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Ancestry of Herbert W Armstrong

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Herbert W Armstrong

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Herbert W Armstrong, radio and tele-evangelist, founder of the Worldwide Church of God, whose views included a belief that the world was in the "End Times", meaning Armageddon would soon occur. His beliefs also encompassed the view that the British (and Americans) were descendants of the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel, that the Sabbath should be celebrated on Saturdays, and that all holiday celebrations were irreligious including birthdays.

He once claimed that his own [ancestry](#) could be traced to the Kings of England and Scotland. This article will explore that claim.

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The numbers below, in front of the headers are assigned using the [Ahnentafel](#) method where the subject is "1", the subject's father is "2", the subject's mother is "3" and so on. The sources below are, for the most part, only cited in outline form. You can see the full extract of these sources at [this link](#)

1 Herbert W Armstrong

Herbert W Armstrong was born 31 Jul 1892 in Des Moines, Iowa into a Quaker family. He married 31 Jul 1917, on his birthday, to Loma Dillon, a schoolteacher. They then went to live in Chicago. While residents of Chicago, they had two children: Beverly Lucille in 1918 and Dorothy Jane in 1920. However both these daughters were possibly born in Iowa, as their census entries state. Perhaps Loma, close to birth, went back to Iowa to have her children. In 1924 they moved to Eugene, Lane County, Oregon where his parents were then living. There they had two more children: Richard David in 1928 and Garner Ted in 1930.

Through his wife, he joined the Church of God Seventh Day, an offshoot of the Seventh Day Adventist movement. He was an ordained minister in this group from 1931 to 1938. He began a radio program in 1934, first called the Radio Church of God, later the World Tomorrow. On his 1942 World War II Draft Registration Card, he states that he is self-employed, and employed at the I.O.O.F. Bldg in Eugene. Perhaps this was the location of his church.

His broadcasts took off in popularity causing them to seek a more suitable location, and move to Pasadena, California where his enterprises expanded greatly. By the later 1950s, his broadcasts were reaching international audiences. Part of his popularity surely was

his belief that Christ's return was imminent. He also at this time, began to teach that doctors were ineffective. His magazine The Plain Truth, eventually reached a market of eight million readers.

His wife Loma died 15 Apr 1967, and several months later his Radio Church of God, was renamed the Worldwide Church of God. His television program The World Tomorrow expanded to 382 US television stations. His son Garner Ted Armstrong, was the prominent front-man for the operations, but in 1978 Garner Ted was excommunicated from the church.

Herbert died 16 Jan 1986 and was buried in Mountain View Cemetery in Altadena, Los Angeles County, California with his wife Loma on one side, and his mother Eva Wright Armstrong on the other. In the years following his death, his church was splintered and greatly reduced in size.

Primary Sources for 1

- 1900 US Federal Census, Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa
- 1910 US Federal Census, Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa
- 1915 Iowa State Special Census, **Loma Dillon**, age 23, resident of Palmyra, Carlisle PO, Warren County, Iowa; Methodist, father born in Ohio, mother born in Iowa
- 1920 US Federal Census, Proviso, Cook County, Illinois, **Herbert Armstrong**, Head, rents home, age 28, born Iowa, occupation representative of a publishing house; **Loma**, wife, age 28, born Iowa; Beverly, daughter, age 1 6/12, born Iowa
- 1930 US Federal Census, Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon
- Polk's Eugene City and Lane County Directory 1936, **Herbert W Armstrong**, Rev (**Loma I**), pastor The Church of God, home at 1608 6th Ave W. See also 1938-1942 and 1947
- New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957, 21 Mar 1947, **Herbert W Armstrong**, age 54, born Des Moines, Iowa, 31 Jul 1892; **Loma Armstrong**, age 55, born Palmyra, Iowa, 16 Oct 1891, residents of 100 F Bldg, Eugene, Oregon

