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The Herald of His Grace

Presenting every man perfect in Christ Jesus. Colossians 1:28

Volume 41
Issue 1024

Is There a Pause in Daniel's Seventy Weeks? (Daniel 9:24-27)

by — André Sneidar

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Key Points:

Much of what we think we know about prophecy is the standard Christian interpretation of events, much of which are wrong.....8611
Prophecy is only operational while God is dealing with His people Israel.....8618

There is much about prophecy that is unclear to us today that will be clear when the time for its fulfillment has arrived. This is not to say, however, that it is impossible to learn about it and arrive at fruitful conclusions.

First, “seventy weeks,” according to the literal translation of the phrase, is “seventy sevens” (CV, DT). Based on verses elsewhere (cf. Genesis 29:27-28; Leviticus 25) we can infer weeks of “years,” thereby equaling seventy seven-year periods for a total of 490 years.

Second, there is no indication that God has placed a pause in the middle of these “seventy sevens,” much less has even begun them. **Much of what we think we know about prophecy is the standard Christian interpretation of events (based on certain assumptions that are made), much of which are wrong.**

For example, many think that the prophecy of Daniel 9 began to be fulfilled with the proclamation of Cyrus allowing the captive Jews to return to Jerusalem to begin rebuilding their temple, and the proclamation of Artaxerxes allowing them to return to rebuild their city (read Ezra and Nehemiah). Since then, however, Israel's history is a tale of continued failure, and they have lapsed into a state of unbelief



resulting in their separation from God as His Nation – all according to prophecy. The fulfillment of the coming Kingdoms has not occurred, and Israel still awaits the promised inception of her Kingdom.

Another good example of wrong assumptions is the sequence of historical events based on Daniel's interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream in Daniel 2. Christian theology has assumed that the interpretation was the sequence that began with then-king Nebuchadnezzar and continued from that point forward, with history unfolding in accordance with that dream.

However, one critical part of Daniel's interpretation that is missed is what Daniel tells Nebuchadnezzar about his dream, in that he says that it concerned things that shall be “*in the latter days*” (:28) ... “*should come to pass*” ... “*what shall come to pass*” (:30).

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Bible Student's Notebook™

Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal

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Scripture education in a weekly format!

This free electronic publication is dedicated to:

- the absolute sovereignty and deity of God (Romans 11:36);
- the proclamation of the riches of God's abundant, exceeding grace (Romans 5:20; 11:6; Ephesians 1:7);
- the affirmation that God will save all through the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (I Timothy 2:3, 4; 4:10; Titus 2:11);
- the universality of death and resurrection (I Corinthians 15:21);
- the unique gospel of Paul – which he calls "my gospel" (Romans 2:16; 16:25; II Timothy 2:8; I Corinthians 15:1-4; Acts 13-28; Acts 20:24);
- the "preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret in ages past" (Romans 16:25);
- the epistles of the present Secret Administration being Ephesians & Colossians (Ephesians 3:2, 9; Colossians 1:25);
- true freedom and liberty apart from law (Galatians 5:1);
- the organic nature of the One Body (Ephesians 4:16);
- the Secret Administration, being the operational revelation for today (Ephesians 3:9);
- the unprophesied, Celestial hope and calling of the One Body (Colossians 3:4);
- the distinct message and ministry of Paul, the apostle to the nations (Ephesians 3:1-3);
- the importance of receiving all whom Christ has received (Romans 14-15);
- the recovery of rich Biblical truth that has too long remained hidden under the veils of traditionalism, prejudice, misunderstanding and fear (Mark 7:7, 13);
- the completeness of the believer in Christ (Colossians 2:10), with:
 - total freedom from sins (Colossians 1:14);

- union in His death, burial and resurrection and ascended seated position among the celestials (Ephesians 2:6);
- adult sonship position (Ephesians 1:5).

