THE EARTH SHALL YIELD HER INCREASE

(Discourse given by G. Homer Hamlin at THANKSGIVING DAY CONVENTION, 1973, Phoenix, Arizona.)

In Psalms 67:3-7 we read, "Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee. O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth, Selah. Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee. THEN SHALL THE EARTH YIELD HER INCREASE: AND GOD, EVEN OUR OWN GOD SHALL BLESS US. God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him." This scripture is one of those which say so much regarding the blessings of the kingdom. Among those blessings will be the yielding of earth's increase, when she shall be freed from the curse, and will yield bountifully to all, without the sweat and effort caused by the cursing of the ground. (Gen. 3:17-19.)

We would like to discuss the subject matter in order, beginning with the world before the Flood, the world after the Flood, and the world that shall be, when the earth shall yield her increase. We quote from 2 Pet. 3:5, 6, 13, "For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the world of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water perished." "Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."

It is significant that on every inhabited continent of the world there is a tradition of the Flood. Both Chinese and Japanese mythology connect creation, and their beginnings, with a Flood. In the Chinese version, God reached into the water from a boat, and picked up a handful of clay, from which he fashioned the earth. In the Japanese version, God dipped the oars of his boat into the muddy bottom, and the mud which fell back created the Japanese archipelago. The Chinese and Japanese year of beginning goes back to the area of some 100 years prior to the Flood, probably to the birth of Ham or Japheth.

From scripture we have these facts concerning creation: Gen. 1:1, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." V. 11, "And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so." V. 21, "And God <u>created</u> great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good." Gen. 2:7, "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

And then we have this interesting set of facts concerning the climate. Gen 1:6, 7, "And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters

from the waters. And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so." Gen. 2:5, 6, ". . for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground. But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground." Gen. 2:10-14, "And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads. The name of the first is Pison (Tigris); that it is which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; and the gold of that land is good; there is bdellium and the onyx stone. And the name of the second is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia. And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. (Indus) And the fourth river is Euphrates."

On the basis of the increase of knowledge now available to us, we are going to suggest that the garden of Eden was located underneath what is now the Arabian Sea, westward from Karachi, Pakistan. One reasonable assumption is that the river Gihon would have to be the Nile, in order to conform with its description of compassing the whole land of Ethiopia. It is physically possible that prior to the Flood, the Nile may have flowed north, almost into its present delta, and then turned back through what is now the Red Sea, around the southern part of Arabia, and then eastward to a much lower elevation of the then Arabian Sea. Since we now have clear proof that the ocean levels prior to the Flood were probably 12,000 feet lower than they are today, this would have been quite possible. Thus the Tigris, Euphrates, Indus, and Nile rivers could have been physically joined somewhere in the area of the present Arabian Sea, west of Pakistan.

This fact of the much lower ocean levels prior to the Flood, is. something which has been brought to light in startling fashion through the "International Geophysical Year" of a few years back, in which all the major nations cooperated in the most detailed study of the oceans ever undertaken. Although considerable local knowledge was available, this world wide study revealed the fact that almost all of earth's major rivers (and many minor ones) have channels that extend far below, and beyond, existing ocean levels and shorelines. It also revealed that the mid-Atlantic Ridge would have risen 6000 feet or more above the then sea level, which might give serious credence to the myth(?) of the lost continent of Atlantis. We can be sure that anyone on Atlantis at the time of the Flood would not have concerned themselves with the technicality of whether the land sank, or the water rose!

The fact that underwater channels of existing rivers are found on both coasts of North America, South America, Africa, and Asia, including a very well defined channel and delta of the Ganges River in India, clearly proves that these channels

were eroded <u>above</u> the pre-Flood ocean levels, and are not related in any way to tilting of continents.

Close to my home, the U.S.C & G.S. chart of the coastline from San Francisco Bay to Point Sur shows the underwater channel of the Salinas River extending some 80 miles, and about -11,000 feet, beyond and below its present mouth. Clearly evident, also, is the underwater channel of the Carmel River, which joins that of the Salinas some 8 miles west of Pacific Grove.

The reproduction, of a map of the Atlantic Ocean, attached, shows the clearly defined channels of the major rivers as they continue outward and downward from present shorelines. This map, as well as the chart referred to above, seem to indicate a former ocean level some 12,000 feet lower than at present.

