



# Expressions

FROM

**DR. RONALD W. CARPENTER, SR.**

GUEST EDITOR

Leonard Sweet in *FaithQuakes* writes the following description of the cultural changes occurring in America today:

Whatever the future, it isn't white.

Whatever the future, it isn't western.

Whatever the future, it isn't European.

Whatever the future, it isn't business as usual.

In the United States today, over 90 million people identify themselves as "ethnic." America is the most culturally diverse country in the world. More Jewish people live here than in the nation of Israel; more black people than in any other country of the world except Nigeria; more Samoans than in Samoa; and more Hispanics than in any other nation except for Spain and Mexico. Miami is the second largest Cuban city in the world. Only Warsaw has more Polish people than Chicago. African Americans are the majority group in Atlanta and Augusta,

Georgia, and in Oakland, California. Los Angeles is the second largest Mexican, Armenian, Filipino, Korean, and Salvadoran city in the world.

Demographers predict even greater cultural diversity in the future due to increasing immigration and higher ethnic birth rates. The United States receives more immigrants than all the other countries of the world combined. Immigration already contributes one third of our population growth. Ethnics now constitute a majority in California; they will do so in New Mexico and Texas by the year 2015 and in New York by the year 2020. Chicago is 61 percent ethnic, New York City is 73 percent ethnic, and Los Angeles is 78 percent ethnic. Immigration patterns are making the U.S. the first universal nation in history, a nation more complex than most foreign fields.

This cultural phenomenon is presently presenting a tremendous challenge to politicians, social planners, educators, health providers, industry, and other facets of

American society. It also challenges the International Pentecostal Holiness Church to exemplify the timeless truths of Christian brotherhood and the unity of the Church while exhausting every conceivable means of evangelizing this ripened harvest for the glory of our Christ.

Remember, God's plan for perfecting and finalizing redemption is found in Revelation 7:9: "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands." God's perfect, glorified church will be a "colorful" one indeed. 🙏

*Dr. Ronald W. Carpenter, Sr., is vice chairman of the IPHC and serves as executive director of Evangelism USA. He and his wife, Nan, live in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.*



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# IT'S A NEW DAY