This publication is the product of humble efforts of ordinary men intended to stimulate the earnest study of Scripture. We do not claim infallibility for the contents of this publication; thus they are not meant to imply finality on any subject discussed, or that further research would not add further light from the Word of God. God's storehouse of truth is inexhaustible, so draw on its wealth by prayerful study. Our readers are asked to be as the Bereans and search the Scriptures (Acts 17:10-11; I Thessalonians 5:21).

This publication is not connected with any "church," "denomination," "movement," "organization," "mission," "creed," "meeting," "school," "conference" or "fellowship."

We are always open for discussion, but never for disputation. – André Sneidar

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PO Box 265, Windber, PA 15963

Office: (800) 784-6010 – Local: (814) 701-0063

bsn@studyshelf.com

Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr. – Editor-in-Chief
André Sneidar – Executive Editor

Associate Editors: J. Blake Botner, Chris Carnahan,
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Clyde L. Pilkington, III, Nathan H. Pilkington, Stephen Hill
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If we are to believe the traditional Christian teaching that all of this dream began to take place with Nebuchadnezzar at that time, then the “*latter days*” have passed us by, and we rightly would be concerned about where our hope lies (cf. II Thessalonians 2:1-2). A “pause” must be inserted to make this assumption work; but there is no such “pause” indicated in Daniel’s interpretation of the dream.

Nebuchadnezzar will have to be raised in order for God to fulfill that promise to him “*in the latter days*” because there was never a time that Nebuchadnezzar had a worldwide rule, “*wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all*” (:38). Thus, this promise is yet future.¹

Also, the procession of kings in the dream’s interpretation doesn’t mean that they are consecutive, with the next king/dominion arising after the end of the previous king/dominion. These kings are somewhat

concurrent over time – *i.e.*, sometime during Nebuchadnezzar’s future reign a 2nd king arises to establish his own kingdom, and during that reign a 3rd king arises, etc. Moreover, the final kingdom that is established is God’s Kingdom “*which shall never be destroyed*” (:44). This certainly has not occurred to date.

Another example of wrong interpretation is the idea that “*age-abiding righteousness*” (Daniel 9:24) was “brought in,” based on the assumption that Christ is the “*Messiah*” (KJV) of :26. The word translated thus is a transliteration of a Hebrew word that is always rendered “*anointed*” – except for the 2 occurrences in Daniel 9 where it is rendered “*Messiah*” because it was *assumed* to be talking about Jesus Christ, which is a clear indication of the translators’ religious bias.²

Indeed, the word “*messiah*” occurs nowhere else in the Scripture. This is not to say that Christ isn’t God’s anointed (as are many others in Scripture) to conduct the functions of His office as God’s Regent; but He has not yet assumed that role, and awaits the time of His installment at His Father’s determination. Of

(see DANIEL 9, last page)

1. For more information on unfulfilled prophecy, see,

– [Rightly Dividing Israel's Prophetic Kingdom – With Special Emphasis on The Overlooked Pre-Millennial "Kingdom of the Heavens" \(A Comprehensive Compilation\)](#), editors: Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., André Sneidar, Bible Student's Press (on the [order form](#) under “Compilations.”

2. For more information, see,

– Is Christ the “*Messiah*” of Daniel 9 Who Is “*Cut Off*”? [Bible Student's Notebook 941](#).



Rightly Dividing Israel's Prophetic Kingdom – With Special Emphasis on The Overlooked Pre-Millennial "Kingdom of the Heavens" (A Comprehensive Compilation)

Editors: Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., André Sneidar

There are enormous amounts of prophecy that were given to Israel in the Hebrew Scriptures that are yet to be fulfilled. Most believers simply follow some version of Christendom’s eschatology, futilely attempting to force the enormity of Israel’s prophetic scene into a few extremely abridged time periods. From this shallow vantage point, it is believed that more time has passed in God’s ages than remains. This couldn’t be further from the truth. Multiplied millennia remain, more than have yet transpired, for the fulfillment of all of the glorious plans that God has revealed in His Word. Far from being near the “end” of something prophetic, the span of God’s eonian plan is immense, and our placement is early in its timeline. Much more of God’s prophetic program remains than man’s feeble eschatologies allow.

