

The Good News

The National Magazine of
AMBASSADOR COLLEGE

VOL. II, NUMBER 1

JANUARY, 1952

WHY Russia Will Not Invade America!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

FOR YEARS we have hovered on the brink of war with Russia.

Many who claim to be authorities on prophecy have been busy assuring people such a war is prophesied in Ezekiel 38.

The United States, Great Britain, and the democracies of northwestern Europe are actually modern ISRAEL—descended from the so-called lost Ten Tribes. Therefore, they conclude, Ezekiel 38 foretells a military invasion of the North American continent from Russia.

But this is *not* what the prophecy says.

What Ezekiel 38 *does* foretell is truly astounding. Let's understand it.

The Time-Sequence of the Prophecy

Ezekiel's message is for *our day*—a prophetic warning for America and Britain, *now!*

To understand the time, the place, and all the facts of the prophecy of Ezekiel 38, we need to begin at the 1st chapter of Ezekiel's prophecy and read the book clear through.

When we do this, we find a TIME-SEQUENCE flowing thru the Book.

Let us skim thru it very briefly.

Notice, in the very first verse, Ezekiel was among the Jewish captives who had been taken in the captivity of Judah to the River Chebar. It was in the fifth year of King Jehoiachin's captivity that this prophecy began coming to Ezekiel thru visions.

It is a PROPHECY. Ezekiel was being shown things far into the FUTURE.

Notice, the prophecy was inspired

and written *after* JUDAH'S captivity—more than 131 years after the House of ISRAEL had been taken captive to Assyria. The advance-guard of the House of Israel already had begun to arrive in the British Isles before Ezekiel's vision and writing.

Yet, Ezekiel is a prophet to the HOUSE OF ISRAEL. His prophecy applies to the far future—*not* to the captivity of Israel which had occurred more than 130 years before he wrote. Remember that!

Notice, Ezek. 2:3, and 3:1, 4-7, Ezekiel's message, a PROPHECY for the FUTURE, is for the HOUSE OF ISRAEL, not the House of Judah.

In chapter 3, beginning verse 17, Ezekiel is set a watchman to WARN the House of Israel.

Message to Israel, Not Judah

Notice! Beginning chapter 3: After the prophet "eats the roll"—that is, receives the prophetic warning message—he is to "go speak unto the HOUSE OF ISRAEL"—not to the Jews among whom he dwelt.

Remember he is already *among* the captives of JUDAH. But the Eternal says to him: "Go, get thee unto the House of ISRAEL." (Verse 4.)

Surely we do not need to pause here to explain to readers of the PLAIN TRUTH that the twelve tribes of Israel had long before this divided into *two nations*—the ten Tribes being the House of ISRAEL, while Judah and Benjamin composed the House of JUDAH, who,

only, were nicknamed "Jews." For the benefit of those readers who do not understand this vital distinction—a veritable "key" without which the prophecies cannot be opened to understanding—another edition of the special booklet "The United States in Prophecy" will shortly be published, and upon special request a copy will be sent free.

The Jewish people of today are descended from the House of JUDAH. But the white, English-speaking people of the United States and Great Britain are the leading "birthright" tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh, heads of the ten-tribed HOUSE OF ISRAEL.

Ezekiel's Message is for *our day*—and it is, therefore, a message for *America and Britain, NOW!*

Notice chapter 4. The prophet is to place before him a tile, and trace upon it the city of Jerusalem, and lay siege against it. The sins pictured are those of Jerusalem, capital of JUDAH. But "this" (verse 3) "*shall be a sign to the HOUSE of ISRAEL.*" Then follows the well-known key to the "day for a year" method of reckoning prophecy.

Continue chapter 5. "For," comes the warning Message from the Eternal, "thereof SHALL a fire come forth into all the HOUSE OF ISRAEL." (Verse 4.) Notice, this is to portray vividly a warning of some FUTURE destruction upon the House of ISRAEL! Not upon Judah, already conquered by Nebuchadnezzar and in the midst of his sieges against

Jerusalem. But upon ISRAEL—the ten-tribed nation who had gone into its first and original captivity one hundred thirty long years before! The warning is not of the captivity already so far back in history. It says “thereof SHALL a fire COME” upon Israel! It is a prophecy relating to a FUTURE destruction and captivity.

No such destruction and captivity has ever yet come to the House of Israel since this was written! *Therefore it is still in the future*—IN OUR TIME! And it is a warning to Britain and America—NOW!

A Captivity of Israel Yet Future!

Notice more of this grim warning!

A third part of thee (America-Britain) shall die with the pestilence, and with famine shall they be consumed in the midst of thee: and a third part shall fall by the sword round about thee; and I will scatter a third part into all the winds” (in captivity being removed from our own land and scattered over the world). (Verse 12.)

Coming to chapter 6, the local scene of the vision shifts to the mountainous land of Palestine—but the MESSAGE is intended for AMERICA AND BRITAIN, today!

Will we heed it? God help us to wake up!

Listen! “Behold I, even I,” says the Eternal God (verse 3), “will bring a sword (invasion) upon you, and I will destroy your high places . . . and I will lay the dead carcasses of the children of ISRAEL before their idols; and I will scatter your bones round about your altars. In all your dwelling places *the cities shall be laid waste* (atomic-bombing) . . . and ye shall know that I am the Eternal.” (Verses 5-7.)

Just a small remnant shall escape and be spared (Verse 8). These are described in Luke 21:36.

Continue: “Thus saith the Eternal God; . . . Alas for all the evil abominations of (not Judah, but) the HOUSE OF ISRAEL! for they SHALL” (not *did*, in the captivity 130 years before Ezekiel wrote, but SHALL) “fall by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence.” (Verse 11).

The TIME Is FUTURE!

This is not a popular message. You probably have never heard it before. The preachers and teachers of prophecy almost unanimously will rise up to deny this warning Message—to apply it to a different time or people. But the warning is from the Eternal God, *and it is sure!* The reader will do well to heed!

Notice the TIME!

“All hands shall be feeble, and all knees shall be as weak as water.” (Chap-

ter 7 verse 17). Compare: “Howl ye; for the DAY OF THE LORD is at hand; . . . therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man’s heart shall melt; and they shall be afraid.” (Isa. 13:6-7). Plainly, the TIME is the “Day of the Lord”—yet *in the immediate future!*

Continue: “They shall cast their silver in the streets, and their gold shall be removed: their silver and their gold shall not be able to deliver them in the day of the WRATH OF THE LORD.” (Ezek. 7:19). Now compare that with Zeph. 1:14-18: “The great day of the Lord is near . . . That day is a DAY OF WRATH . . . And I (the Eternal) will bring distress upon men . . . *Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the Lord’s Wrath.*” Both are speaking of the same time . . . a time shortly ahead of us now, in this present generation!

“Wherefore,” continues verse 24 (Ezek. 7), “I will bring the worst of the heathen, and they shall possess their houses: and I will also make the pomp of the strong to cease . . . DESTRUCTION cometh; and they shall seek peace, *and there shall be none* . . . then shall they seek a vision of the prophet; but the law shall perish from the priest.” (Verses 25-26).

Yes, when this comes, our people finally will cry out for a true prophet or minister of the Eternal God—but it will be too late! For *then* shall have come the time spoken by the prophet Amos, when there shall be a FAMINE OF HEARING THE WORDS OF THE ETERNAL—(Amos 8:11)—an END of true Gospel preaching! Already the people and their paid ministers have turned their eyes and ears from God’s law!

Notice chapter 11 of Ezekiel’s prophecy. It is a Message addressed to the House of ISRAEL—verse 5. “I will bring the sword upon you, saith the Eternal God. And I will bring you out of the midst thereof and *deliver you into the hands of strangers*, and will execute judgments among you. Ye shall fall by the sword.” (Verses 8-10). WHEN? It is *future* from the time Ezekiel wrote, and it has not yet happened since then! GOD SAYS IT WILL HAPPEN!

Chapter 12, verse 11: “they SHALL remove, and *go into captivity.*” It is yet future—and it is the House of ISRAEL! Not Judah.

When? “And they shall know I am the Eternal, *when I shall scatter them among the nations, and disperse them in the countries.*” (Verse 15). The expression “They shall know that I am the Eternal” is used repeatedly thru the Book of Ezekiel—always referring to the time of the SECOND COMING OF CHRIST, and Israel’s final restoration back to the land of Palestine. Many prophecies

show Israel is to be scattered in this latter-day captivity *when* Christ comes to RESTORE them back to Palestine.

People Won’t Believe It!

Always the true prophets and ministers of God have stood almost alone, and opposed by the overwhelming majority in Israel. That is Israel’s history of old. It is true today.

The 13th chapter shows the declarations of the popular ministry of this day in Israel—in America and Britain.

“Son of man, prophecy against the prophets of Israel. . . . Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit and have seen nothing! O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes in the deserts. Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the HOUSE OF ISRAEL to stand in the battle *in the DAY OF THE LORD.*” (Verses 2-5). It is speaking of the *soon-coming* “Day of the Lord,”—not some ancient time! . . . “They have seduced my people, saying Peace; and there was no peace.” (Verse 10).

