

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG DIES

PASADENA, California, January 16, 1986 — Herbert W. Armstrong, the Apostle and Pastor General of the Worldwide Church of God, died peacefully at 5:59 a.m. today at his home here while resting in the favorite chair of his late wife, Loma. He was 93 years old.

Mr. Armstrong had recently appointed Joseph W. Tkach to assume the office and title of Pastor General of the 80,000-member Worldwide Church of God. Throughout his recent illness, Mr. Armstrong remained active in the day-to-day decision making of the several organizations he had headed for many years. Mr. Armstrong, at a recent board meeting, spoke of "passing the baton" to ensure the continued, unabated human leadership of the Church under Jesus Christ.

Mr. Armstrong was also founder and chancellor of Ambassador College; founder and chairman of the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation; and the founder and editor-in-chief of THE PLAIN TRUTH magazine, which is published in seven languages and has a worldwide circulation of more than eight million.

Mr. Armstrong is widely known for his weekly appearances on the "World Tomorrow" television and radio broadcasts which are carried by 374 television and 30 radio stations worldwide. He is the author of several books including Mystery of the Ages (1985), The Missing Dimension in Sex (1969, revised 1981), The United

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States and Britain in Prophecy (1967, revised 1980), The Wonderful World Tomorrow (1979), The Incredible Human Potential (1978), and his Autobiography.

Mr. Armstrong was born on July 31, 1892 in Des Moines, Iowa, the elder son of Horace and Eva Armstrong. In July 1917, he married Loma Dillon, an Iowa school teacher who died in April, 1967.

Mr. Armstrong produced the first "World Tomorrow" broadcast in January, 1934, and followed it in February with the first regular printing of THE PLAIN TRUTH magazine, which he offered free of charge to the listening audience. THE PLAIN TRUTH and all subsequent literature are still offered free today.

As author, radio and television broadcaster, and editor-in-chief of several magazines, Herbert W. Armstrong was well versed in world events. His travels included numerous visits with world leaders. These meetings with emperors, kings, presidents and prime ministers gave him a unique perspective on world affairs and were a continual focus of his writing and broadcasting.

Among those with whom he had personal audiences are His Majesty King Bhumibol of Thailand, King Leopold II of Belgium, Emperor Hirohito of Japan, King Juan Carlos of Spain, King Mahendra of Nepal, the Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, King Hussein of Jordan, the late President Allende of Chile, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Great Britain, the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India, Prime Minister Menachem Begin of Israel, the late President Anwar El-

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Sadat and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, President Suharto of Indonesia and all of the Japanese Prime Ministers since 1970.

Many honors were bestowed on him, including Japan's Order of the Sacred Treasure; Commander of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand; the Presidential Medal of Merit from President Marcos of the Philippines; a special peace award from Belgium's King Leopold III; and an honorary doctorate in humanities from both Iloilo University and Angeles University in the Philippines, all in recognition of his work for world peace.

Mr. Armstrong often discussed the particular problems faced by each ruler or leader of the nation he visited. Through the Ambassador Foundation, Mr. Armstrong cooperated with many leaders in providing needed assistance in numerous humanitarian and cultural projects. The Foundation continues to be involved in projects in Israel, Egypt, Syria, England, Thailand, Japan, China, Belgium, Kenya and other parts of the world.

Mr. Armstrong had been recognized by members of the diplomatic corps as an unofficial "ambassador of world peace" and a "builder of bridges between peoples everywhere."

Private funeral services are being arranged. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Church's Herbert W. Armstrong Memorial Fund.

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Excerpt from Mr. Armstrong's Sermon -- Trumpets 16.9.1985

And all have died that are, say, under 140 years of age today, 'cause there's no one quite that old on earth. I think if God would extend my life that I could get fairly close to it. I'm in my 94th year now. I don't know how long God will extend that life. That's up to Him. And you brethren had better understand that. There's no guarantee that He's going to extend it on and on and on an on. I'm going to hope He will. As long as He wants to use me I think He will. But when David was old and stricken with years that -- 23 years younger than I am -- He let King David die and David was a man after His own heart, and David was ruling His people.

So God determines a lot of these things. We can't of our own wishful thinking do it either. And we need to realize that and take it a little bit seriously brethren. Your faith must not be in me. It must be in Jesus Christ -- He's the Head of the Church -- I'm not.

And if I were not here there would be another who would become the Pastor General. And if that should ever happen, if you want to get into God's Kingdom, you will follow that Pastor General and you will remain united, and you will remain one. And your eternity depends on that. Every one of you -- don't you forget it.

Because ten years ago this Church was very seriously -- as a matter of seven or eight years ago -- still divided. Thank God it not really divided today. There may be a little contention here or there that maybe we just haven't quite discovered. Maybe some have a little contention they're keeping to themselves. It hasn't surfaced. But we have such wonderful co-operation now. Such a wonderful attitude in spirit of love, the spirit of God and of God's Holy Spirit.

Brethren, do everything and pray your heart out that it can continue that way in the Church.

① FAITH TO CONTINUE — DON'T LET DOWN NOW.
(EMPHASISE) (POSSIBLY NEARER THAN WE THINK?)