

# The Good News

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THE CHURCH OF GOD

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## God's Church Expands World Wide!

A baptizing tour of Africa! The annual ministers' conference now makes plans for all parts of the world.

by Roderick C. Meredith

**G**o ye into all the world," commanded our Lord and Master Jesus Christ. This is the job we in God's Church have to perform.

As our annual ministers' conference drew to a close the other day, God's ministers realized more than ever that this means US! For, under the leadership of Jesus Christ, we discussed plans for the future, presented by Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, that call for literally circling the globe.

And two of us had just returned from a trip to Africa before the conference.

### Baptizing Tour to Africa

At last this era of God's Church is being established in Africa!

Just a few weeks ago, Mr. Raymond McNair and I took a flying trip to Africa. The purpose of the trip was twofold. First, it was to enable us to meet and work with our representative in Central Africa, Mr. Joseph E. Mwambula. Secondly, it was to enable us to meet and baptize those who were able to meet us at Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia, and at Johannesburg and Cape-town, South Africa.

The trip had to be quickly arranged because it was not definitely decided upon until about two weeks in advance. Because of this, some of the people in South Africa could not arrange to meet us on such short notice. But even so,

the response there was most encouraging and beyond our expectations.

Mr. McNair and I left London Airport Sunday evening, December 11, 1960. We flew all night to Central Africa by way of Rome, Khartoum, Nairobi, Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, and finally on to Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia, where we met Mr. Mwambula. As many of you know, Mr. Mwambula is a very dedicated man in God's work who was formerly a Lutheran minister until he began hearing the World Tomorrow broadcast and wanting to impart God's TRUTH to his fellow Negroes there in Central Africa.

We had been in contact by mail with Mr. Mwambula for more than two years, but none of us had ever met him personally. From the sincere and dedicated attitude of his letters we knew that God was working with him, but we did feel it was high time that we should become personally acquainted and give him any personal help that we could in carrying on God's work there among his fellow-Africans.

We spent five days with Mr. Mwambula—holding many Bible studies, private counseling sessions, and conducting Sabbath services there in Northern Rhodesia. One day, we took the long trip up to the Copper Belt of Northern Rhodesia bordering on the Katanga Province of the Belgian Congo. Many

people live there who are listeners to the World Tomorrow broadcast, and Mr. Mwambula and others helping him have been able to contact many of them and give them spiritual help. It was a joy to meet those people in Central Africa who are beginning to learn the real way of God and act upon it. In fact, in many cases, they were acting upon God's truth with a greater sense of urgency because they KNOW that these prophesied events of world tribulation are already being fulfilled. They are in many cases EXPERIENCING the fulfillment of Bible prophecy! It certainly becomes more real that way.

We found Mr. Mwambula to be a very dedicated and zealous man, and he certainly needs the prayers of *every one of you brethren!* There is much racial strife and tension there in Central Africa, as we all know, and this certainly intensifies the danger that is always present in the situations which Mr. Mwambula finds himself. So *remember him* and those whom God is calling there in Central Africa in your prayers continually!

### Baptismal Services in South Africa

From Lusaka, Mr. McNair and I flew down to Johannesburg, South Africa, where we were *most encouraged* by the wonderful response of our radio listeners there and the number that we were

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**THE CHURCH OF GOD**  
*ministering to its members  
 scattered abroad*

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able to baptize. On very short notice, nearly 25 people showed up to counsel with us about baptism in Johannesburg!

Remember, that these people only hear the broadcast three times a week, and that many of them had to travel *over 400 miles* in order to see us! So this certainly showed their dedication and zeal. Out of this group, we found that 18 were ready for baptism, and God provided a wonderful place for this service to be conducted.

From there, we flew on south to the very southern tip of the African continent, Capetown. We found that this city is not as well reached by Radio Lourenco Marques, and therefore were not able to meet as many people. But we had an enjoyable and profitable visit there, and the total number of people baptized in South Africa did turn out to be 21, plus three that we baptized at Lusaka in Northern Rhodesia.

These people in South Africa are zealous and growing in the Word of Jesus Christ. They want and need *local churches* as soon as God can make possible the ministers for these churches! So we are planning—as soon as God wills—to establish two churches and a mailing office in South Africa. As a result of our visit, we know that the mailing office and the largest church should be located in Johannesburg, the largest city south of the Sahara Desert in Africa. Our second church, we now know, will undoubtedly be located in Durban, South Africa, a city about 400 miles south of Johannesburg. By flying, one minister could take care of both

churches because—as you brethren probably know—God's ministers *work hard* and often take care of two or three growing churches.