- New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957, 6 Oct 1954, **Richard Armstrong**, resident of 345 South Hill Ave, Pasadena, California, born in Oregon; **Herbert Armstrong**, resident of 363 Grove St, Pasadena, California, born in Iowa; **Loma Armstrong**, same residence, born in Iowa
- UK Incoming Passengers, arriving on the Queen Mary, 16 Apr 1956, **Loma Armstrong**, born 18.10.91, Housewife; **Herbert Armstrong**, born 31.7.92, Clergyman
- UK Incoming Passengers, arriving 14 Jun 1960, **Herbert W Armstrong**, born 7/31/92, Educator; **Loma D Armstrong**, born 10/18/91, Councillor
- "**Loma D Armstrong**", California Death Index, born 18 Oct 1891 Iowa, mother's maiden name Talboy, died 15 Apr 1967, Los Angeles County, California
- "**Herbert W Armstrong**", findagrave.com

Secondary Sources for 1

- "**Herbert W Armstrong**", [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herbert_W_Armstrong)

2 Horace Elon Armstrong

Born 23 Apr 1864 Campbell Township, Jennings County, Indiana

Married 1 Sep 1887 Palmyra, Warren County, Iowa

Died 24 Apr 1933 Canby, Clackamas County, Oregon

Primary sources for 2

- 1870 US Federal Census, Butlerville PO, Campbell Township, Jennings County, Indiana

- 1880 US Federal Census, Butlerville PO, Jennings County, Indiana
- 1900 US Federal Census, Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa
- 1910 US Federal Census, Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa

3 Eva Wright

Born Apr 1866 Palmyra, Warren County, Iowa

Primary sources for 3

- 1900 US Federal Census, Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa
- 1910 US Federal Census, Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa

4 Nathan H Armstrong

Born 29 Aug 1835 Fairfield, Ohio. He married Lydia Hole sometime between 1855 and 1863 as their eldest son Horace was born in Apr 1864. The family appears on the 1870 census living at Butlerville, Jennings County, Indiana, then with two sons. The family next-door to them, heading by a widowed Elizabeth Armstrong, is probably his mother and sisters.

Primary sources for 4

- 1870 US Federal Census, Butlerville PO, Campbell Township, Jennings County, Indiana
- 1880 US Federal Census, Butlerville PO, Jennings County, Indiana

5 Lydia Hole

Born 2 Feb 1842 Bedford County, Virginia

Primary sources for 4

- 1870 US Federal Census, Butlerville PO, Campbell Township, Jennings County, Indiana
- 1880 US Federal Census, Butlerville PO, Jennings County, Indiana

6 John W Wright

Born 24 Jun 1831 Ohio

Married 19 Apr 1857 Warren County, Iowa

Died 21 Jun 1900 Warren County, Iowa

7 Mary Ann Maxwell

Born 11 Mar 1838 Vermillion County, Illinois

Died 4 Nov 1916 Warren County, Iowa

8 Samuel Armstrong

9 Elizabeth Cope

The claim was made by Robert Boraker, that Elizabeth Cope's line can be traced back to Edward Cope of Brixton. Again this claim is spurious. Elizabeth's line begins in America with Oliver Cope who bought land in Pennsylvania, and no one has been able to show with good evidence, where in the Cope family tree this Oliver is supposed to belong. Robert states that this line is "verified" in "Living Descendants of Blood Royal", Vol 3, but this is not true. The line is **stated** but without any evidence for the crucial link from Oliver back to his supposed parents.

10 Elon Hole

AFN: RFHL-BF

Elon Hole was born 22 Nov 1800 in Bedford County, Virginia.

Elon Hole died 27 Jan 1895 in Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa

The claim was made by Bill Lussenheide, that Lydia Hole's line can be traced back through the de Umfraville family to Edward I, King of England. The LDS' Ancestral File takes this Elon Hole's ancestry back to Caunton Manor and then further back to Devonshire, however this connection is not supported by any credible evidence.

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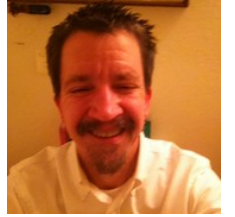
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