helping a very genuine and worthwhile cause. We kindly ask that you consider those who have so little, while we and our own children have so much. Please send your support for the project to our office. May God bless you as you consider this need.

I requested Johnson Charani to write a report for The Remnant Herald and received the following:

“Faith Gospel Fellowship and Home is a young ministry in Kenya serving the Lord. We are Seventh-day Adventists who are committed to the improvement of our people spiritually and taking care of 20 orphans that are under our care. We want the children to have a bright future and to grow in the Lord.

“Plans for the Land: The Fellowship and Home plans to concentrate on horticulture as its primary produce. This includes growing cabbages, carrots, spinach, pumpkins, kale and maize. The Fellowship and Home will have a capacity sufficient to produce to serve the needs of the orphans who are really affected due to a lack of food. We plan to utilize traditional and more advanced ways of farming to ensure that there will be enough output to help the home.

“Financial Considerations: Faith Gospel Fellowship and Home is seeking US$6,642.51 to finance the purchase of the land. It is estimated that we will be able to support the children through the farm.

“Summary: We want to limit the challenges that we have faced by providing food for the children. The idea behind the acquisition of the land is to provide food to the home in a sustainable manner.

“After the acquisition of the said piece of the land, the Fellowship and Home will benefit in the following ways:

“It will make life easier for the children as they will be having something to eat.

“The home will be no longer purchasing some food as it will be available from the garden.

“The home will be able to sustain itself in food provision to the orphans.

“The orphans will be able to benefit as they will be taught some agricultural lessons and the way of life.

“The Fellowship and Home will have a way of making some permanent structures as the property we are on now is leased from the owners.

“In excess and above the need of the food produced, the extra and perishable foods can be sold to cater for other necessities, like clothing and bedding for the orphans.

“Faith Gospel Fellowship and Home’s long-term plan is to be able to alleviate hunger in the home and help needy people in the community.”