Because of the explosive racial situation, there is DANGER ahead for God's servants and children in Africa. Your earnest, prevailing PRAYERS are needed for these "firstfruits" whom God has called there in Africa. Are you remembering Mr. Mwambula and his work each day? Are you remembering the two dozen baptized brethren in God's Church there in South Africa?

Be sure that you do, for they are your spiritual "relatives"—part of the very BODY of Jesus Christ, the begotten family of God.

## God's Ministers from Many Lands Attend Conference

Soon after arriving back in London from our African trip, it was necessary for us to fly back to Pasadena, California, the world headquarters of God's Church. For the annual conference of God's ministers was due to begin on Tuesday, January 10!

Indicating the world scope of God's work, this year ministers from *many lands* were in attendance. Mr. Herbert Armstrong, Mr. Raymond McNair and I all flew back from England to be in the conference. Mr. Gerald Waterhouse—in charge of God's work in Australia—had flown to Pasadena to be in attendance. Mr. Pedro Ortiguero had flown from the Philippines to be in attendance. In addition, more than three dozen of the other servants of God assembled from all over America to attend this year's conference of God's ministers.

There were really BIG problems to discuss and to solve. One of the first things on the agenda was the discussion of the need for building a larger place to hold the Feast of Tabernacles here in the United States. As you brethren know, last year more than 7,100 were in attendance! Now the idea has come of building a huge "bowl" type of auditorium on some land we already own to fulfill this urgent need. This problem was discussed and it was decided that a final decision not be made until just after the Feast of Tabernacles this coming autumn, when we would have even more facts at our disposal and be able to investigate every possible consideration in this plan.

Another most important topic of discussion was the crying NEED for more truly dedicated and consecrated ministers in God's Church. It seems that even though our ministry is growing, the spiritual harvest that God is granting is growing at an even more rapid rate. In this respect, the work of God's

Church is literally LEAPING ahead in every one of the four quarters of the globe! As Jesus said: "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few" (Mat. 10:37).

We came up with many ideas of how to gradually solve this problem, but we certainly need the prevailing PRAYERS of you brethren that God will provide the needed laborers for this spiritual harvest! Do you realize, brethren, that there are literally DOZENS of places where we need to have local churches and yet are unable to supply the trained minister that is required?

Another problem discussed was the need of more and better radio stations to properly cover the British Isles and Africa. Great interest has been shown by the people in these areas, but we're simply *not able* to reach them properly without additional radio coverage or some other "door" through which to preach the Gospel. Again, brethren, your PRAYERS are needed!

A special highlight of this year's ministerial conference was the inclusion of the ministers' wives in many of the conference sessions. They were invited right into the meetings, and special discussions and lectures were conducted to give them help in becoming the right kind of dedicated, spiritual partners in their husbands' ministry. The wives all responded enthusiastically, and we feel sure that many of you brethren will receive greater help from them as a result of their inclusion in this year's ministerial conference. Mr. Armstrong has often said that his wife shares fully *half* the load in his ministry. That being the case, remember also to *pray* for the wives of God's ministers. Their job, too, is vital!

## An Evening at the Armstrong's

Throughout the conference, there was much basic discussion on the principles of how best to serve the living Christ in this era—in this "Philadelphia" era of God's Church—the LIVING branch of God's Church which is really doing the work of the Body of Christ. The need for the total *submission, loyalty* and *dedication* of God's true servants was continually stressed. In addition, there were many evenings when God's ministers came together for social fellowship with very definite spiritual overtones and discussions of the problems in the field ministry of God's Church.

The highlight of these enjoyable evenings was the buffet dinner and evening of fellowship spent in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Armstrong. God's ministers and their wives were all invited and a delicious buffet-type dinner  
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or brown sugar, 1 teaspoon melted butter and ½ teaspoon vanilla; beat until light and fluffy.

Stir in ½ cup rolled oats, ⅓ cup chopped walnuts, ½ cup shredded or flaked coconut and a dash of salt.

Drop mixture by teaspoonfuls onto the prepared cooky sheet. Flatten the top of each with a knife or spatula. Bake 8 to 10 minutes. Remove these from the cooky sheet immediately.