Certainly the popular ministry of today is saying to the people that we shall *never* be defeated in war, *because*, say those who understand our national identity, we are the chosen people of Israel! But we were not chosen for special favors. We were chosen for a service and righteous life we have failed to perform! Every time Israel of old disobeyed God, departed from His laws and ways, and went into the pagan customs (as we have done today, actually deceiving ourselves by *calling* those customs “Christian!”) they were invaded and conquered. *Has God changed?*

Ezekiel catalogs our sins—our customs and ways which seem right in *our* eyes but which are contrary to God’s laws and an *abomination* in HIS sight. Some of them he mentions in the 8th chapter.

In chapter 22: “Thou hast despised mine holy things, and profaned my sabbaths,” says the Eternal (verse 8). “Thou hast taken usury and increase, and thou hast greedily gained of thy neighbors by extortion, and hath forgotten me, saith the Eternal. . . . And I will (not did, but *will*) scatter thee among the heathen, and disperse thee in the countries, and will consume thy filthiness out of thee.” (Verses 12, 15).

“Her priests” (prophetically speaking of modern Israel) “have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shown difference between the unclean and the clean (Lev. 11), and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them.” (Verse 26).

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I Hold GOD Responsible!

Millions are born into this unhappy world without their own knowledge or consent. Through ignorance and poverty and corrupt civilization millions exist in fear, suffering, starvation and frustration! WHY?

by Herman Hoeb

Adam "fell"!

Most of his children ever since have lived in superstitious, squalor and disease, ignorance and the fear of poverty and war.

Why?

"The devil is the cause; he wrecked everything for God"—say the churches. "He thwarted the purpose of God in making Adam perfect."

But *how* do the churches know? Did they get their answer from the Bible?

"We certainly did," they say. "Didn't God have to let men kill His son Jesus so we could be restored to what Adam lost?"

Were God's Plans Wrecked?

Let's look at the Garden of Eden again. Did the devil under the guise of a serpent sneak in, after God had laid all His plans *so well*, and then *wreck everything* with the "fall"?

Did Satan *really* frustrate God's purpose by deceiving the woman?

If that be true, then the churches make Satan *more powerful* than God for the moment. Cleverly, Satan had been able to alter God's will.

"God, think fast!"

And He did, the churches say. "Look, in the struggle for supremacy He was able to think out the *plan of redemption* to restore His authority." Now He had the best of Satan. Then what?

The Creator *waited too long* to start repairing the damage, it would seem—and Satan has been able to be just *one long stride ahead of God* in keeping the world lost. Christ's death just *isn't* repairing the damage except for a few. The world is still lost in sin!

That's the kind of picture the churches are painting of God! In *their* gospels they put Him in a gigantic controversy with Satan, and lo and behold—Satan is winning the contest! Ignorance, poverty and war are the proofs that God hasn't saved the world.

What a muddle! But then, where did *you* read such a story in your Bible?

What's the Truth?

The truth is, Satan did *not* wreck the purpose of God!

The Creator knew from the beginning, and planned to have it so—that

the devil should deceive man into sinning. God did not design the plan of salvation to *repair the damage* and restore mankind to the perfection Adam "lost."

God purposed the plan of redemption *before the "fall!"* Adam was not created with perfect character in the first place, or he couldn't have sinned.

Adam was created so that he *could* sin! *Why?*

The Reason for Sin

Because Satan is *not* more powerful than God and he could not frustrate the plans of God, we must conclude that GOD IS RESPONSIBLE for what happened in Eden!

"Oh, no!" shriek the churches. "God couldn't be *guilty of SIN!*"

Who said God was guilty? I said God is *responsible*.

Responsibility is *not* *guilt*. God did not *force* Adam to sin. Adam did not have to sin—for God permitted him—yes, urged him—to take of the tree of life. But God put *human nature* in Adam so he would *want* to sin *unless he resisted* the pull of his nature. Adam became *guilty* of disobeying a command.

God was *responsible* for placing a nature and a mind in Adam and Eve so they by *themselves* weren't able to resist the temptation of the devil whom God *deliberately permitted* to enter the Garden.

WHY?

"For the creature was made subject to vanity, *not willingly*, but by *reason of Him* who hath subjected the same in *hope* (Rom. 8:20)." Yes, HOPE!

The Bible says *God is responsible* for making man the kind of creature he is—capable of sinning. God knew, therefore, that man would *suffer*, live in sorrow, poverty and war. God planned that these things should be, and that man should be *guilty* of bringing these miseries upon himself and his children! *Why?*

Because of a HOPE—a PURPOSE—God had in placing man upon the earth! And the present chaos is the way God *intended* that His plan should be perfected.

God placed in man, not according to man's wish, but according to God's purpose, a nature that would cause him to

sin. If He is responsible for that, then He must rectify it—He must save man from it! God's responsibility compels Him to deliver man from the bondage of sin in which he has gotten himself from ignorance and yielding to the temptations of the flesh.

That is the *why* of the plan of redemption. Not to restore man from the damage the devil did, but to *perfect the hope God had from the beginning*. And what is that *hope*? What is God's PURPOSE? The creation of God's own character in us! God is reproducing Himself!

But why should there have been *need of our guilt*?

"*That no flesh should glory in His presence*" (I Cor. 1:29). And again:

"For by grace (an unmerited free gift) are ye saved (from guilt) through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, *lest any man should boast*." Here is Ephesians 2:9 we see it reiterated that God planned that sins of the flesh and the proud wisdom of men (I Cor. 1:26-30) should not be pardoned by our *human* works, but by God, *lest we boast*.

God's Workmanship

But *why* does God carry out his purpose so we have no chance to boast? Let's read right on:

"For we are *His* workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto *good works*, which God hath *before ordained* that we should walk in them (Eph. 2:11)."

"We are HIS WORKMANSHIP *created* in Christ Jesus *unto good works*."

Now we see—God is making us *His* workmanship, not according to *our* works but according to *His* works to which we yield to permit Him to perfect in us. GOD IS REPRODUCING HIMSELF!

We human mortals were made subject to temptation and vanity so we would LEARN BY EXPERIENCE IN SUFFERING AND POVERTY that the way contrary to the law and character of God is *not* good—that we should *repent* of breaking God's law—that we should *want to live by the faith of Christ* through the Holy Spirit so we can fulfill that law by *love* and good works.

"The love of God is shed abroad in
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The national magazine of
AMBASSADOR COLLEGE
*ministering to The Church of God
 scattered abroad, and
 reporting on campus happenings*

VOL. II NUMBER 1

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 tions to the Editor, Box 111, Pasadena,
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I Hold GOD Responsible

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our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us (Rom. 5:5)." "Love is the fulfilling of the law (Rom. 13:10)." The Law of God expresses the *Character* of God. God is a SPIRIT. The Holy Spirit is God's Law *in action*.

By having the love of God in us that fulfills the law, we become *God's workmanship* preparing us for the HOPE He had when He put Adam in Eden.

What Is That Hope?

God is moulding in a few whom He calls today the very *character*—divine love, wisdom, patience, faith—of God Himself. But the vast majority of Adam's children have been going their own way, never hearing of the PURPOSE of God, and consequently reaping untold suffering because of ignorance. And God purposed that these suffering mortals *should not in this age* have the knowledge of His purpose. It is according to God's plan, because *He blinded* the nations that He might have, *in the future*, mercy on all.

Satan has deceived the nations according to the permission and plan of God!

But why is God calling out a *few* from the world today—for us who know

the truth, this is *our only day* of salvation—while leaving the other people in darkness?

Because God is fulfilling in us through His workmanship, the *hope* He has for all the sons of Adam. And that hope is given in Romans 8:21: "Because the creature (man) itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of *corruption* into the glorious liberty of the *children of God*."

We are to be made the Sons of God (I John 3:1, 2), brought into the family of God (Eph. 3:15), given the *divine nature* (2 Peter 1:4)—made *like* God so we can be the Persons in the Kingdom or family of God ruling with Him. *We shall be God*, as the Father and the Son are God now, for God is Spirit dwelling in the Persons of the Father, the Son and us. No wonder God won't let us boast! If we *earned* anything we would become *proud* with the powers of God and DESTROY the universe by abuse of those powers.

Adam was not made a perfect character in the beginning—not at all—but he and his children were made to become perfect by inheriting the divine nature so we could fill the office of God's sons. He and all his children have been permitted by God, according to God's great *Wisdom*, to suffer from sin for six thousand years. And then comes the great day of SALVATION!

RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

Herbert W. Armstrong analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of The WORLD TOMORROW!

TO THE NATION & CANADA:

XERF—1570 on your dial (extreme top of dial) every Sunday night, 7:15 P.M. Central Standard time.

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Great Day of Salvation!

God will send His Son the second time to "destroy . . . the face of the covering cast over all people, and the *vail that is spread over all the nations*. . . We have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in his SALVATION." That is in your Bible, read it: Isaiah 25:7-10.

The God who blinded men and made them unable to deliver themselves from the suffering and consequences of sin—the God who concludes all in unbelief that He might have mercy upon all (Rom. 11:32)—even He shall remove the veil of blindness that hangs over all people so they shall come to the knowledge of the truth at last.

