

the current recession and help lighten the poverty problem.

Science and Technology Watch

One of the causes of global warming which affects the world today and greatly disadvantages poor countries is the violation of sustainable development principles.

The United Nations defines sustainable development as a pattern of resource use that aims to meet human needs while preserving the environment so that these needs can be met not only in the present, but also for future generations. This term was used by the Brundtland Commission which has coined what has become the most often-quoted definition of sustainable development as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

There is a Biblical basis to the definition of "sustainable development."

Psalms 145:4 says "One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare Your mighty acts." In the case of Elijah, when he passed on the works of God to Elisha, he passed on a double portion of the anointing (power) of God. Here, it can be said, with respect to our stewardship of the earth's resources, that if we took care of it well, there is even an increase in wealth and beauty in the next generation. What has been happening is exactly the opposite.

One of the simplest explanations of the violation of the earth is the failure to observe the proper management of both renewable (forest and land) resources, and the non-renewable ones (minerals). Although modern science has revealed HOW renewable and non-renewable resources should be extracted and consumed, the western world who introduced nearly all technologies in use, has become the first violators of the principles they promote. Poor nations have become victims of these violations. One clear example is the Tokyo Protocol which calls for the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere. Until now the US has refused to sign the agreement, because to them, it means drastic change in affluent lifestyle.

Let us pray:

- That countries like the Philippines should stand against these violations in the local scene by refusing to patronize over extraction of our resources by multinational companies.
- That national government officials with the Constitutional power to resist multinational operations will be clothed with integrity in the performance of their duties, because there is corruption in these areas - bribery, blatant overlooking of violations, connivance in the breaking of environmental laws, etc.
- That national and local governments will be concerned genuinely of the future of our country - they need to have patriotism in their hearts. Otherwise, no change is expected.

Health Watch

Let us pray:

- For all Christian healthcare providers working abroad that they may come to realize God brought them there not only for financial gain but as missionaries in their working places.
- That their faith be strengthened and have the boldness to witness under all circumstances and stand victorious in His name and power.
- For all non-believing healthcare workers working in foreign lands that God will bring somebody alongside them who could minister to and have an encounter with Christ.

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Philippine Prayer Alert

Intercessors for the Philippines

Two-Year National Fast Prayer Focus

JULY 2009

THE 490 REDEMPTION CYCLES

"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy" Dan 9:24

BY BISHOP DAN A. BALAIS

Applying the principle of omitted time periods, we find that Bible history is divided up into 4 periods each of exactly 490 years, and one period of 1,960 years, which is 4 times 490. These periods are known as **Redemption Cycles**.

If you add up all the years mentioned in the genealogies of Adam's descendants and then Noah's descendants down to the birth of Abraham you get a total of **2008** years. It can be shown that there were 48 years between the death of Abel and the birth of Seth. During that period God's clock stopped. He could not continue his redemptive purposes through Cain and his offspring. He had to wait until Seth (the appointed seed) was born. Subtracting 48 from 2008 we get 1,960 (490X4).

From the birth of Abraham until the Exodus from Egypt we find **505** years recorded. There were **15 years** from the birth of Ishmael to the birth of Isaac. God again waited for the child through whose seed the Redeemer would come. 505 minus 15 makes **490**. From the Exodus until the dedication of Solomon's temple the Bible actually records 621 years. However during that time there were 7 periods when the Israelites were in subjection to neighboring tribes, such as the Philistines. The lengths of these 7 periods add up to 131 years. Subtracting 131 from 621 we again get **490**.

From the dedication of the temple to the rebuilding of Jerusalem by Nehemiah is **560** years in elapsed time, but **70 years** of it was the Jewish captivity in Babylon. How could God count such a time as that? That leaves us again with 490 years. From then till the death of Jesus on Calvary was an unbroken 490 years. This period alone of the 490 year cycles is actually stated in Scripture in the veiled language of Daniel's prophecy. Daniel 9:24 reads, "Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy." It was this verse that originally led Sir Edward Denny, an Irish baronet and composer (1796-1889), to the discovery of the 490 year cycles.

We meet the number 490 in the New Testament. Jesus told Peter that he should forgive his brother not 7 times, but 70 times 7. That makes 490! **These 490 year cycles are clearly associated with forgiveness and redemption**. Now as we know the Philippines is approaching its **490** years this 2010. Hallelujah!