342 pages
1st Ed., A4 (8.3" x 11.7"), 87 chapters, with charts and appendices, from 22 authors.

See [order form](#) under “Compilations.”

The intention herein is to present an alternative view to the confusing message of the traditional Evangelical concept of prophecy, thus opening the door to a consideration of the idea of a Pre-millennial Kingdom as the fulfillment of many of God’s promises to Israel to have their kingdom in the Earth.

All of the material in this book, taken together, is a wonderful resolution to the confusion of the conventional religious theology that has muddled the minds of sincere Bible students for centuries. While we may live in the Secret Administration, that doesn’t necessarily mean that God’s Word regarding His plans for Israel must be a mystery to us.



Earth, the Microcosm of the Heavens

[Click here to listen to this article](#)

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

The underlying message of the Scriptures is that the Earth was designed in Heaven's image. Although currently disrupted, it is modeled after Heaven, and thus, the Earth mirrors Heaven. It is therefore a microcosm of Heaven.

Taking the Scriptures literally, they teach us that this reflection includes every aspect of Earth, its activity and life. We see this demonstrated throughout God's Word.

This Divine principle is clearly demonstrated in the Tabernacle. It was modeled after the "true Tabernacle" in Heaven (Hebrews 8:1-5).

The following comparisons between the Earth and Heavens are not figures of speech – they are not accompanied by "like" or "as" (i.e., one thing is "like" or "as" another).

Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Intelligent Inhabitants

For example, we read that around God's throne are 24 elders (Revelation 4:4).



Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Been Disrupted

For example, we read of "*the disruption of the world*" (Genesis 1:2), which is the *overthrow of cosmos*. Thus, not only has the Earth been disrupted, but also the whole system, or order of God's Universe, including the Heavens.

Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Evil

For example, we read in Job 15:15 that "*the Heavens are not clean in His sight.*"

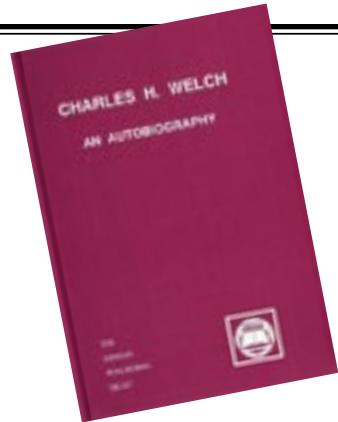
Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Animal Life

For example, we read that, when Christ returns to Earth from Heaven, He rides a "*white horse*" (Revelation 19:11).

Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Territorial Countries

For example, we read that the response to Daniel's prayer was delayed for 21 days in Heaven by the "*the Prince of Persia.*" Michael the archangel had to be dispatched to help the messenger break free so that the message could be delivered to Daniel (Daniel 10:2-

Charles H. Welch: An Autobiography



Welch (1880-1967), an associate of E.W. Bullinger, was the editor of the *Berean Expositor* (1906-1967), a Bible study magazine. While Bullinger was working on *The Companion Bible* his time was limited. As a result, Welch shouldered the editorial duties of his periodical *Things to Come*. During his lifetime he produced over 60 books, booklets and pamphlets.

156 pages

See [order form](#) under "Bibliographies."



21). Persia was a country on Earth and in Heaven. The nations of Heaven have representatives (counterparts) on Earth. The countries of the Earth mirror the relationships and conflicts currently in the Heavens.

Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Armed Forces

For example, we read of “*the armies in Heaven*” (Revelation 19:14).

Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Vegetation and Food

For example, we read of the “*manna*” that came down from Heaven that is called the “*grain of the heavens*” (Psalm 78:24, CV). This “*manna*” suggests farming (planting, tending and harvesting) as well as processing and baking.

Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Fabric and Clothing

For example, the Scripture tells of the wearing of “*white linen*” in Heaven (Revelation 15:6). This clothing, since it is specifically said to be “*linen*” (λινον, *linon*, “flax” G3043), suggests that the flax plant is planted, grown, harvested, milled and made into clothing.

Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Precious Metals and Jewels

For example, we read that, when the New Jerusalem, the Capital city of the New Earth, descends from God out of Heaven, it is plainly built with materials which are familiar. These earthly materials mentioned have a heavenly counterpart. Note the materials that this city descending from Heaven will have: jasper, gold, sapphire; chalcedony, emerald, sardonyx, beryl, to-

paz, chrysoprasus, jacinth, amethyst, pearls (Revelation 21:18-21).

Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Musical Instruments

For example, we read of the “*harps of God*” (Revelation 15:2) and “*flutes, and trumpets*” (Revelation 18:22).

Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Topographical Features

For example, we read of the “*the mount of the congregation*” (Isaiah 14:13), “*holy mountain of God*” (Ezekiel 28:14).

Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Fire

For example, we read that “*fire came down from Heaven*” (II Chronicles 7:1).

Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Water

For example, we read of the “*waters that are above the Heavens*” (Psalm 148:4).

Just Like the Earth, the Heavens Have Weather Systems

For example, we read of “*the cloud in the day of rain*” (Ezekiel 1:27-28), “*a rainbow*” (Revelation 4:3), “*lightning and thunders*” (Revelation 4:5), “*a whirlwind came*” (Ezekiel 1:4). **BSN**

TOPICS:

Major: Celestials; Earth; Heavens

Minor: Creation; Disruption; Tabernacle

This Do in Remembrance

by — Otis Q. Sellers

A scriptural examination of a common church custom, by independent student and teacher of the Word of God and editor of *The Word of Truth*.

60 pages

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Chillax: The Power of Taking Time to Just Be

by — Steve Martin

[Click here to listen to this article](#)

Chillax and know that I'm God (Psalm 46:10, author's paraphrase).

I am always eager to discuss the profound truths that Father has revealed to me: universal salvation, our predestined selection before the disruption of the world, our inheritance in the celestials, the assurance that I won't endure the prophecies meant for Israel on earth, and the overarching sovereignty of God. My interest also extends to foundational beliefs about life after death, the truth about "the Trinity," and our role in completing Christ's mission—the topics are endless.

However, there are moments, sometimes days or even weeks, when I just want to hang out. I don't want to think about all of that stuff. I look for the simplicity of just being in the moment, enjoying the peace and joy that comes from living life without overanalyzing it.

I love to embrace peace, cherish time with my family, enjoy friendships, listen to music, watch a game, drive in the convertible, and simply relish life's ex-

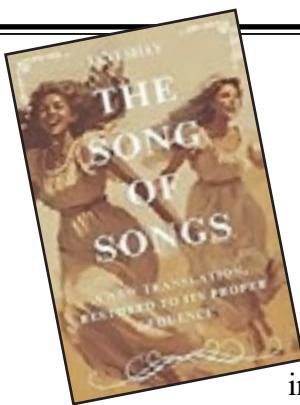


periences. I want to support my friend who is grieving the loss of his son. I want to live fully and let my knowledge become a subconscious guide. It feels like navigating on autopilot.

I recognize that there are critical moments, like takeoffs and landings, where active engagement is crucial. In challenging times, turning to a book or the Scriptures can be incredibly supportive. Exploring various topics strengthens my faith. When inspired to do so, I dive in wholeheartedly. Engaging deeply with these truths enriches my spiritual autopilot, enabling a more profound sense of peace and relaxation when I lean on it.

Yet, it's comforting to know that my standing with God remains constant, regardless of my activities.