God is a *responsible* Person! He is *trustworthy*! That's why He must bring all to a knowledge of salvation from sin and death. God could not be *just* otherwise.

But why should God have chosen to make us *His sons*—to raise us to the Godhead—by the path of human travail and woe? Is it worth it, will you ask?

"I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us (Rom. 8:18)."

Not worth it, you say?

Not worth having the power, the might and the *Character* of God? Not worth immortality and eternity and the inheritance of this earth as an everlasting possession?

It is just because some of you would say *it isn't worth it*, that God has permitted *you* to suffer, so you would come to *appreciate* the great love He gives in inviting—calling—you to become his Sons. So you would realize the AWE FULL *responsibilities* that go with being CO-CREATORS with God!

One in God's OFFICE can't afford to make any mistakes. That is why *you* have had to suffer the consequences of ignorance—to learn by bitter pain and sorrow the dire results of any other way than the way, the character of God. And *the way* of God is *love*, the fulfilling of the LAW!

God purposed that you and all the sons of Adam should disobey that perfect law of liberty (Jam. 2:12) so you would *know* what it means to break it. By suffering sin, we learn *obedience* to the Father as did Jesus (Heb. 5:9). We will be carrying out His will, not our own, for we shall have learned that His way is right.

The mighty wisdom of God in placing us in this environment! That we come to know with all our heart—by suffering—the weighty responsibility of being God and governing the creation in LOVE.

ON THE CAMPUS

FOLLOWING are articles written by students on student activities. The purpose of this entire section will be to give you the story of our jam-packed lives on the campus. We hope you won't mind if we occasionally poke a little fun at ourselves—striving human beings are always funny—and no matter how serious minded, our frailties wink. (We don't think there is anyone here who would claim to be the acme of perfection.) —thanks! Criticism and suggestions welcomed The Campus Editor

Co-Workers Respond Generously

by Mary Jo Burrow

After three years of wear, with new students coming in each year, Mayfair linen supply was becoming rather scarce recently.

Mrs. Armstrong wrote a letter of explanation to some of our Co-Workers in Christ divulging a few facts about students' needs which they themselves could not financially supply. The response was overwhelming. Many of you Co-Workers sent a large quantity of linen, some slightly used and some new along with generous portions of monetary help so that Mayfair now has a sufficient supply of bedspreads, bath towels, sheets, pillowcases, blankets and bathmats. When we students go to bed, we have a very great deal to be thankful for. I hope this little article might express a minute portion of our gratitude.

We were also able to procure a few cooking utensils for the kitchen that Mrs. Wallace, our cook, needed badly.

It did our hearts good to read your letters in response to Mrs. Armstrong and see that you were not only willing, but anxious to help us whom many of you have never personally seen.

Christians prove that they are the children of God by their deeds. Jesus set us the example by giving. He stated that it is *more blessed* to give than to receive—Acts 20:35. It is *blessed* to receive, but more joy accrues from giving.

Also "whosoever shall give a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple . . . shall not lose his reward"—Matt. 10:42, Mark 9:41.

If Jesus gave his *all*, how wonderful it is when we can give whatever God makes possible, and you did. You stated that you were very happy to help.

The students of Mayfair, Mrs. Mann, our housemother, and Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong deeply appreciate the interest of you Co-Workers who responded so generously to make our life of studies a bit easier. Thank you.

Girls Work Too!

by Doris Allen

In the last issue of the *Good News* you read about some of the work the fellows do; now I am going to tell you a little about the girls' work.

Our work here at Ambassador College surely varies—office and secretarial duties, library training, cooking and house cleaning in Mayfair.

For most of the girls, working hours are spent in the office assisting the regular employees. The general office from which the literature is sent you, is arranged in different departments with each of us being trained to do the work of our department. Some of us type the envelopes for, and mail the literature requested by listeners after hearing The World Tomorrow broadcast.

The mail containing requests for booklets only is called the "regular" mail. It is segregated from other mail in the receiving room. After the booklets are mailed, the letters containing requests to be put on the *Plain Truth* or *Good News* mailing list are sent to another part of the office where each letter is carefully checked through each file to prevent duplications which can easily happen because of poor handwriting or address changes. The letters are then given to the students typing stencils, where a separate stencil is made for each letter. After a box might be cut, another person interfiles these stencils into the file cabinets where they await the monthly publishing of the *Good News* or the *Plain Truth*.

In the meantime some of the girls are working very diligently on the mail from you Co-Workers who send in money to support this wonderful work of God that the Gospel might be preached to every nation. For each person who thus supports this work there is a personal card on which is typed the date and amount of money sent in. Each Co-Worker's card has a stencil corresponding to it.

Other office work, which requires special attention of one of the girls, is the checking of mail that has been returned

for various reasons. For example, some people have moved, some are deceased and there is the possibility of our having typed the address incorrectly because of difficulty in reading the correct address. These letters are checked through all the files and the incorrect stencil is destroyed. When the correct address is discovered, the mail is sent out once again.

Now you can see how *very important* it is that those who request literature write their name and latest address *plainly*.

Letters requesting booklets only are put in one large carton after the literature is mailed. If the literature is mailed with the wrong address it would be impossible to search among the thousands of letters for the original one. This is why some few people never receive the literature asked for. It is important that everyone write *clearly* because with an average of a thousand letters a day requesting literature the work is retarded immensely if we girl students have to stop and look at each name for a long time.

When the *Plain Truth*, the *Good News* or a bulletin to you Co-Workers is being published each of us leaves her usual job to help with the mailing procedures. The stencils are put into the addressing machines and with one person operating each machine, the addresses are stamped directly on the magazines or bulletins. Another person checks each address for mistakes or misprints. After all pieces of literature are divided into separate states and cities, tied into separate bundles, they are then put into mail bags and taken to the post office in the evening.

I have described only a small portion of the work done in the general office, but at least you have a concise summary of the kind of work we students do. And now for the first time perhaps you have an idea of what the mailing office is really like—to say nothing of the printing office, the mail receiving office or the managerial departments.

Aside from the office work there are the other duties I mentioned at first. Charlene Glover acts as assistant librarian

and spends most of her hours out of class working there. Her work consists of checking out books, accessioning books, keeping in contact with the students in case they are needed for work, welcoming visitors and giving information to anyone who may desire it.

Isabell Kunkel and Elise Bernard assist Mrs. Wallace, our cook, in preparing the delicious meals served at Mayfair, the students' residence. This demands a great deal of thought and preparation and we are very grateful and appreciative for the great effort put forth by them.

Much time is offered by Elise Bernard who believes "cleanliness is indeed next to Godliness." Her duty is to keep the first floor of Mayfair clean, which requires the cooperation of all the students.

Elva Russell, the faculty secretary, has her own private office in the college. She types, checks papers, and operates the mimeograph machine for the faculty members. Also many of the *Good News* manuscripts are retyped by her after initial corrections have been made.

We all take much delight in doing our work. In very few places would we have so many opportunities to work our way through College and to make that work so practical in experience for later life. We realize this is God's College in which He is using us girls as instruments to carry out that part of His work which young women can do.

The Messiah

by Elise Bernard

"An oratorio, now just where have I heard that?" I muttered as I searched in the dim recesses of my mind for the answer hidden, perhaps, in some remote crevice or cranny. Slowly the answer began to creep forth and I remembered.

Sometime in years back, perhaps in high school, I had read of Handel's *Messiah* and it was quite natural to link the two together. It dawned on my mind that I would now be privileged to see in Pasadena an oratorio, *The Messiah*, composed over 200 years ago in the British Isles.

From the dictionary I learned that an oratorio is a dramatic poem text, usually found in the Bible, set to music and sung in arias or choruses with an orchestral accompaniment, but without the usual action, scenery or costumes found in an ordinary stage play.

The *Messiah* was produced in Dublin over 200 years ago by Handel and, contrary to popular belief, it was not created for a Christmas entertainment even though it is usually presented near that time. The *Messiah* is divided in three sections, the nativity of Jesus Christ, the passion, and resurrection.

The *Messiah* was presented by the city of Pasadena and the Pasadena Civic Music Association on Sunday, December 16, 1951.

It was produced by the Pasadena Civic Symphony Orchestra, the Pasadena Civic Chorus, and the Senior Glee Club of Eliot Junior High School. About twelve students of Ambassador attended, as they obtained free tickets two weeks before this occasion.

Slowly the curtain went up on the great stage and to my intense pleasure the music rose in beautiful majestic tones as though heralding the arrival of an important personage. The story of the nativity had begun. It was beautiful!

One by one the artists performed but to my sad displeasure my soaring imagination had to come back to earth and take an extreme let down. Why? Simply because wherever mere mortal man undertakes something of this kind without the divine guidance of God he is bound to err by misapplying scripture. I think you will understand as I try to narrate the story for you.