Family Watch

Ephesians 5:22-25 – “Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her...”

Let us pray:

- For the husbands: to honor the marriage covenant they have made before God and love their wives in words and in deeds and treat them with respect as the weaker sex (1 Peter 3:7) so that nothing will hinder their prayers.
- Likewise for the wives: to have the grace to submit to their husbands in everything, except when asked to sin deliberately. That the wives would have that unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit; for this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful (1 Peter 3: 4-5).
- For marital agreement between the husband and wife: that they will be able to settle their differences and disagreements in a godly and peaceful way. This is better than the way that results to separation, domestic violence to women and children and even murder (just like what happened to a certain wife who was featured in the news lately - “According to court records, the wife left her two children after her husband slapped and punched her in the face and slammed her head on a cabinet. Her remains were recently found in a sealed metal drum off the waters of Navotas Port after she was reported missing two years ago. (Inquirer, 6/16/09)”.

Religion/Church Watch

“But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand” Eze 33:6

It is at this juncture of our nation's history that the Church must fulfill her role as the watchman over the nation (Isaiah 62:6-7). It is the Church's responsibility to

pray and intercede on behalf of the nation and also be the prophetic voice to trumpet the word of the Lord to our people, warn them of impending judgments and call them back to repentance towards God. It is also the Church's responsibility to champion the cause of the poor, the oppressed and the bound.

Let us pray:

- For the Church and the religious leaders to arise call the entire Filipino people to prepare their hearts for the coming visitation of the Lord (Isaiah 40: 1-9; Jer 4:3; Hosea 10:12).
- For the Church, the Body of Christ to intercede, fast and pray for the coming change of spiritual season of the nation in line with the Philippines 490th Year since it was discovered and given her Christian identity (1521-2010) in accordance with the prophetic parallel in Daniel 9:24.
- For the Church and the religious leaders to be the voice of truth, righteousness and justice in the land boldly and courageously speaking against corruption and moral decadence of our society (Psalm 89:14; Ezek 22:23-30; Mat 23:23).
- For the church and the religious sector to spearhead and intensify mercy ministries and social programs to help the poor and alleviate their plight from the urban communities to the rural areas (Isaiah 42:22; 58:1-14; James 1:27) .

Government Watch

Due to global uncertainties, the government has trimmed down this year's growth forecast - from a high of 6.1%-7.1% (as of July 2008) to only 0.6%-1.8% (as of June 2009) even as economists predict a recession (negative growth for two consecutive quarters). To ensure that the economy will grow, albeit modestly, the government must increase its spending/disbursements. However, the funds to finance government projects are not forthcoming because of several factors: (a) high level of tax evasion/avoidance i.e. estimated at 30% of potential revenues, (b) slowdown in the economy and loss of jobs, (c) increase in allowable deductions for individual

taxpayers, and (d) reduction in corporate income tax from 35% to 30% of net income.

Let us pray:

- That government officials, especially the economic managers, will not be distracted by the current talks about reforming the Constitution (Cha-Cha) and Constituent Assembly (Con-Ass), premature election campaigning by some politicians, and other controversial/divisive issues in government
- That the people in Government – heads of offices down to their staff – will be prudent in spending government money. Prophetess Cindy Jacobs challenges the Body of Christ to believe that God can wipe out corruption in government. As intercessors, let us call into existence the things that do not exist (Rom 4:17); declare “zero corruption” in government.
- Tax collections will be remitted properly to the Treasury. Let the people of God raise up the standards for righteousness and honest tax declaration. As consumers, we will require official receipts for every purchase and as much as possible, patronize business establishments of good taxpayers and law-abiding citizens. As entrepreneurs, we will declare our true sales/receipts and pay the right taxes to BIR and the Treasury (i.e. we will not engage in under-the-table transactions).

The LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Let us pray that the members of the Legislative Branch:

- Would have a true fear of God in their hearts;
- Would see that they must also be respecters of laws and not just makers; that they will follow duly instituted processes;
- Would act with integrity and honesty and put the interest of the general public and the country over any vested and selfish interests.
- Would realize that they are in their positions for the purpose of helping improve the quality of life in our beloved country;
- Would give importance and priority to the enactment of laws in order to help enable the Philippines to tide over