### Honey Moons

- 1 egg yolk
- ¼ cup vegetable oil
- ⅔ cup honey, any kind
- 1½ cups oatmeal
- 1 cup sifted whole wheat flour
- ½ teaspoon salt

Mix the oatmeal, flour and salt together.

Beat the egg yolk a minute, then gradually add the oil,

beating as you pour. Pour in all except 3 or 4 tablespoons of the honey and beat until well mixed.

In a separate bowl whip the egg white until it forms peaks. Add the remaining honey and whip until stiff. Fold this into the first mixture, folding just until the mixtures are well blended.

Thoroughly grease a cooky sheet with butter and drop the oatmeal mixture on by teaspoonfuls.

Bake in a moderate oven (375°) for 8 minutes. They should be browned around the edges and only faintly on top. Leave them on the cooky sheet for about 2 minutes in order to stiffen before removing them.

It is unnecessary to use whole wheat pastry flour in these.

Brown sugar may be used instead of honey. Add 2 tablespoons of water to the egg yolk-and-oil mixture and proceed as above.

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## Question Box

*Your questions answered in these columns! Your opportunity to have discussed those problems pertaining directly to members of God's Church.*

Does the command of Leviticus 19:23-25 apply today? If so, how does it apply, and how do we count the ages of our trees?

Read these verses yourself.

This command concerns a *principle* that still applies today. The three years in which fruit is prohibited pertains to the age of the tree—from the time it came up, or was rooted—not the number of years it has been bearing.

Scripture tells us that in the fourth year—after three years of growth—the fruit is holy, to be used in praising God. In ancient Israel it was given to the priests and Levites, along with the tithes, for their personal use. Today we praise God with the fruit by giving it to His work. Verse 25 tells us that "in the fifth year shall *ye* (the owner) eat of the fruit thereof." Notice, also, in this verse that God promises to bless

the increase of our trees—make them more productive — if we obey this command.

This law pertains only to *trees* that bear fruit, and does not pertain to small shrubs, bushes, brambles, and grape vines or olives. These latter types of fruit, having a different length of life span and production cycle, are classified with field crops, as is shown in the laws of gleaning (Lev. 19:9-10) and of the sabbatical-year rest for the land (Lev. 25:3-5). God makes a clear distinction between these small fruits and the *trees* bearing fruit, which are dealt with in this law of Leviticus 19:23-25.

If we are diligent in obeying God in this matter, and also take proper care in the management of our fruit trees, God will cause them to provide us with fruit for many years.

## God's Church Expands

*(Continued from page 2)*

and spiritual fellowship was deeply enjoyed by everyone. Adequate room was made possible for this fair-sized crowd by setting up folding tables and chairs in the garden and backyard of Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong. Since this January in Pasadena the weather is almost like summer, the occasion was even further enhanced by eating outdoors in this beautiful setting.

After dinner, everyone repaired to the living room of the Armstrong home

and we were treated to a concert of recordings including delightful excerpts from the "Messiah" by our own Ambassador College Chorale. If it may be described in that manner, the spiritual atmosphere of love and real brotherhood of God's servants—many of them former roommates and friends in God's college was indeed "thick" on this happy occasion. Our gratitude goes to Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong for making possible this enjoyable evening, and it was a fitting climax to the evenings during this important conference.

On the day after this happy occasion,

a final morning session was held in the Rose Room of Ambassador Hall. Loose ends of the previous discussions were tied together, and the conference closed on a note of CHALLENGE in the expanding world-wide operation of the work of God's Church. The need of deep spiritual UNITY and unswerving LOYALTY toward *God's cause* was stressed.

More than ever—with God's ministers now coming from all around the world, and discussing the globe-girdling problems of our great commission—a deep realization that we are in a truly world-wide CRUSADE came upon every one of us. Can you brethren catch this vision?

Unless we fail in our calling, within the next few years the living Christ is going to work *through* US in reaching the nations and cities of this world with His last warning message before the plagues of God descend! Jesus Christ prophesied of God's ministers *now*: "Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come" (Mat. 10:23).

This is the mightiest CHALLENGE ever given to any group of men! That so very *few* of us are already able to reach so MANY already proves that this is the very work of Almighty God.

Let us, then, do *our parts* with renewed *faith* and zeal that each of us may hear Christ's words at His return: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

## Sunday Observance

*(Continued from page 8)*

would only accept and obey the plain teachings of the Bible, including Sabbath keeping, INFIDELITY WOULD VANISH FROM THE EARTH!

How grateful are we for the knowledge of this TRUTH?