The recitative tenor began with the prophecy of Isaiah 40:1-5. "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness: Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert the highway of our God." Then the chorus sang "Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low; and the crooked shall be made straight and the rough places plain. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

The beginning of these verses refers to the time of John the Baptist, but these scriptures carry into the time of the second coming of Christ for we know that it is *then* when *his glory shall be revealed*. As Matthew 25:31 expresses it, "when the son of man shall come *in his glory* and all the holy angels with him, then shall he set upon the throne of his glory." The time of his glory refers to the time when he shall sit on his throne and before him shall be gathered all nations. This, we know, is future.

One thing I remember well at this point. One performer sang Haggai 2:6-8. "Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heaven and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory."

This same event is related again in Joel 3:16 where the time of the second coming of Christ is described in detail as the day of the Lord.

"The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heaven and the earth shall shake."

This is the time begun by the sun and

moon being darkened. An apt description of this is found in Revelation 6:12-14 where there is a great earthquake, the stars fall from heaven, the sun becomes black, and "every mountain and island were moved out of their place." In other words "the heaven and earth will shake" and men shall flee from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne for "the great day of his wrath has come."

The story then turned to Malachi 3:1-3, when Jesus shall send his messenger before his face which according to Matthew 11:10 and Mark 1:2 was John the Baptist. Then we read "But who may abide the day of his coming and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fuller's earth. And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver and *he shall purify the sons of Levi* and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering of righteousness." This is the day of his coming when men will not want to stand before him because of his wrath "For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Rev. 6:17.

The beautiful, persuasive voice of the recitative alto then told the story of the nativity from Isaiah 7:14 where Jesus is to be born of a virgin. The triumphant voices of the chorus then rang out the glad tidings of Isaiah 40:9. "O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God." In actuality this refers also to the time of *his second coming* for in the next verse it says the Eternal "will come with a strong hand and his arm shall rule for him."

We know that this time of his rule is in the future. Only in a typical sense were these words fitting for the birth of Christ, indeed a time of rejoicing.

The beautiful descriptive voice of the basso then arose in the words of Isaiah 60:1-3.

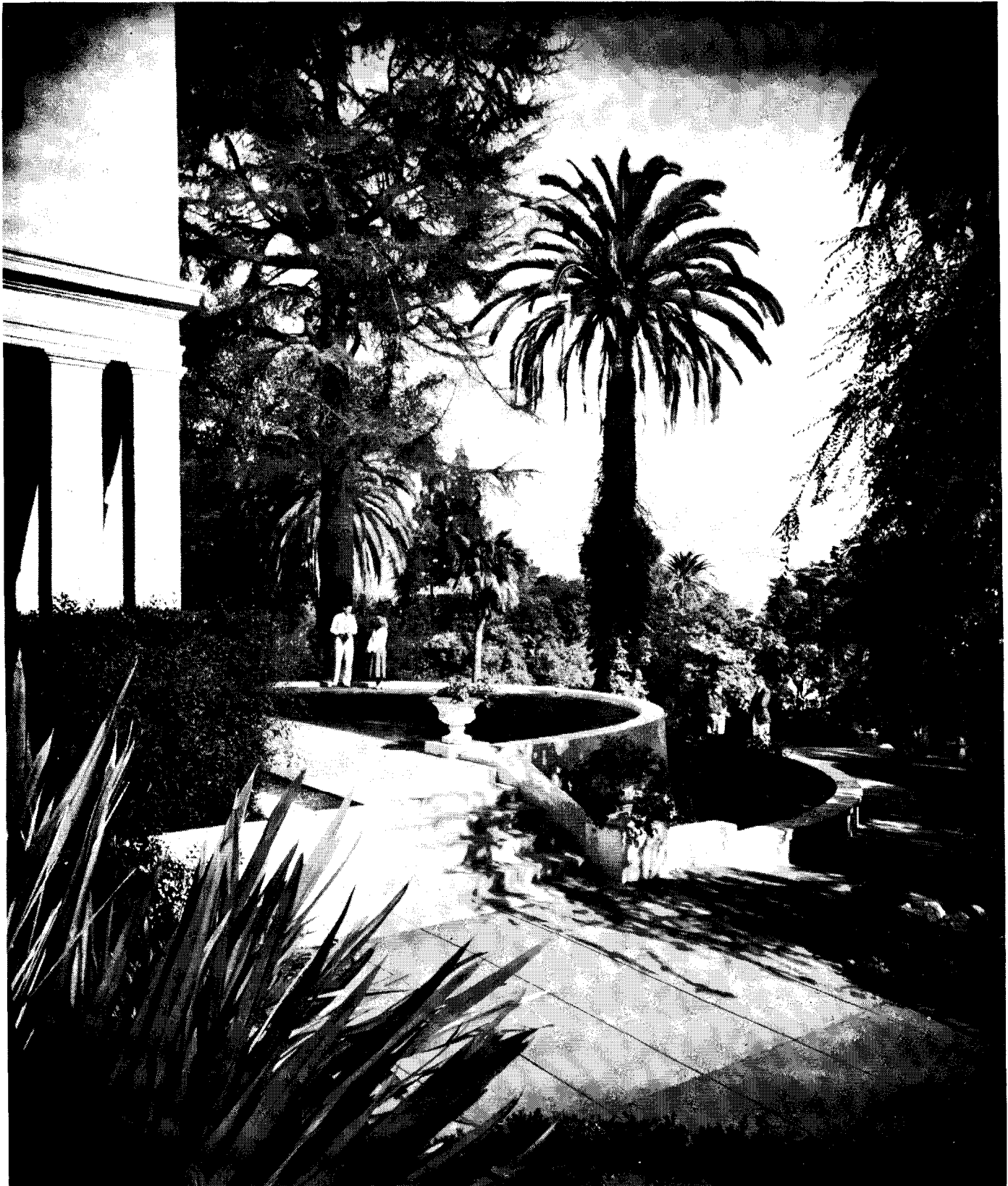
"Arise, shine, for thy light is come and *the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee . . .* but the Lord shall arise upon thee and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

"And the *Gentiles shall come to thy light and kings to the brightness of thy rising.*"

Here, the glory of Christ's second coming, the time when Gentiles come to him seeking salvation is ascribed to his first coming. Those who sang probably did not understand that, at his second coming, there will be the great harvest of souls when nations will seek Christ and "the law shall go forth out of Zion."

But my imagination reached the cli-

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Portion of our magnificent campus—

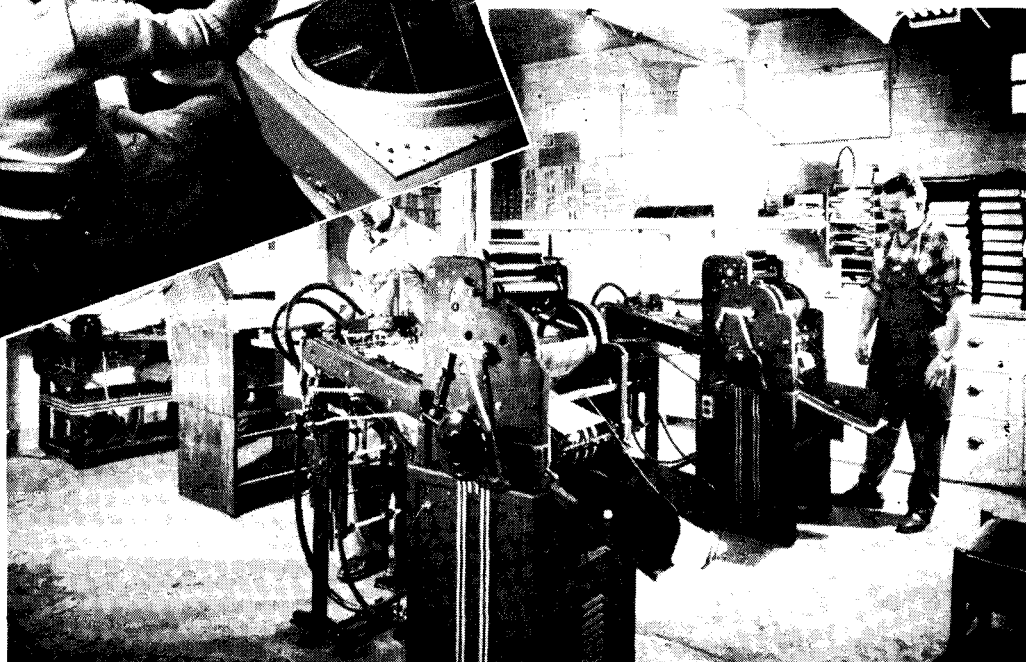
showing semi-circular lawn patio and rose garden off east portico of library and class-room building. Is Ambassador College too beautiful? This is the place of GOD's choosing—not ours. It came to us thru a combination of almost unbelievable providential circumstances. God placed Adam in the Garden of Eden—more beautiful than our minds can conceive—Paradise! God's Temple at Jerusalem was magnificent—awe-inspiring. Today God's college is still small—but beautiful! And the

facilities provided by these properties actually save more money we were obliged to pay out in the expenses of proclaiming the Gospel than we are paying on the properties—which means, in fact, circumstances are such that we are being paid to accept and occupy these fine buildings and magnificent grounds! They are costing less than nothing! Yes, this is GOD's doing!



