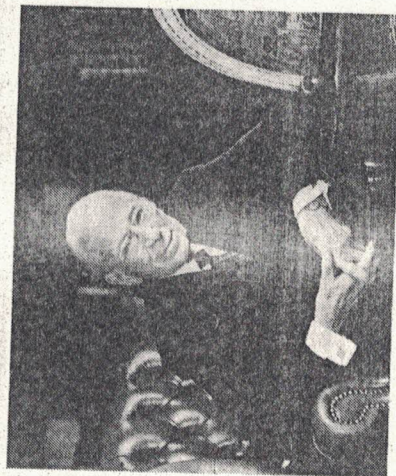


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## NEWS & VIEWS

### HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG 1892-1986



age of 39, he was ordained as a minister, establishing a new "sabbath-keeping" Church of God in Eugene, Oregon, in 1933. Within a few months he had launched *The World Tomorrow*, a religious radio programme, and had commenced publication of *The Plain Truth*.

Starting in middle life entirely without financial resources and independent of any established church, Herbert Armstrong's mission was blessed and prospered almost beyond measure. *The World Tomorrow*, which analyses today's news in the light of biblical prophecy, now goes out weekly from more than 80 television and 14 radio stations in both hemispheres in addition to coverage of the United States. *The Plain Truth*, which began as a bulletin mimeographed by hand by Mrs. Loma Armstrong, is now a 32-page magazine printed in seven languages in colour and with a world-wide circulation of over eight million copies monthly. The Church of God, which started in Eugene, Oregon, with "more than 20 members," is now a church with a world-wide fellowship of more than 100,000. The philanthropic arm of this church is the Ambassador Foundation which financially assists humanitarian projects in every part of the world.

Ambassador College, founded by Herbert Armstrong in 1947, is not moulded in the traditional image of conventional universities. It teaches not only how to earn a living, but how to live.

During the last 16 years Mr. Armstrong travelled extensively to meet and alert world leaders to the final crisis which now threatens the world. An Israeli minister once said of

him: "Herbert Armstrong is travelling for humanitarian purposes, for educational purposes and for the purposes of building bridges between peoples of different regions—and he is quite successful."

There will be many assessments of this outstanding man, but we of the Identity movement would like to think that his inspiration and dedication owed much to the discovery that the United States and Britain could be identified as the modern continuation of ancient Israel. We believe that this may have been the key which unlocked for Herbert Armstrong the hidden truths of Scripture because the first of his many books was entitled *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. He was an Identity Christian.

Herbert Armstrong had many detractors, especially among orthodox Christians, who found his teaching on some fundamental doctrinal issues to be completely unacceptable and who cited these errors in order to discredit the soundness of the Identity arguments. Whatever Herbert Armstrong's failings were in other respects, he may well be remembered as the greatest propagator of Identity truth at this Age-end. And that, indeed, is no mean distinction.

### THE ANSWER TO PERMISSIVENESS

THE GOVERNMENT of the United Kingdom has now aimed a somewhat timorous blow at the permissive society by directing that the teaching of sex in our schools should be done within the context of a loving, permanent relationship.

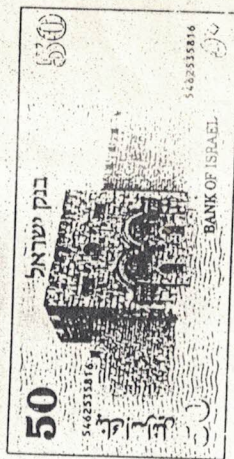
That it should be necessary to make such a directive is in itself proof that the majority of our schools operate in breach of a condition which requires them to open and close each day with prayer and, by inference, to instruct all pupils in the basic tenets of the Christian faith.

If this requirement had been met, then our children would be aware that sexual activity outside of the bond of marriage is a sin which separates us from the love of God and ex-

poses us to the risk of diseases which can destroy our health and even our life. In a religious context, homosexuality would not be a "gay" diversion but the sin of sodomy, a sin punishable by death. The plague known as AIDS would then be recognized for what it is—and feared.

Why is religious instruction no longer given in most of our schools? Is it because our educational authorities would rather reject the God of our fathers than offend the aliens who have invaded our land?

### CHRISTIANS, AWAKE!



WE are reminded that while some Christians are now eagerly awaiting the *Second Coming* of our Lord, the Jew—who does not recognize Christ as the Son of God—believes that the initial coming of Messiah still lies ahead in the uncertain future.

Ezekiel tells us that when He comes, the Prince (Messiah) will come through the Eastern Gate (*Ezekiel 44:1-3*). The appearance of this Eastern Gate on the new Israeli 50-shekel note illustrated above has aroused some conjecture that this anticipation of the Messiah may now have become a longing.

What is certain is that while most Orthodox Jews look forward with joy to the imminence of Messiah, most Christians seem to be unaware that Christ is coming—and coming soon—to judge both the living and the dead and to establish the Kingdom of God here on earth.

We pray that our unheeding Christian brethren may WAKE UP soon, for we are clearly at that point in the Dispensation when Christ urged us to Watch! (*Matthew 24:42*).