And so we have this condition before the Flood: no rain, but a mist that watered the ground; rivers that flowed evenly and tranquilly because there were then no storms to cause flooding and erosion; no strong winds, only breezes (Gen. 3:8, cool also means breeze), probably vegetation and humus covering much of the land; and a temperate, even climate, with what we now call sub-tropical conditions even in Arctic and Antarctic regions. For example, fruit trees with ripe fruit encased in ice, have been found in Arctic zones, and fossil evidence of luxuriant vegetation has been found in our present American deserts. Literally millions of mastodons have been found, perfectly preserved in some cases, in Alaska and Siberia, and the density of numbers of mastodon remains seems to be greater in the farther north. We know what they ate, because some of them have mouths still full of grass, bluebells, buttercups, and wild beans. There were no deserts on the earth in those days!

As for Adam, when he was driven out of the garden for his disobedience we read this, from Gen. 3:17-19: "And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life: thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it thou wast taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

Effects of, and Changes Caused by the Flood

In Gen. 7:11, 12 we read, "In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was

upon the earth forty days and forty nights." The magnitude of this deluge is almost beyond our comprehension; the volume of water added to the earth's surface can only be described in terms of somewhat more than 100 million cubic miles! (Figures not guaranteed) The combined total water added was on the order of 150 feet or more per day!!! Just how much of this total was rain, or from the great fountains of the deep, or from some outside source (See The Biblical Flood and the Ice Epoch by Donald W. Patten), we do not know. However, we do know that it is physically possible for rain to fall at this rate, because on April 5, 1926, at Opid's camp in the San Gabriel mountains north of Pasadena, California, 1.03 inches of rain fell in 60 seconds, according to official Los Angeles County Flood Control Records. At this rate it would have rained five feet per hour, or 120 feet per day! Fortunately for Los Angeles, the duration was very short.

Although there has been some speculation, primarily by anti-Christians, that the Flood was not world-wide in scope, the Bible, as well as the physical evidence, conclusively proves that it was world-wide. An acquaintance of mine had formerly operated a gold dredge near Nome, Alaska, and he mentioned that after the temperature in summer remained above freezing all day, tropical plants began to grow in the tailings behind the dredge. They died in the fall, at the first freeze. In the frozen tundra, there are many remains of antediluvian animals, and of semitropical vegetation. In fact, there were times when it was possible to order a mammoth steak in Fairbanks, Alaska! In Siberia particularly, many thousands of perfectly preserved, quick-frozen, mammoths have been found, many with mouths full of grass, and still standing upright. The evidence is obvious: they were almost instantly frozen when the mass of almost absolute cold snow, ice, and air, descended at the time of the Flood. The types of buttercups, wild beans, etc., found in their mouths, do not grow within 400 miles of where the remains of the mastodons are now found, but they did grow there before the Flood. In a quite different region, in the high desert near Grand Junction, Colorado, there are numerous fossils of sea life, several thousand feet above the present level of the sea.

The deserts of Western America are a very convincing demonstration of the Flood, and how it modified the earth from its previous condition. First of all, there is no logical explanation for the two huge lakes, which even the uniformitarian geologists admit once filled the Great Basin from Salt Lake City to the Sierra Nevada Mountains, west of Susanville, California, except that there was, in fact, a Flood. The high water marks on both extremes of these massive lakes are still visible, on the mountain slopes east of Salt Lake City, and on the east rim of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, west of Susanville, California. Any amount of rainfall ever recorded within history in this area, would be insufficient to even partly compensate for evaporation, much less to fill such a huge reservoir. There are

countless dry lakes throughout the area, identifiable by the alkali flats left when the water evaporated. Because of the very sparse vegetation, it is fairly easy to see the effects of the Flood: the mountains are generally bare, and it is easy to see and trace the flow of soil, sand, and rock, from the peaks into the canyons and valleys.

We may visualize the world wide effect of this great deluge. The accumulated humus and topsoil of thousands of years of rainless, windless climate was washed from the mountains and hills into the valleys, and the rushing torrents ground much of the rock into gravel, sand and silt. Existing river channels were greatly eroded and deepened, and in some cases, new channels were created; then as the ocean levels rose, these channels were preserved as conclusive proof of the Flood. As the valleys filled and widened, the flow of water slowed, leaving vast areas of flat, rich, land, in preparation for the yet unborn billions who would have to be fed in this "world that now is." Thus God accomplished a preparatory work for this end of the age, while executing a judgment on that age, "The world that then was." And in this same judgment, God prepared the vast stores of coal, oil, and gas, which play such an important part in the economy of the increase of knowledge, but which even now, are causing one of the great problems, so typical of the ending of this age.