NERVE-CENTER

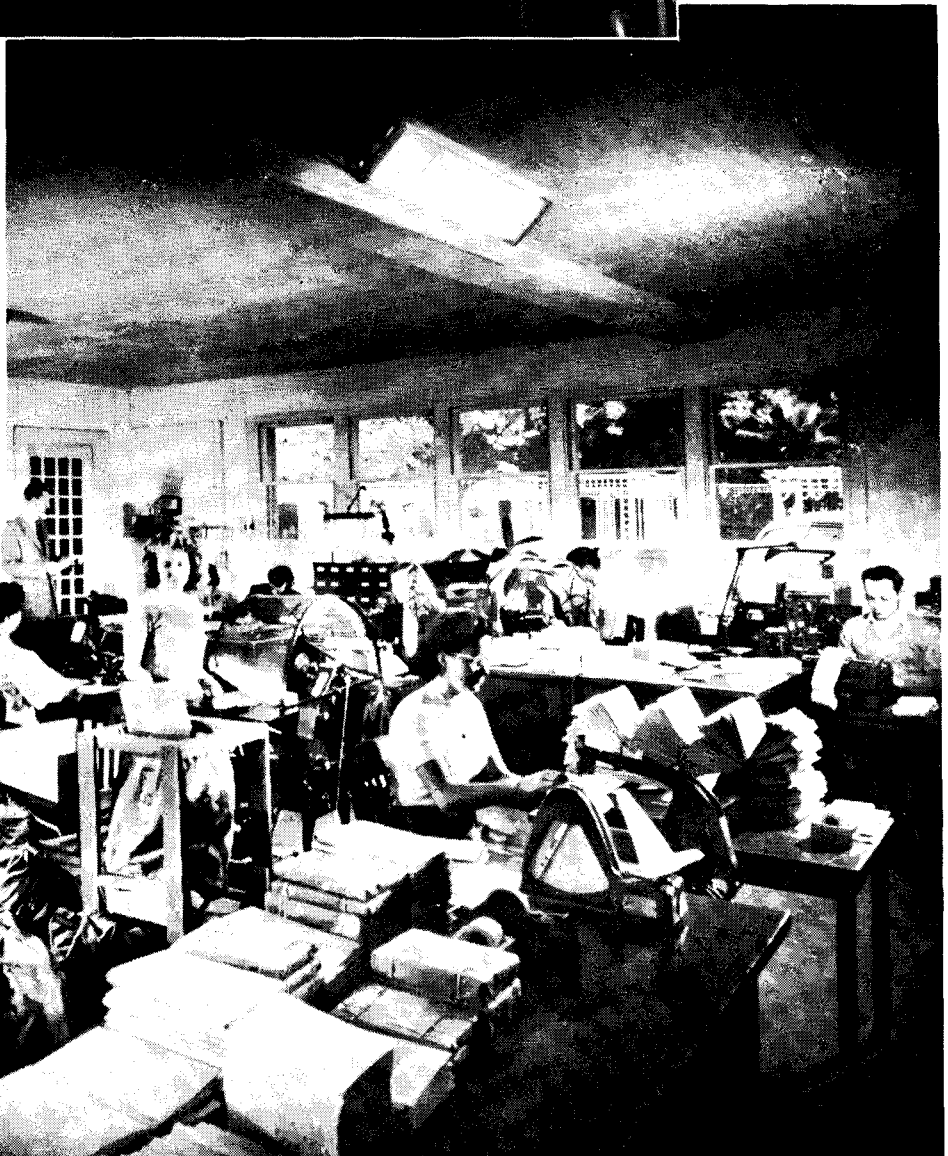
Here are grouped five pictures showing the dynamic nerve-center of this great work. At left, center, "The World Tomorrow" is ON THE AIR, viewed from control room of broadcast studio in Ambassador College. In foreground is Dick Armstrong, son of Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong, at controls. Thru the double glass Herbert W. Armstrong is shown in main studio speaking into microphone, with Mrs. Armstrong at his side. Above, left, a close-up of Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong during broadcast. Above, right, opening and reading a typical morning's mail in mail-receiving room.





OF THE WORK

Left to right, Mrs. Esther Olson, Mrs. Armstrong, Mr. Armstrong, and Ella-Mae Cole. Map on wall shows where mail comes from. Below, left, a corner of our printing office, showing Herman Olson, left, and James A. Gott, right, turning out thousands of attractive booklets. Below, right, a portion of large mailing office, showing the December "Good News" being addressed, sorted and placed into dozens of mail sacks. At right foreground are shown hundreds of booklets ready for mailing. Tons and tons of precious gospel literature are mailed out from this busy office.





View from Lower Gardens—

The view on page 7 was looking directly toward this view. This picture reveals a portion of what was on beyond, and not shown on page 7. Notice our beautiful out-door baptistry between the pillars of the pergola, running water flowing from the three lips of the fountain above down into the baptistry below, with the scenic pool in the foreground, the library and class-room building across the campus up above. This picture

reveals a hitherto unpublished view of the magnificent landscaping of the Ambassador College campus. At the other end of the lower gardens, to the left, not shown in this picture, is the unusual Garden Theatre, with the distinctive Tempietta as a rostrum, where religious services, assemblies, and commencement exercises are held.

Science Says . . .

but don't you believe it!

YOU MAY have heard of Darwin's theory, or Newton's law of gravitation, or the Planeresimal Hypothesis of Chamberlin and Moulton. These men are acclaimed great scientists by many of their fellow students and by the world in general.

But don't you believe these scientific works *for that reason alone*.

The pathway of science, as well as other studies, has left behind many a noble idea as *new evidence* proved it to be but a half truth, a near truth, or even a *complete contradiction* of the truth.

Just how does a scientist arrive at these conclusions? What are his theories, his laws, and his hypotheses? Let's look at a few examples of *science in action*.

The Beginning of a Law

In God's creation, there is an order which can often be expressed in a simple statement. Scientists have written these statements down as *laws*, sometimes imperfectly, as they discovered them.

The next step is to check and perfect this newly founded "law." Years of careful research and experimentation often show that the facts of nature do not quite bear out the simple statement or law which the scientist had at first thought was the complete answer.

Does this mean his first conception of the law was of *no value*? Not at all. It increased man's understanding of nature at the time. But now a new more perfect law must be formulated in place of the old one, or perhaps the old one is correct and the variation from it found by experimentation is but the influence of another, unknown law.

Here is where *hypotheses* come in. Defined by men of science they are "*possible solutions to problems*." How should this affect our view of anything labeled a "hypothesis" by science?

In an attempt to explain the unknown, the scientist, after perhaps months and sometimes years of thinking, comes up with *an idea* which *seems to him* to answer all known facts. Some day it may, with minor changes, be accepted by others in his field as another law.

For the present it is called a *hypothesis*. It may be laughed at by the world at the time. It may be right; it may be wrong. Perhaps none realizes this more than its author. His most daring hope is that his hypothesis is at least partially

by Kenneth Herrmann

correct and a step in the direction of a more perfect knowledge.

One unfortunate result of the publication of *his idea* is its acceptance as gospel truth by those unacquainted with the *methods* of science, yet who are well aware of the advances in knowledge made by men who use such methods. It may be that had the scientist had access to some of the facts possessed by his avid followers, he would have come up with a quite different idea.

A *hypothesis*, then, is a *possible solution to a problem*.

What is a theory? A theory, defined by men of science, is a "tested and accepted hypothesis." Note well that it *does not say a proven hypothesis* but merely an accepted one. A theory may be broad in scope, sometimes knitting together dozens of hypotheses and laws.

From Hypothesis to Law

Columbus had the idea the world was round (*Many others in his day and even long before his day believed it also*). We might call that his *hypothesis*.

Magellan's ship sailed around this round earth. The hypothesis became established as a law—it was tested and proven; the earth must be round like a sphere or ball.

Years later the discovery was made that the earth was *not quite* a perfect sphere. It is somewhat flattened at the poles and bulged around the equator.

The fact that the earth is round still stands, though the law of gravity, which is trying to make it a perfect sphere, has had to give a little ground to the pull of centrifugal force which acts in accord with the *law of inertia* to flatten the earth at the poles.

Should Bible students have known the earth was round when many men, but not all, in science in that day thought otherwise? Yes, Bible students *should have known* the earth was round though they might not be held accountable for the knowledge of the fact that it is a little flattened at the poles and bulged at the equator.

They might have known both that it was round and that it rotated. Its roundness is indicated in Isaiah 40:22 where it speaks of *the circle* of the earth. It is the opinion of some Hebrew students that the English word *sphere* would be a more exact translation of the Hebrew.

Proof of its rotation is found in reading Job carefully. "It (the earth) is *turned* as clay to the seal." Job 38:14.

Letters in Job's time were written on a block of soft clay with a stylus; the clay then baked; another coating of clay molded around it, which besides being lettered with a stylus, was *rolled* against a flat seal, which left its imprint upon *the curved surface* of the clay letter. The letter was again baked before being sent to its destination.

