

Submitted by Dora Young Reprinted by permission

## Signs of the Times *by Scott Ashley, Managing Editor, The Good News*

Could disbelief and lack of spiritual understanding leave us blind to dangers that should be obvious?

January/February 2012 issue

Nearly 2,000 years ago a group of men came to Jesus Christ, intending to put Him on the spot by asking Him for a miraculous sign to prove He was who He said He was. His response, recorded in Matthew 16:2-3, wasn't what they expected.

He told them: "When it is evening you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red', and in the morning, 'It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Hypocrites! You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot discern the signs of the times" (emphasis added).

Jesus had already performed many great miracles, as they no doubt were aware. The evidence was already there, but they refused to accept it. And so Jesus called them what they were—hypocrites and pretenders. He then pointed out to them the result of their lack of belief. Their lack of spiritual understanding, Jesus told them, made them blind to what should've been obvious. The signs of the times were there, but they chose to remain oblivious to them.

Do Christ's words mean anything for us today? Could disbelief and lack of spiritual understanding leave individuals—or even an entire nation—blind to dangers that otherwise should be obvious? Are we ignoring warning signs that cry out for our attention?

Consider some indicators of America's national health and stability. The United States currently borrows 40 percent of what it spends. The 2012 U.S. federal budget was almost \$3.8 trillion, a gargantuan number almost impossible to understand. This breaks down to the federal government spending:

- \$316,333,333,333 (\$316.3 billion) per month.
- \$73,000,000,000 (\$73 billion) per week.
- \$10,400,000,000 (\$10.4 billion) per day.
- \$433,000,000 (\$433 million) per hour.
- \$7,222,222 (\$7.2 million) per minute.
- \$120,370.37 per second.

Since 40 percent of these amounts is borrowed, the United States borrows and spends \$48,000— an amount roughly equal to the median U.S. household income— every second.

In late 2011 the federal deficit officially overtook the nation's gross domestic product (GDP)—the total value

of the nation's goods and services produced in the year. America's per-person share of debt is now higher than that of deeply troubled European nations like Greece that we hear so much about on the news!

America spends more than \$400 billion annually just to pay interest on its debt, with about a quarter of that going to China. That interest alone is enough to fund China's entire military spending—a military that is aggressively catching up to and challenging U.S. forces in Asia and the Pacific. In effect, through irresponsible government spending, U.S. taxpayers are funding China's military buildup!

In spite of America's power, it's increasingly ineffectual on the world stage. Crowds gather in third-world nations to mock the United States and spit on its flag. In September Libyan terrorists murdered the U.S. ambassador with impunity—the first ambassador killed since 1979.

What's going on? What are these warning signs telling us? It's crucial that you understand the answers revealed in this issue, because they're reshaping not just the nation, but the entire world!

### My Closing Comments: *Dora Young*

To me, placing Term Limits on Congressional members is long overdue. It's my understanding that some brave Congressman, and he got a C0-sponsor, introduced this as a Bill but needless to say, it's stuck in the Committee. Probably the only solution to this huge problem of long-time do-nothing Congressional people is voting them out of office. I've always supported a term limit of 12 years - 3 four-year terms for the U.S. Congress. The U.S. President is limited to 2 four-year terms - why not Congress? This might help to get some people in there who will truly work towards keeping America safe and financially solvent!

As Mr. Ashley points out in the last paragraph, it's crucial that you understand the answers to the warning signs to us that are revealed in this issue because they're reshaping not just the nation, but the entire world.

For those of you on the internet, go to [www.GNmagazine.org](http://www.GNmagazine.org) and for those of you who wish to receive the free bimonthly magazine, write to United Church of God, P.O. Box 541027, Cincinnati OH 45254-1027.

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**New Association Formed:** Sac and Fox Tribal Police Department established an association with Tribal Police Departments from Absentee, Citizen Potawatomi, Osage, Kickapoo and Pawnee, absent from the meeting was the Seminole and Iowa tribal police departments. This was done in order to share information such as criminal matters at their Nations that might spread to other Nations. (staff photo)



## Sunday Worship Services

### At Sac and Fox Chapel

9:45 a.m. - Bible Study  
11:00 - Worship Services  
Preaching: Don Tiger  
Worship Leader: Mike Grass  
Come Join Us . . .  
*This is the day that the Lord hath made  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.*

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## HELP WANTED!

### SAC & FOX NATION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF JOB VACANCIES WITH  
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- Controller (Stroud)
- Indian Child Welfare Coordinator (Stroud)
- Indian Child Welfare Specialist (Stroud)
- Accounts Payable Technician (Stroud)
- Compliance Officer (Gaming)
- Cashier (Finance/Stroud)
- Resident Advisor (Juvenile Detention Center/Stroud)
- Economic Development Director (Stroud)
- Surveillance Observer (s) (Gaming)
- Finance Manager (Finance/Stroud)
- Accounting Clerk(s) (Finance/Stroud)
- Physician (Black Hawk Health Center/Stroud)
- Payroll Technician (Finance/Stroud)
- Executive Assistant (Shawnee)
- Custodian (BHHC Stroud)
- 7 Temporary Laborer(s) (Stroud)

Applicants must successfully pass an OSBI/National background check and drug screen. Preference in hiring is given to qualified Native Americans. Applicants claiming Indian Preference must provide a copy of their CDIB. For more information and to learn how to apply please visit our website at:

[www.sacandfoxnation.com](http://www.sacandfoxnation.com)

or contact Human Resources, Sac and Fox Nation, 920883 S Hwy 99, Bldg. A Stroud, OK 74079 or by phone (918) 968- 3526