So, it's perfectly fine to take a step back, relax, and allow these truths to permeate your being, experiencing them even when not actively contemplating



70 pages

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under "Other
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The Song of Songs: A New Translation, Restored to Its Proper Sequence

by — Levi Shay

For those longing to embrace complete humanity and harmony between the sexes, your journey begins here. This unique translation uncovers King Solomon's long-hidden wisdom in the *Song of Songs*. Once deemed too potent and erotic for public consumption, its true meaning was lost through allegorized interpretations and textual rearrangements. Now, for the first time, this text has been reconstructed using insights from the Dead Sea Scroll manuscripts. This unprecedented translation restores the *Song of Songs* to its rightful beauty and form. Recognized as a monumental achievement in human literature, it is now ready to be enjoyed in its proper sequence. Experience King Solomon's masterpiece as it was meant to be, and let it guide you on a transformative journey.



them. There's no need to dedicate every spare moment to study – unless you're drawn to it. There's no obligation to watch every video – unless you feel compelled. If you have the desire, it's God Who has placed it in your heart.

Sometimes, when I'm on autopilot, it occurs to me that many of my previous fears no longer affect me. I'm enveloped in a sense of tranquility, realizing that this peace came without the need for extraordinary efforts on my part. My feelings towards individuals I once overlooked or even disliked have transformed into love. My interactions with my family have deepened and taken on new meaning.

The “*Peaceful Easy Feeling*” that the Eagles mention feels like a kind of happiness that seems almost too wonderful to be real. Sometimes, when I feel this calm, I worry that I'm being lazy and not doing everything I should for my spiritual life. Then I feel guilty about feeling guilty. But then I remember feeling this way when I was involved in Christianity. The Greek word translated as “*be still*” in Psalm 46:10, as noted in *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*,¹ implies a form of slacking. So, it appears that there's divine approval for moments of calm and relaxation. Interestingly, it turns out that slacking off is not only permissible but encouraged.

In these moments, I connect with family and friends, embracing our time together without judgment or the urge to change them. If they share their religious views with me, I'm able to let it go, trusting that God has a plan for them and will reveal Himself at the perfect time. There's no need for me to fix anyone. And when they're curious about my own spiritual path, I can respond gently and openly, free from any judgment or pressure.

For me, this is a big change. Before, I couldn't truly relax and enjoy the moment. I felt so anxious that it would make me feel sick. Taking medication has helped a lot, but what really made a difference was understanding that God is in control and He has a good plan for everyone. Knowing this helped me find real peace and relaxation.

I can't take pride in this transformation, as it wasn't

1. H7503.

the result of any deliberate action or merit on my part. It is a gift from God. In the past, the thought that I had to fix myself and others sent my anxiety soaring. Now, I understand that such responsibilities fall to God.

Please understand that I'm far from flawless in these scenarios. I often fall short, acting or speaking in ways that aren't beneficial or kind. Yet, in this imperfection, I also find solace, recognizing that even these missteps are woven into God's greater plan for life. It's a comforting paradox: finding peace in the midst of my failures, knowing I am still a work in progress under His guidance.

Living in the reality of His boundless love and grace is a journey. Through good times and bad, His presence is a constant source of strength.

I am deeply grateful that God has appointed certain individuals to delve deeply into study and teaching, and their contribution to the body is immensely valuable. I deeply appreciate the insights into Scripture they provide, enriching my life with their understanding. It's as if they are studying on my behalf; their passion for the Scriptures a gift from God that I benefit from.

Knowing that such a calling is not mine, my gratitude for their commitment and the wisdom they impart is even greater. My dear friend Clyde Pilkington stands as a shining example of this dedication. Because of him and others, I can slack off.

It's no wonder I can relax. God is large and in charge!

Remember: “*Everything comes from God*” (II Corinthians 5:18).

BSN

For more information on Psalm 46:10, watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhz5rS-5Q7o>

TOPICS:

Major: Psalm 46:10; Relax; Sovereignty

Minor: Calling; Comfort; Liberty; Peace



DANIEL 9 (continued from page 8613)

course, the “pause” can be conveniently inserted to equivocate about the timeline of Daniel’s prophecy; however, just as we shouldn’t force Jesus Christ into a passage where He doesn’t belong, let’s also not insert a “pause” where God gave no indication of one.