Luke gives us another proof that the earth is round. In chapter 17:34-36, Christ, speaking of his return, said two would be in bed, i.e. at *night*; two would be grinding meal, work customarily done in the *early morning* or forenoon; and two would be in the field, work customarily done *later in the day*. Only a *round earth* could explain these statements; a round earth where night, morning, and afternoon are in progress *in different places at the same time*.

Knowing that it is round or spherical, a moment's contemplation shows the need of its rotation to make the sun rise; the direction of rotation being toward the east as that is where the sun, moon, and stars rise.

The foregoing example shows *our advantage over the scientist* who deals with material things alone. By accepting the words of the Bible to be inspired by God, we can take a shortcut to new material knowledge. We can untangle the puzzle of the history of mankind and of the earth, which could not be easily ascertained in a laboratory by extensive experiments or years of costly research.

What's Wrong with Science?

The main weakness of science is that it deals, in general, only with material things, which, in effect, *limits it to the view of an atheist*. It is as a method, *without God*, accepting *only* what can be demonstrated over and over before its doubting and critical eyes.

It calculates the speed of rotation of the earth; utilizes the first law of motion, and reaches the conclusion that this planet of ours has been rotating at a fairly uniform speed for a long time. But it can only conclude, because of its limited view, that the scripture was wrong when it said that the sun stood still in the heavens for about a day (Joshua 10:12) or that the sun came back a number of degrees in its course.

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Question Box

Your questions answered in these columns! Your opportunity to have those puzzling queries, needing only a short reply, solved. If yours are not here, then write them to us. As space permits they will be printed if an answer is possible. Of course, questions demanding lengthy replies cannot be placed in these columns.

Edited by the Students.

Are All Americans Racially Israelites?

We know from the Bible that America is nationally of Israelite descent but how are we to account for so many races living here? Before you finish this question, be sure to read Mr. Armstrong's booklet "The United States in Prophecy" which explains our national identity.

But now to racial identity. The vast majority of Americans have come from the stock of Israel which today is found in the vast British Commonwealth, and the democracies of western and northern Europe. But there are millions of people living here who are Oriental, Negroid or southern European. Are these all of Israel?

There is great possibility that some of these people actually are the scattered remnants of the House of Israel as they passed through certain countries of Europe migrating from the Caucasus to the North and Baltic Seas. But most of these people are not Israelites. Does this mean that America is not predominantly of the tribe of Manasseh? Not at all.

Above all people of the world, the Israelites had many foreigners dwelling in their midst of old, just as today. A mixed group of people went up with the sons of Jacob out of Egypt. Many of these were married to Israelites or lived among them in their own family groups. See Ex. 12:38; Deut. 10:19.

Many, many of the laws of God given to Israel were guides as to how to live with strangers and foreigners dwelling in the land. Exodus 23:9-12 is a good example of this. The Israelites were commanded not to discriminate or mistreat strangers, for they were strangers in Egypt and ought to remember what they once suffered.

Rather than disproving our national identity, the fact of foreigners in our midst is one of the strongest proofs, because many of them have come due to the material birthright promises given to Abraham which have been found in our own United States to such abundance. These people of foreign nationality have come to enjoy peace and prosperity in our land and we ought to treat them with equal justice according to the laws God gave our ancestors to regulate just these matters.

Did the Apostle John Write All the Books Bearing His Name?

Over certain of the five works bearing John's name, there has been some doubt as to the authorship. There is no disputing the authorship of the Gospel of John. John 21:24 states that the author was the *disciple*, and later the *apostle*, John.

There is almost universal consent that he also wrote I John. Even the doubting modernists admit that its language is that of the Apostle. I John, the first verse, knocks all doubts away. It speaks of Jesus "which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled." Beside its sentiment, this is absolute proof of the Apostle's authorship.

The next two epistles or letters are by "The elder" and although to specific individuals, were to be circulated to the churches. Both of these letters have the same tone or thought and wording. Adam Clark says: "The authority of the First Epistle of John being established, little need be said concerning the second and third, if we regard the language and the sentiment only . . . there can be no doubt that he who wrote one, wrote all the three."

The possible doubts that might remain are adequately answered from this fact: II John 4 and 5 imply that the elder who wrote this Epistle had the power to give commandments which he received of the Lord. Peter was an elder and an apostle; so this elder also appears to have had such a prerogative.

Knowing that the third Epistle is the same style, we can have almost absolute proof that the Apostle wrote it too; for this elder has the power of an Apostle also, in being able to punish a rebellious local elder, Diotrephes. Paul bore the same authority. See 2 Cor. 13:2, 3, 10. Notice also that the author of this Epistle separates himself from the brethren by saying that the fellow prates "against us" and also does not "receive the brethren."

The Revelation has never had another author ascribed to it who would be likely. There is a tradition that John the Apostle was banished to Patmos under

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On The Campus

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max in the words of Isaiah 9:6.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Though this part of the oratorio begins with the birth of Christ there is a greater promise instilled in these words. "The government shall be upon his shoulder"—the government of other nations will be put down. Jesus Christ is not now ruling the nations for there is confusion and "God is not the author of confusion."

The story of Jesus' birth was told in music and song from Luke 2:8-14. It was very beautiful and was pervaded with an air of rejoicing which was altogether appropriate.

Then came his triumphant entry into Jerusalem as the lowly king "riding upon an ass and upon a colt the foal of an ass." Zechariah 9:9.

Then came the promises of Zion's redemption in Isaiah 35:5-6. "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as a hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing."

As a type, Isaiah 35:5-6 pertains to our time. For we who are chosen and called of God in this age can by faith have our eyes and ears opened spiritually as well as physically. But the greater fulfillment of this will come during the time of the reign of Jesus Christ when the earth will enjoy a sabbath rest of one thousand years. During this time Satan will not do any work of sin and the people will be given light and healing.

The passion and resurrection is the theme of part two of *The Messiah*. It began with John 1:29. "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sins of the world."

Then came his trial and death as depicted in Isaiah 53:3-8. "He was despised and rejected of men . . . Surely he hath borne our grief and carried our sorrows . . . He was wounded for our transgression, he was bruised for our iniquities . . . He was taken from prison and judgment . . . for he was cut out of the land of the living." But he was not to remain "cut out," for he rose and in the words of the chorus "I know that my redeemer liveth and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth." Job 19:25.

So we came to the Hallelujah Chorus (Rev. 9:6,16) an appropriate ending for so wonderful an event.

If you should ever come to Pasadena at this season it would be time well spent if you would see *The Messiah*.

Should Christians Swear by an Oath?

by Herman Hoeb

Most everyone has heard the words of Jesus "Swear not at all." But we do not seem to believe they were for us. Why? Where can we prove that Jesus told the people a falsehood?

Do we think the Bible is contradictory when it says, "Thou shalt swear by his name"?

This seems to be the usual thought—that the Bible is full of contradictions—and so we just take what pleases us and follow what the people in the world *customarily do*. Because it is custom to swear, we swear, when actually *the law of the United States permits us to affirm or deny a statement*—that is, say *yes* or *no*—without raising the hand to swear.

The teaching of Jesus and of the true early church was *not to swear under any circumstances*. James 5:12 reads: "But above all things, my brethren, swear not . . . but let your yes be yes; and your no be no; lest ye fall into condemnation." Read also Jesus' instruction in Mt. 5:33-37 and 23:16-22.

Here Jesus warns against swearing because we can not perform the oath, and *we would be taking the name of God in vain!* Not only is it wrong to lie deliberately under oath (Leviticus 6:3 and 19:12), but we as human beings are so prone to mistaken judgment or lack of knowledge, that any error we would make under oath would be *to take the name of God in vain*. It's sin!

But if we merely say *yes* or *no* to the best of our understanding, then we are not guilty of using God's name in vain.

Also, taking a vow, as in marriage, is another matter. It is merely a "yes" or

"no" to God and we are held accountable to keep our word to Him. If we break the vow we have lied to God. But it would not be sin if we take it, neither would it be taking the name of God in vain.

Supposed Contradictions

Knowing these truths, how can we account for God's command in ancient Israel to take the name of God in an oath (Deut. 10:20; 6:13; Ex. 22:11)? And why did the patriarchs, David and the men of old swear? See Genesis 21:31 and 31:42 and 53 for the patriarchs; 1 Samuel 20:3 for David and numerous other passages showing it was the common practice in those days.

Above all, how can we account for the fact that God *swears by Himself*, when Jesus told us not to swear? (Hebrews 6:13-17; Psalm 110:4; Luke 1:73 about the oath to Abraham). In Isaiah 45:23, God has sworn that every knee shall yet bow to Him.

Christians, who now are not allowed to swear, shall do so after being born again into the Kingdom of God that will rule Israel and all the nations! (Isaiah 65:16 and Jer. 4:2)

Are these contradictions? Does God *change* His ways though He denies doing so? Never! God has one and only one way by which he conducts Himself. How can we reconcile the matter? Very easily.

The *principle* of taking God's name in an oath is correct and right. *But we*

must not do it today, because we are subject to error and *would be taking it in vain*. When we are made on the plane of God, we shall swear by God because *we shall be God* and cannot lie or swear falsely. And being in the family of God *we shall have the power of performing our oaths*. This we can't do now.