With the realization of this accomplishment in preparing the earth for today's population, we may find a deeper meaning to God's words in Gen. 8: 20, 21, just after the Flood: "And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And the LORD smelled a sweet savor; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite every living thing, as I have done." It would seem at least, that there would be no further, or additional curse, and at best, that the effects of the Flood would be to ease the labor of providing bread.

In Gen. 9:20, 21 we find this somewhat puzzling scripture: "And Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard: and he drank of the wine and was drunken. ." This action does not seem to be consistent with Noah's character. But, we also notice that this is the first mention of drunkenness, and so, evidently the drastic climatic changes after the Flood produced fermentation, which was unknown to Noah previously. Other changes were the removal of the protective canopy of water vapor, resulting in extremes of heat and cold, along with severe storms, greatly raised ocean levels, greatly reduced atmospheric pressure, inauguration of the polar ice caps with a corresponding lowering of air temperature in polar regions, and, possibly a slight increase in the speed of earth's rotation due to a reduction in the radius of the earth's mass, as the waters and ice fell to the earth. It seems reasonable to conclude that the earth attained its present weather

and soil state during the very short duration of the Biblical Flood. Also, the LORD accomplished a great preparatory work in making the world capable of supporting the present population, even while executing a judgment upon the "world that then was."

At this point, it might be well to discuss the background of geology, both as recorded in the Bible, and in contrast, as almost uniformly taught and accepted by what we somehow refer to as "science." Science is defined as . . "accepted facts and principles as demonstrated by induction, observation, or experiment." We all know that the uniformitarian school of geology completely eliminates any consideration of the Bible record, including the Flood, and that this anti-Genesis thinking is reinforced and supported by Darwin's concept (theory) of evolution. How is it that these concepts have been so widely promulgated, and accepted, all within the 19th century, just prior to our Lord's return? And how was this done?

In 1795, James Hutton, a Scotch physician turned geologist, published his major work, "A Theory of the Earth." This work assumed that the earth had never experienced any catastrophes, and that all geologic action or processes were the result of infinitesimally slow rates of change. This work was not generally accepted, but it intrigued some, including Charles Lyell, a lawyer turned geologist.

Between 1830 and 1833, Charles Lyell (1797-1875) published three volumes entitled Principles of Geology (principle means fundamental truth or doctrine). He opposed the catastrophic doctrine of earth history, and he successfully advanced Hutton's theory of uniformitarianism. He set up a geological time scale, by supplying time in multiplied millions of years for any and every geological event. Lyell's first estimate was that the Ice Epoch had ended in 1,000,000 B.C. After studying the rate that Niagara Falls recedes each year (from the known escarpment where it originally began), Lyell reduced his estimate to 35,000 B.C. showing an initial error of 965,000 years! Nevertheless, the theories advanced by this man have become accepted as fundamental principles of the science(?) of geology. We emphasize the fact that Lyell was trained as a lawyer, and was thus skilled in the art of persuasion.

Charles Darwin (1809-1882) became interested in Lyell's work, and studied under him for several years, forming a close association. As a naturalist, Darwin traveled a great deal. Darwin attempted to reconcile biology with Lyell's geological theory of uniformitarianism, which was the crux of Darwinism. Incidentally, Darwin's "The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection" went on the market Oct. 1, 1859, and the entire issue of 1500 copies was sold out that first day, suggesting that it was received as a popular best seller, rather than as a serious scientific work. The effect of this work in discounting the Bible, and doing tremendous damage to most of the fundamental truths of scripture is well known.

Perhaps a key to this whole movement against Truth and the Bible is a not-too-well-known incident in 1880. In that year Darwin received a letter from Karl Marx, asking his permission to dedicate the English Edition of Das Kapital to him. Darwin politely refused, not because he did not share Marx's atheism, but because of family and friends, and also, because Darwin was a capitalist. Is it not realistic to suppose that this whole movement was inspired at a time to attempt to discredit belief in the Biblical truths concerning the time of the end?

The Present State

One inescapable fact of history, according to Engineering News Record, is that no purely irrigated economy has ever survived longer than about 200 years, to date. The reason: almost all water, and especially that which is found near desert regions, contains appreciable amounts of salts, alkalis and other impurities. Since desert regions are dry, with very low humidity, evaporation rates are high, and the build-up of impurities is correspondingly high in the soil.