Much is made of past world events since the end of the Acts period that are determined to be the fulfillment of prophecy. However, a critical distinction to note is that we have been living in the dispensation of the Mystery since the close of Acts, and by definition (through the principles of *right division*) there is no prophecy being fulfilled by God since then and until this Mystery dispensation has been concluded.

Prophecy is operational while God is dealing with His people Israel; but since He has declared them not to be His people (in accordance with prophecy) in Acts 28, there are no world events since then that have been a fulfillment of any prophecy. Israel’s status as a special nation in the world is temporarily rescinded until God begins dealing with them again.³

Finally, considering the state of the world since Christ’s birth, death, burial and resurrection, there certainly has not been a state of age-abiding righteousness on the Earth, but rather a constant state of chaos and violence. Yet by Daniel’s interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream, God *will* institute His kingdom of everlasting righteousness when He es-

3. For a look at the error of Evangelical prophetic interpretation, see:

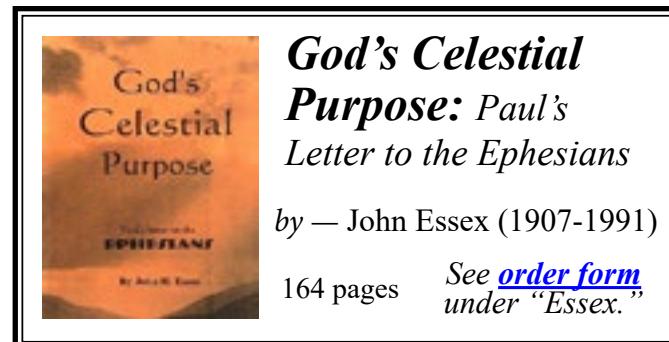
– [Seven Things I Misunderstood About Prophecy \(An Exposé of Evangelical Prophetic Interpretation\)](#), Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., Bible Student’s Press (on the [order form](#) under “Pilkington.”).

tablishes it through Israel in their kingdom *after* the terminus of this present dispensation.

The fulfillment of prophecy has always been at God’s direction and determination, not the whims of man’s translation and interpretation. Much prophecy has come to pass, and yet much more awaits fulfillment. All will indeed come to pass, in Father’s good time and timing. **BSN**

TOPICS:

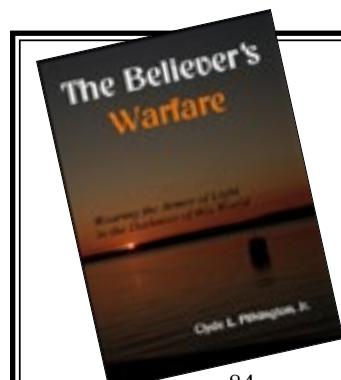
Major: Pre-Millennial Kingdom; Prophecy; Daniel’s 70 Weeks
Minor: Interpretation; Cyrus; Nebuchadnezzar; Right Division; Translation



God's Celestial Purpose: *Paul's Letter to the Ephesians*
by — John Essex (1907-1991)
164 pages See [order form](#) under “Essex.”

IT TAKES
FRICTION TO
RUB OFF THE RUST
OF CENTURIES.

A.E. Knoch (1874-1965)



84 pages

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“Clyde Pilkington.”

The Believer’s Warfare

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

The believer is in the middle of an ancient spiritual warfare that is as old as mankind. The battle itself, although intense, is not complicated. It is not a process of spiritual hoop-jumping. Indeed it is simple. *The Believer’s Warfare* surveys a few key passages of Scripture to reveal God’s sure plan of victory in the life of His saints.

“I have really enjoyed *The Believer’s Warfare*. For years I have struggled with my walk with Christ, bouncing ‘in and out of fellowship’; using some human effort to try and control the flesh. It seems as though I still have a lot of legalistic and guilt-ridden programming in my brain.” – OH