Jesus in the flesh did not swear, to set us an example. But He swore to the fathers before being born of Mary, just as we shall swear later. So we see that the principle of swearing is not wrong; but God commands us not to now in His love to protect us from using His name in vain and bringing sin on ourselves.

God permitted the men of old to swear because He gave them the law *only in the letter* and according to the letter it is right to swear. The purpose for doing so was to teach Israel in the flesh that their righteousness (Deut. 6:24-25) could not fulfill the law. God gave man and has continued to give man the opportunity to prove by hard experience that he can not keep the law and be free from sin in an oath. Furthermore, the patriarchs and men of old were not told, and hence could not know, that, for a man to swear led to sin. It remained for Christ to make the law honorable and magnify it (Isa. 42:21). But people are held accountable according to the knowledge possessed.

We know from the words of Jesus it is wrong to swear. And we have the Spirit to obey the law in the spirit of its meaning. Those men of old had not the Spirit as we do (John 7:39; Deut. 5:29). God did not require of them what they did not know.

Russia Will Not Invade

Continued from page 2

Our people today can't see where *these* things make any difference! But Ezekiel says the preachers have deceived the people, and led them astray. They have condoned all these things, until the people have lost God's pure TRUTH!

And so the prophecy continues on thru the Book. Ezekiel digresses thru eight chapters, 25 thru 32, to prophesy against a number of foreign Gentile nations who have come in direct contact with Israel. In chapter 33, the prophet returns to pleading with the House of Israel. "Turn ye, turn ye," God pleads, "from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O House of Israel?" Here, too,

Ezekiel is again set a watchman to WARN ISRAEL!—AMERICA AND BRITAIN TODAY!—at the time when this prophesied foreign sword is coming! Ezekiel wrote the Message—but it remains for us to whom God has revealed it today actually to shout and proclaim it to the people. God help us to be faithful in this solemn and grave commission!

In the 34th chapter, God tells him to prophesy against the ministers of our land. They have fed themselves, and not the flocks. They have preached what people wanted to hear (II Tim. 4:3-4) in order to get their salaries!

The Coming of Christ!

And now the Eternal inspires the prophet to come to the solution!

"Thus saith the Eternal God: Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock . . . Behold I, even I, will both search my sheep and seek them out . . . and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day (the DAY OF THE LORD—yet future). And I will . . . gather them from the countries, and bring them to their own land (Palestine), and feed them (spiritual food) upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country." (Verses 10-14).

Christ Himself—for He is the Eternal—shall come and rescue our people, not only from the coming captivity and

dispersion, but from the false Babylonish teachings which have been palmed off to our people cloaked as "Christianity." He will then set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people Israel (Isa. 11:11). The spiritual blindness shall then be removed, and all Israel shall be saved! (see Romans 11:25-26). The KINGDOM OF GOD shall be established. Men shall be tired of their *own* ways, and seek God's ways—and *His law* shall go forth of Zion (Micah 4:2-3). And the nations shall find PEACE!

The 35th chapter reveals the end of the Turkish nation, to occur at this time, because of their treachery against Great Britain—all yet to be fulfilled. This ties up with the prophecy of Obadiah.

In the 36th chapter, the Eternal addresses Palestine: "Prophecy unto the mountains of Israel . . . Thus saith the Eternal God to the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, to the desolate wastes, and to the cities that are forsaken . . . But ye, O mountains of Israel, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people of Israel; for they are at hand to come . . . And I will multiply men upon you, *all the* HOUSE OF ISRAEL even ALL of it: and the cities shall be inhabited, and the wastes shall be builded; and I will multiply upon you *man and beast*." (Verses 1,4,8,10-11).

Yes, the House of Israel is pictured returning to Palestine, *not* from a condition of wealth and prosperity from Britain and America—*not* in the position of a people victorious in a great world war—but as a slave and captive people, scattered thru the nations of the world! ALL prophecies picturing this rescue and re-gathering of Israel at Christ's coming give us the same prophetic picture! Why be blinded to the truth?

Both Houses United in Palestine

In chapter 37, the first part pictures the "valley of dry bones." This represents (Verse 11), the whole House of Israel—including Judah. It has a dual significance. It pictures the re-birth and resurrection of Israel *as a nation*, from captivity, dispersion and slavery. It pictures, too, the literal bodily resurrection of the individual who has long since died, after which the knowledge of the Truth—spiritual knowledge—shall be revealed, and he shall be converted, and God's Spirit shall enter within, and he shall be saved.

Beginning the 15th verse, the illustration of the two sticks shows the two Houses, or nations, Israel and Judah, being once more united, under Christ at His second coming, in the land of Palestine.

"Thus saith the Eternal God; Behold I will take the children of Israel from" (from the British Isles, and America—from a position of wealth and affluence, recent victors in the world war? No, but) "from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land: and I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be King to them all: *they shall be no more two nations*, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all: neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with *any* of their transgressions . . . And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob *my servant*, wherein your fathers have dwelt . . . they, and their children, and their children's children forever. . . . Moreover, I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an EVERLASTING COVENANT." (The NEW Covenant). (Verses 21-26).

And Now Comes Gog!

Notice, now, the story-flow—the time-sequence! The prophet has carried us thru the sins of Israel, the coming invasion and captivity and dispersion, the terrible yet-future DAY OF THE LORD, the Coming of Christ as DELIVERER to RESTORE the fortunes of Israel. We have come to the time when both Israel and Judah shall be re-united into one nation, rescued from captivity and dispersion, and re-gathered again in PALESTINE, once again made prosperous, having learned our lesson, now living God's way, under His laws, enjoying His richest blessings, both material and spiritual!

And now we come to chapter 38! And this chapter finds Israel restored in Palestine—"the land that is brought back from the sword," (Verse 8). We find Israel now at rest, dwelling SAFELY, yet totally UNPREPARED for war—having "neither bars nor gates" (Verse 11); in the desolate places of Palestine, now inhabited, (verse 12)—yes, inhabited (same verse) by the people that are gathered out of the nations—and now once again restored to great material prosperity—"which have gotten cattle, and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land."

Notice it!

This prophecy does not picture the British Isles and America! It pictures the land of PALESTINE. It pictures *our people* having been taken there from a dispersion and captivity and slavery, gathered out of the nations where we had been scattered, now once again rich and increased with goods!

Notice it! The TIME of this prophecy is AFTER—not before, but AFTER

the Second Coming of Christ—AFTER the Great Deliverer has come and rescued our people and restored us to Palestine—AFTER Israel and Judah are re-united! Certainly the "latter years" (Verse 8).

The PLACE of this battle is not Britain or America—it is PALESTINE!

"Thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the MOUNTAINS OF ISRAEL, which have been always waste (once a perpetual waste—Moffatt translation)." (Verse 8.) The "mountains of Israel" is an expression used all thru the Book of Ezekiel, and always refers to the literal mountainous *land of Palestine*.

Our people shall have regained so much wealth that Gog and allies—Russia and numerous Gentile allies—shall come to "take a spoil" (Verse 13), "to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a GREAT spoil."

Christ's Reign Contested!

But this very fact—that this invasion will not come until *after* the Second Coming of Christ—will seem preposterous to many, at first thought.

That is because we have been accustomed merely to ASSUME things that are not true. We have blindly ASSUMED that when Christ comes, there will be no opposition. Every person and power on earth, we have thought, will simply submit meekly and instantly to Him and His power. But that is not true!

The very battle at Armageddon is a battle between the "BEAST" and Christ. The power who undoubtedly shall finally conquer and disperse Israel, *prior* to Christ's coming—the power who shall then enforce the "mark of the Beast" and martyr many saints (Mat. 24:9; Rev. 6:11)—this last coming European revival of the Roman Empire by a federation of European nations, will fight Christ. The "Beast" and "False Prophet" who heads the organized religion Christ shall abolish, shall both CONTEST Christ's right to rule.

Israel will turn to Him immediately—because Israel shall have lost all her colossal wealth and power, been reduced to slavery, scattered and dispersed thru the nations. When Christ comes He will find Israel humbled, repentant. Jeremiah says Israel and Judah together shall go, WEEPING, and seeking the Eternal, and asking the way to salvation. (Jer. 50:4-6). Ezekiel says they shall "loathe themselves" for all the evils they have committed (20:42-44).

But the Gentile nations who have schemed to conquer and rule the world—they shall not submit until forced to. The European Axis power shall be sub-

dued and conquered at Armageddon. But Russia, and the populous Oriental nations who know not God or Christ, shall still have to be brought to submission!

"Gog" Is Russia

It is conclusively proved as *all* students of prophecy know, that "Gog" in the land of "Magog" is RUSSIA. "Meshech" is Moscow. "Tubal" is Tobolsk. The margin says "Prince of Rosh" which is Russia.

Notice the allies who come with Russia in this future battle. You will find "Gomer," "Togarmah," "Magog," "Meshech," "Tubal," identified in Genesis 10 as the sons of JAPHETH, father of the yellow races. Ethiopia and Libya (or Phut) are descended from Ham. Any Bible map will show that the descendants of Japheth migrated north and northeast into the territories occupied today by Russia, and the Oriental races.