Although West Pakistan is constructing the world's largest irrigation system, the project built by the British early in this century has been turning sour at an alarming rate of many thousands of acres per year, due to evaporation which leaves alkali. This has been accelerated by the leakage from canals, which has raised groundwater to near the surface, further adding to the problem. Efforts to pump the groundwater back into the canals are drastically increasing power requirements at a time when energy is becoming scarce and expensive. Leaching the alkali from the soil by flooding and pumping introduces more problems and expense.

Closer to home, on the site of Phoenix, Arizona, there once existed an irrigation agricultural economy, built by the Indians, and which evidently came to an abrupt end when the accumulation of alkali poisoned the soil. In the Coachella and Imperial Valleys of California, the use of Colorado River water for irrigation has produced a rich food producing area. However, the high salt content of the river water, measured in tons per acre-foot, creates problems of major proportions. In the Coachella Valley, for example, two gallons of water are required to purge excess salt from the soil, for each gallon that irrigates a crop. In the Imperial Valley the discharge of salt-laden water back into the Colorado River has so increased the salt content as to seriously damage crops grown downstream in Mexico, and requiring some expensive works to separate the more salty water from that which can be used for irrigation.

These illustrations of the problems involved in the irrigation of desert lands show us that there is still much to be learned, and that with almost every advancement, a

corresponding problem is created. This also applies to chemical pesticides, insecticides, and fertilizers. While these materials are profitable for the chemical companies and for the farmers, they create a chain of problems because of their residual effects: bees are destroyed; pollenization of crops is affected; birds which eat contaminated insects do not reproduce normally; birds which eat fish may be similarly contaminated by chemicals carried by streams into the oceans. Thus, while the increase of knowledge has reduced production costs, it has at the same time created problems of major proportions. Why? Because man is using this increase of knowledge to satisfy his own greed, rather than for the benefit of his fellow man. It will take the Spirit of the Lord to direct this new knowledge toward the blessing of mankind. What we see now is a measure of the prophecy of Psalm 2, in which mankind is attempting to walk its own selfish way, resisting the influence of the kingdom, casting away the cords of restraint, demanding the right to continue in the old greedy way, and thus insuring the judgment of the Lord.

And yet, with all the problems that face the earth today, there are signs that good might result from the increase of knowledge when it is properly applied for the benefit of all mankind. For example, one of the unsung, and almost unknown commissions of the United Nations deals with food and nutrition. While the nations fight and argue over matters which it seems could be more appropriately handled by nine year old children, this commission has quietly investigated food production, and found that even the chronically hungry nations such as India, Pakistan, and the Philippines, can become self-sustaining by the simple expedient of substituting higher yield varieties of wheat and rice for the traditional low-yield varieties. But even as this encouraging development begins to bear fruit, India has been plagued with drought, and the Philippines have suffered disastrous floods. No matter which way man turns, he finds that his own efforts are not adequate, even in this time of the increase of knowledge, and we see in this the simple fact that only the Lord can bring in the blessings which man so desperately wants and needs.

A well known Civil Engineer from California has spent considerable time, effort and money in developing a plan which would alleviate the chronic water shortages of the western states and northern Mexico. This vast project proposes the diversion of the now unused waters of the Yukon and MacKenzie rivers of Alaska and Canada, southward through Canada to the U. S. and Mexico, utilizing hydroelectric power from the same rivers to provide pumping energy. And, an excellent feature of this plan is that the waters of these northern streams are almost free of salts, since their source is primarily melting snow and ice, thus greatly reducing the possibility of soil contamination. But what of the cost? It is estimated that engineering alone would cost \$10 BILLION, and that the total cost would be \$100 BILLION!! Impossible? When we realize that the United States has been giving away some \$3½ billion per year in foreign aid, and spending much more on

armaments for defense, it suggests that if the \$3½ billion per year were diverted to this constructive project over the 30 years or more that it would take to construct, it could be completed on a pay-as-you-go basis.

These are but a few examples of the possible benefits which could result from the increase of knowledge, IF men would look toward the common good of mankind rather than for selfish gain. As Pastor Russell said, "These things are a foretaste of the kingdom." But we know that regardless of man's progress through the increase of knowledge, it will require the Lord's administration of wisdom and love to overthrow man's greedy and selfish misuse of this knowledge, and to bring about the yielding of earth's increase for the benefit of all the families of the earth. Without this administration of wisdom, justice, love and power, man will use the knowledge that could provide blessing, to destroy himself. It is as though God had given to mankind, through the increase of knowledge, AND the harvest message, an opportunity to know Him, and to take advantage of the blessings offered for the benefit of all; but that mankind, in the selfish ways which have become the standard of this dying, evil world, will have no part of it, choosing rather to stake all of their hopes on maintaining this old order.

