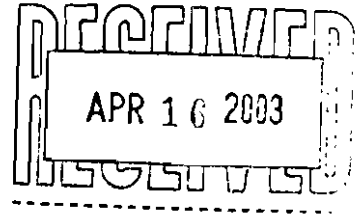


April 2, 2003

**The Executive Council  
Mt. Carmel Center  
Waco Texas**



## **BIBLICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT 2003**

**Dear Brethren,**

“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2Tim. 2: 15.

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Christ Jesus. We the members of the Biblical Research Committee hereby submit our findings on the issues presented to us by Bros. Lennox Sam and Michael Graham.

- 1..Do the sermons in the Symbolic Codes 1 of 5 through 5 of 5 contain errors?**
- 2..Are they Bro. Houteff's sermons.**

Many of the Davidians who were present when these sermons were given by Bro. Houteff were alive when they were printed in the codes (some of them were on the Council that Sis. Houteff presided over) and none objected to their authenticity. What was questioned was Sis. Houteff's application of these sermons.

- (1) An old manuscript of 12SC #5 was found at Elk; It is even dated July 15, 1944. Although edited by Sis. Houteff, the original words are present.
- (2) 2TG. 41: 18 para. 3 is a partial restudy of a study previously given in one of these Codes (see 13SC, 3,4).
- (3) 3SC 5, 6 p. 12 (Blue Book 326) “To what extent is the code authentic?”

- 3..What is meant by “That which is published?”**

If the teaching is in the light of the Rod Message, then it may be published by the Executive Council.

See: 5Ans. 55, 56; Old Codes (blue book) page 326; 8SC 1-12 page 20; 2SC 11 page 11

- 4 Why all the Codes published after Feb. 5, 1955 are not currently being distributed in their entirety?**

Those that are currently distributed contain only the sermons delivered by Bro. Houteff. The missing ones containing comments and studies by Sis. Houteff and minutes of Council meetings etc. were omitted. In 1970 the Salem Association decided to republish only the sermons delivered by Bro. Houteff and discard all other materials that were in these codes.

- 5 Is Jacob's time of Trouble before or after the purification of the church?**

Jacob's time of Trouble takes place before the Purification of the church.

- (a) It takes place when God's people (the 144,000) are returning to their homeland (kingdom) 1TG. 47: 14.
- (b) Esauites and Jacobites are in the church up to the time of its purification. 1TG. 45: 12.
- (c) There are two death decrees. One during the Time of Trouble such as never was – after the purification of the church (see 12Tr. 54, 55), and another during Jacob's time of Trouble – before the purification of the church (see 1TG. 28: 14, 15; 12SC 2: 14 par. 1).
- (d) The latter decree mentioned above is the Assyrian death decree which takes place before the purification of the church 1TG. 23: 5, 6, 7, 8; 1TG. 24: 12, 13, 14; 13 SC. 1, 2: 9, 10, 11, 13.
- (e) During the time of the above mentioned Assyrian death decree, the Solemn Assembly will be called, wherein God's people will cry day and night for deliverance (Jacob's time of Trouble) – 2TG. 8: 21, 22.
- (f) The homeward journey of the latter day Jacobites (2TG. 10: 30) need not be taken too literally because they are to "board the chariots of God (just after the purification of the church) when the angels cry out all aboard" 1TG. 11: 13.
- (g) The 144,000 are called Jacobites (see 1TG. 25: 11 para 1) and since after they escape the purification of the church, they are to be taken to the kingdom by chariot, then they must have trouble before the church is purified.
- (h) God's people (Jacobites) are to be delivered from "antitypical Edomite brethren (Isa. 63: 1) in order to be led into their Father's land – 1TG. 43: 16-18.
- (i) Jacob's wrestling with the angel typifies the time of "Jacob's Trouble" (for the church). 1SR 62 para. 2, 3.
- (j) The latter day Jacobites must victoriously pass through the time of Jacob's Trouble before they receive a new name. The new name will be received after Ez. 9 (see Isa 65: 15; 1TG 44: 8) – 1SR pocket edition p. 39.
- (k) There is a predicted (trial) event, by no means a small one, before the purification of the church in which those who cannot undergo are laid in their graves, while the 144,000 remain and will escape. 1SR 219 para. 2.

#### **6 Why are the sequence of events listed in FB: 11-15 and 2TG. 10: 28-31 not in sequential or chronological order?**

We do not know why these events are not in sequential or chronological order. They are simply a list of additional beliefs of Davidians given in explanation of the letter 'D' for the name Davidians in relation to the name SDA (see 2TG. 10 p 17).

Observe that some of the numerical items are just explanations of others in the list. Number 3 for example has the sealing of the 144,000, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the gathering of the Great Multitude. Number 4 has the slaughter of Ezekiel 9, while numbers 10 and 11 are additional explanations of number 3.

Thus these additional Davidian believers should not be seen as contradictory to Bro. Houteff's sermons in the 1-5 Symbolic Codes because of the manner in which they are listed.

### **7..The 42 Months.**

Regarding the 42 months of Rev. 11: 2, 3, there is one application to the 1260 years of the Dark Ages (see 5Tr. 111) and another to the liberation of Jerusalem from Gentile rule and the setting up of the Kingdom (see 2TG. 15: 9, 10). The latter day application of the 42 months was not Sis. Houteff's idea. Her mistake was in the setting of dates for its commencement and conclusion.

### **8..The Jonah Message**

Two phases of Jonah's experience are dealt with in Tr. 10 and 11SC. 8 respectively. Tract 10 is dealing primarily with Jonah being in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights, while 11SC. 8 is dealing primarily with his experience after being vomited on shore, which represents the experience of God's people today. It was this latter part of Jonah's experience that Sis. Houteff used to clarify questions concerning the commencement of her 42 months prediction. However, the sermon itself as is recorded in 11SC. 8 mentions nothing directly or indirectly about the 42 months or the great earthquake.

### **9..The Trumpets**

The apparent contradiction of the statements in Tract 5 pages 76-78 with 12SC. 2: 14 is due to the light shining on Bro. Houteff at the time of writing. In 1935, when he had no light on the kingdom or the fall of Assyria he applied Rev. 9: 6 to the time of the expiration of the 5 months and during the mark of the beast. The Bible records it within the duration of the 5 months – before Ezekiel 9. In the 1946 sermon in 12SC 2: 14, he applied Rev. 9: 6 to the time before the fifth trumpet ends – within the duration of five months and before the mark of the beast. Thus it was from this standpoint he mentioned that the sixth trumpet is yet in the future.

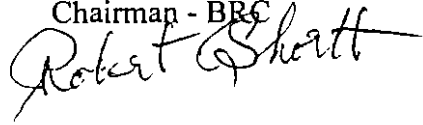
Of the twelve members of the BRC, eleven undertook the investigation. Two members concurred with the submissions of Bros. Sam and Graham and nine members expressed the dissenting views summarily mentioned above.

It is therefore the conclusion of the majority of the members of the BRC that the sermons published in the 1 of 5 to 5 of 5 Symbolic Codes are those of the prophet V.T Houteff. That they are in harmony with the Bible and the rest of the Rod message and even make some areas of the Rod message clearer.

Thus we wish to **recommend** that this Association continues publishing these codes rather than discontinue their publication.

Yours faithfully

Bro. Robert Shortt  
Chairman - BRC

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Shortt". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name and title.