Therefore, this prophecy of Ezekiel 38 shows that it is RUSSIA, not Japan, who shall finally succeed in marshalling all the yellow races into a gigantic invasion upon OUR people.

Russia is a Communist nation. Communism is atheism—it fights God! When God rules the world, thru Christ—with His chosen people restored to great wealth in Palestine, the very CENTER of the land surface of the earth (verse 13, Moffatt translation), Russia shall finally rise up with the most overwhelming armies ever assembled by man!

The mighty air-force of Russia in that day will make those of the last war look puny. "Thou shalt *ascend*," the Eternal says of Russia, "and come like a storm (in the air), thou shalt be *like a cloud TO COVER THE LAND*." (Verse 9). There shall be so many planes then that they will hide the sun off the ground below, like a huge dark shadow!

The END of World Conquest

This will be the final effort of rebellious, God-resisting man to conquer the world in the lust for power and material wealth.

Our people Israel shall not be armed or prepared. "When my people Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it? asks the Eternal. "And thou shalt come from thy place *out of the north parts* (Russia is due north of Palestine), thou, and many people (allies) with thee . . . a mighty army: and thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be *in the latter days*, and I will bring thee against *my land*, that the heathen may know me (note the purpose), when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes." (Verses 14-16).

But our people shall not *have* to fight in that battle. We shall have learned by then that God fights our battles for us!

"And it shall come to pass at that time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel (Palestine), saith the Eternal God, that MY FURY shall come up in my face." (Verse 18). "So that . . . all the men that are upon the face of the earth shall shake at MY PRESENCE." (Verse 20). It is AFTER Christ's coming! Note it!

"I will summon an utter panic against him (Gog), says the Lord the Eternal, till every man in his host shall draw the sword against his fellow: I will punish him with pestilence and bloodshed, I will rain on him and his hordes and all the nations in his train an overpowering flood, with hailstones, fire, and brimstone. I will let ALL THE NATIONS see MY MIGHT AND DREAD DIVINITY—to teach them that I am the Eternal!" (Verses 21-23, Moffatt).

Notice, these heathen nations do not see and recognize the dread DIVINITY, the MIGHT, and POWER of the Eternal Christ, even after He has returned. He has to TEACH them that HE is the ETERNAL!

The 39th chapter shows in more detail the RESULT of this great battle, in which Christ, with supernatural power, causes five-sixths of these heathen armies to be slain in this battle.

Notice, again, the time: "Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the *whole* House of Israel (Israel and Judah), and will be jealous for my holy name; . . . *when* I have brought them again from the people, and *gathered them out of their ENEMIES' LANDS*, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; then shall they KNOW that I AM THE ETERNAL!" (Ch. 39:25-28).

Notice again! At Christ's Second Coming, He shall gather Israel—our British and American people—*out of our enemies' lands*, not out of our own land of wealth and power, North America and the British Isles!

But then we shall be thoroughly chastened. We shall have learned our lesson. We shall live by GOD'S rules, and obey His Law. "For I have poured out MY SPIRIT upon the House of Israel, saith the Eternal God." (Verse 29).

And then, beginning chapter 40, the remainder of the Book of Ezekiel reveals the ideal THEOCRACY—God's NEW ORDER of divine government upon earth—the permanent forms and institutions which shall express the ideal relation between God and man!

In the meantime, our job is to WARN America and Britain of what lies ahead! To shout the warning to come out of

BABYLON (Rev. 18:4)—that those who heed may find God *now*—may come under His divine protection (Psalm 91), and by a true Spirit-filled life obedient to GOD'S WAYS and laws, be prepared to become a ruler or a teacher in Christ's soon-coming glorious Kingdom!

Science Says

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II Kings 20:9. Each of these instances requires the earth's rotation to stop and the latter requires it to turn back in the opposite direction before resuming its normal rotation.

The error the scientist makes is his conclusion that, *because he does not know of any power capable of stopping and restarting the rotation of the earth*, there is no such power and thus the event did not happen.

In his private life he may feel there is a God, yet in his scientific method and calculation *God is rejected as a factor because He can not be seen or measured in a laboratory*.

Why Put Faith in Scientists?

People look to the *progress* made and rightly conclude that credit is to be given to these men, who in order to arrive at new facts, set aside prejudices and seek only for the truth.

However, caution should be practiced as the men who use this scientific method *are human and cannot live up to the ideal of the method*. Neither do all of them realize its shortcomings. The result is they may make extravagant claims and people may carelessly believe the claims to be truth.

Limitations of Science

Science does not deal with spiritual things; neither does it accept as evidence facts which are supposed to have happened in the past. It requires that a phenomena be demonstrated over and over again before its prying eyes. This leaves it difficult for one trained in the scientific method to grasp *the reality of a miracle* with the same ease that he does an event controlled purely by material factors.

Pure Science

Few of the lines of education can be classified as pure science. Mathematics is one, though some of its applications have been unscientific. Astronomy could be classed as pure science where it is a combination of observation and mathematics alone.

"Factual" material put out by a line of education *must be free from speculation and assumption* to be classed as pure science. *Historical geology has practically no information of this sort* and is lit-

tle more than a very inaccurate history.

In this generation people have made the error of accepting *any new idea* as long as it has *the name science* attached to it, whether it is right or wrong.

Accept "Science" with Caution

In his efforts to use knowledge to the benefit of the world, man appears to be losing; but in the field of acquisition and compiling of knowledge, i.e. science, he is making rapid progress.

People have seen the progress of scientists in their acquisition of this knowledge. Scientists have, in a few hundred years, accumulated a storehouse of facts about this universe that has gained them the admiration of the world.

Nevertheless, they *need to exercise greater care* that people do not look upon their *dreams, fancies, theories, and hypotheses* as fact and swallow them as fact simply because they have seen the progress of men who think scientifically, and have come to regard all their statements, whether fact or theory, as gospel truth.

Many scientists do set forth their hypotheses and theories with care. Here is a warning from their own lips: "a hypothesis is an explanation which is *not* adequately substantiated, while a theory is a tested and *accepted* hypothesis." Note again that it says an *accepted* one, not a *proven* one.

Do scientists value their theories too highly? "The greatest value of a theory is not the *correctness* of its assumptions but rather the fact that it may lead to new generalizations without the necessity of gathering a great deal of data."

In other words, it is not set forth as being correct but as a rough tool helpful in exploring the unknown. Yet *people* have been accepting theory as proven fact because science uses its theories as tools to gain new facts.

If the hypotheses and theories of sci-

ence are to be handled with such caution, what of their laws? Here is the warning of men of science concerning their laws. "*Few, if any, laws as stated by man are exact, i.e., few laws hold true under all conditions.*"

Then are these laws of science changed from time to time? "*Most of our scientific laws have been revised repeatedly* as additional information showed they were inaccurate or inadequate."

These have been quotations for *Man's Physical Universe* by Bawden and Mac-Millan. They are not accusations against science, or against scientists, or their methods but *admissions by scientists* designed to warn us that *all that glitters with the name of science is not gold.*

Has Science Failed?

Has *the method* of science been weighed and found wanting?

It has supplied the world with material knowledge, the main portion of which

is true and acceptable. The philosophy of this world has not caught up with the lead taken by the material sciences; else the world would enjoy great benefits.

One shortcoming of the scientific method is that it does not acknowledge the existence of God and *thus has permitted numerous wrong conclusions.* Another is that it has supplied man with knowledge and power *that it is not in the human heart to use for his own and his neighbors' good.* Except for these two main shortcomings we can look to science for *material* knowledge.

No, science has not failed. The truth is that the main portion of the knowledge obtained through its method is true and dependable, and as researchers push ahead into the unknown, the supposed knowledge of today will be replaced by the *more nearly true* knowledge of tomorrow.

Science is still searching, correcting, and adding to its knowledge. *Are you a scientist?*

Question Box

Continued from page 12

the persecution of Diomitian in 95 A.D. which would agree with the book (Rev. 1:9).

Halley's *Bible Handbook* states that "in the opinion of the great body of Christian scholars, the author was the Apostle John." Being somewhat different from the other works, as to its nature, it seems that the Apostle specifically affixed his name to it so there would be no doubt concerning its authorship. Furthermore, John directs himself in Rev. 1:4 to the seven churches in the manner of an apostle as the direct representative of God. There being no valid proof against this or any of the conclusions, we can accept the preponderance of proof that John the Apostle wrote them all by inspiration.

HOLY DAY CALENDAR for 1952

Passover, after sunset, Tuesday, April 8th.

Days of Unleavened Bread, beginning sunset, Wednesday, April 9th, ending sunset, Wednesday, April 16th. Thursday, April 10th, and Wednesday, April 16th, are annual Sabbaths.

Pentecost, Monday, June 2nd, beginning previous sunset.

Festival of Trumpets, Saturday, September 20th.

Day of Atonement, fast day, Monday, September 29th.

Festival of Tabernacles, begins sunset, Friday, October 3rd, ends sunset, Saturday, October 11th.

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