Pastor Russell has some interesting comments on the general situation in Volume 2, page 182: "What do we see about us? We see investigations on the part of the people of their original, God-given inheritance, and their present lacks, rights, etc., many in ignorance and selfishness claiming what others have; and the attempt to hold on to as much as possible on the part of those who have possessions--causing disputes, controversies, strikes and lock-outs, with more or less justice and injustice on both sides, which must be finally left to Christ's adjudication. . " It seems that the words of Malachi are directed toward this time and the spirit that prevails: (4:5 and 6) "Behold I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: and he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, LEST I COME AND SMITE THE EARTH WITH A CURSE.

What Does the Lord Have in Store?

Let us first read a few appropriate scriptures. <u>Isa. 65:17</u>, "For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered nor come to mind." <u>1 Cor. 2:9</u>, "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." <u>Rev. 21:5</u>, "And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful." <u>Matt. 9:16, 17</u>, "No man putteth a piece of new cloth unto an old garment, for that which is put in to fill it up taketh from the garment, and the rent is made worse.

Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved."

The clear message from the Lord in these scriptures is that he will make all things new; there will be new heavens composed of the perfect righteous government of our Lord and his body, the church; and a new earth in which all things will be righteous, beautiful, and finally perfect. It is clear that the kingdom will in no sense, be a warmed-over version of the less objectionable features of Satan's kingdom, but an entirely new order, completely doing away with Satan's "goods" and introducing a totally new world arrangement of such wonder and beauty, that even those who have been privileged to know of God's Plan cannot fully grasp what it will be like.

Let us imagine that we are viewing what was the Los Angeles area, well into the kingdom, when much of the perfecting will have been done: As we pass through the countryside that was once Los Angeles, we rejoice at the green trees, grass, shrubs, and colorful flowers. Pure, clear streams run through this once arid land; birds sing, and everyone and everything, seem in perfect harmony. Wherever men are tending their fields and orchards, there is heard the singing of beautiful voices, raised in praise and thanksgiving to God. But in this glimpse of the future we notice that many things familiar to us are missing: there is no smog to mar the view of the once burned-off mountains now covered with beautiful forests; there is not an advertising sign to be seen anywhere; no cigarette or whiskey ads; no cosmetic ads; no signs for cemeteries, automobiles, banks, airlines, or gambling resorts. There are no conspicuous freeways, no insurance companies, no health plans, no country clubs, no blaring P.A. systems. We especially note how the people live with this beautiful world, instead of trying to tear it to pieces. Love seems to be manifested everywhere, kindness and consideration seem to be the rule, and people go about their lives with joy and satisfaction, in obvious vibrant health.

If we could but get a glimpse beyond those beautiful mountains, those of us who knew the desert would hardly believe our eyes at the drastic change in this once, dry, barren waste, that comprised one-fifth of the area of the U.S.A. Would we not immediately recall the promise of Isa. 35:1, "The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose." As far as the eye can see (which is now quite a distance) the earth is emerald with grass, bushes, and trees of varying shades, sizes, and shapes; brilliant flowers are everywhere; farms and orchards fill the valleys, forests grow on hills and mountains; streams run clear and cool; the people are healthy, happy and constantly rejoicing. Even the formerly wild animals are at peace with each other and with mankind. Even in our imaginations, our hearts fill with gratitude toward our

Heavenly Father for the wonders and beauties of the uncursed earth, and for the spirit of love which will be manifested everywhere. True, this is a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness, and in which the earth yields her increase for the benefit of all mankind.

We know that it will take all of the thousand years to supplant the old order, resurrect all the dead, teach righteousness, bring mankind and the earth to perfection, and finally destroy death. But how wonderful it is to know that this work has <u>already begun</u>, and that we who have consecrated will have a part in this wonderful work, if we are faithful. This is a most wonderful thought; for although we cannot begin to understand what a spirit body will be like, we <u>can</u> understand what it will be like to help in overcoming sickness, hunger, poverty, sadness, fear, and even death. This realization is without doubt, the most compelling force in our desire to make our calling and election sure: that we may have a part in helping to bring about the blessings of the kingdom.

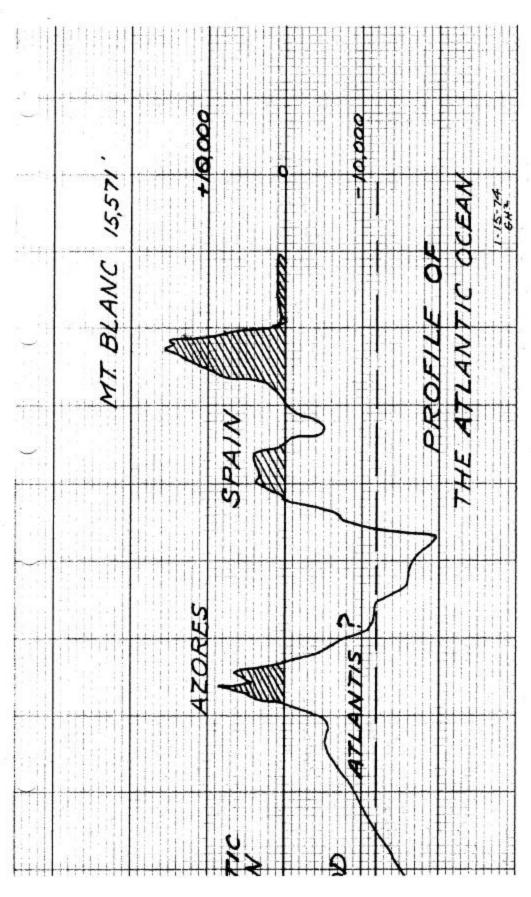
Let us: remember that restitution is a "bringing back" and we now, in the time of the increase of knowledge, know that even our deserts were once well watered, and that the arctic regions of Alaska and Siberia were once blessed with temperate climate. As a major part of restitution, the Lord will cause the earth to yield her increase. And this will not come about through irrigation, and the pumping of water from one place to another; the energy crisis, and the historical failure of irrigation attest to this. But He who created this world, can restore it to lush, beautiful, productive, conditions, which aided by unselfish men, will provide a bounty far beyond the wildest dreams. Already, through the increase of knowledge, we see possibilities for much improvement; with our knowledge of the goodness and wisdom of our Lord, we know that He can accomplish all things, even to the lowering of ocean levels to reveal millions of acres of the richest soil, and for the blessing of the sleeping billions, who will soon begin to return from the grave. He who destroyed the world that then was in such a short period of time, can easily restore the world through His Wisdom, and Power, in order to demonstrate His Justice and Love.

Ezekiel 47:12: "And by the river on the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary, and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine.

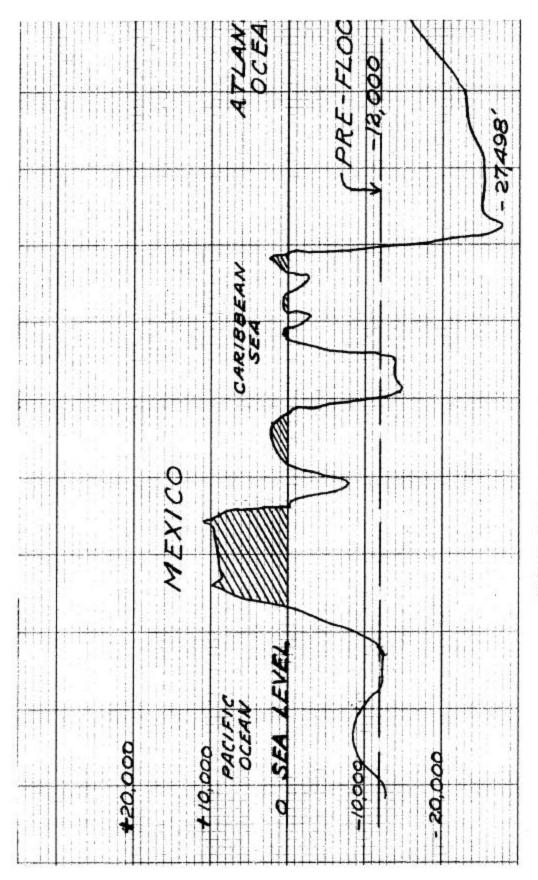
<u>Psalm 72:16</u> (Rotherham): "May there be an abundance of corn in the earth, in the top of the mountains, let the fruit thereof wave like Lebanon, and they of the city bloom like the fresh shoots of the earth."

Revelation 22•1-5, 13, 14: "And he skewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there a tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: and they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they shall need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord giveth them light; and they shall reign for ever and ever." "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

May the Lord soon accomplish his will in blessing all the families of the earth, for then shall THE EARTH YIELD HER INCREASE.



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