

The Good News

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JUNE, 1960

More MINISTERS ORDAINED!

God's Church is leaping ahead as never before! Many vital new developments have occurred recently, including the ordination of eight new ministers, together with other local elders, deacons and deaconesses!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

HERE is some really GOOD NEWS! Jesus said, "Herein is My Father glorified—that you bear *much fruit*—so shall ye be My disciples" (John 15:8).

And really great fruit is *being born* by Ambassador College and the Church of God!

Ordination Service

At the Sabbath day services in the Shakespeare Club in Pasadena, on June 4th, Mr. Armstrong, accompanied by other ministers at the Headquarters Church, held a wonderful ordination service—in which SEVEN NEW MINISTERS OF GOD WERE ORDAINED!

This brought to a total of *eight* the number of new *preaching elders* to be ordained in the Church of God within the last few weeks! The previous Sabbath, May 28th, Mr. Hal Baird, formerly of the Corpus Christi, Texas Church, was ordained as a preaching elder. Mr. Baird had to be ordained the Sabbath before some of the other men so he could leave to assist Mr. Raymond Cole in the churches at Eugene and Salem, and to be a help in the Pacific Northwest area on the day of Pentecost.

The Pasadena Church was deeply moved and very grateful for Mr. Baird's ordination, and for the real growth and spiritual zeal he has evidenced. Originally, he was asked to attend Ambassador College for a year or two by my

brother, Mr. Richard Armstrong, who felt Mr. Baird might be qualified to become a *local elder* in the Corpus Christi Church after a year or two at Ambassador. However, because of Mr. Baird's unusual spiritual zeal and his really humble, meek attitude, he spent a full *three years* at Ambassador College—and, having accomplished *much more* than was really *expected* of him—was ordained as a full *minister*, with the rank of preaching elder, and sent to help pastor the Eugene and Salem churches!

The following Sabbath, June 4th, saw a very lengthy ordination service with seven more ministers of God being set apart by the laying on of hands.

Mr. Leroy Neff, formerly holding the office of a local elder in the Pasadena Headquarters Church, was the first to be ordained. Mr. Neff, who is now graduated from Ambassador College, has been fulfilling a vitally important part in God's work as head of the large mail receiving departments, which he has now mostly delegated to other responsible men under him, and also preaching in various other churches in the southern California area, and has been the pastor of a church at Long Beach.

Next, Mr. Albert Portune, also having held the office of local elder in the Pasadena Church, was ordained. Mr. Portune was Student Body President of

the class of 1960, and has been serving as my personal executive assistant—in addition to carrying heavy responsibilities of preaching in the churches here in southern California, helping with evangelistic campaigns, and other ministerial duties. Mr. Portune and Mr. Neff will be taking a short baptizing tour through northern California and Oregon later this summer.

Mr. Dale Hampton was the next ordained. Mr. Hampton, who has had to suffer many personal tragedies, including the loss of two children, has been a real example of deep spiritual humility and submissiveness to all who know him. Mr. Hampton's power as a preacher has been improving so rapidly that he was selected to pastor the very large church in Portland, Oregon.

Next ordained was Mr. John David (Tony) Hammer. "Tony," as all of his friends affectionately call him, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hammer of Gladewater, Texas. Tony and his competent wife Natalie are now serving, as you read this article, in the new Australian office under Mr. Gerald Waterhouse. Tony has been a real inspiration to other students in the real consecration and dedication to God's work he has displayed, together with an unusually humble and yielded attitude.

Many of you brethren will recall his inspiring sermonettes at the Days

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scattered abroad*

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of Unleavened Bread in Gladewater.

The head of our large Letter Answering Department, Dr. Clint Zimmerman, was the next minister ordained. Dr. Zimmerman's office is one which really should require a person fully qualified to be one of God's ministers. His ministry is probably reaching *far more people* than ANY of our other "local" pastors! Dr. Zimmerman personally supervises answers for many thousands of our interested readers and listeners, including many of the co-workers and even some of you brethren. His ordination was a real thrill to the Pasadena Church and all those who have known Dr. Zimmerman, and witnessed his remarkable spiritual growth.

Then the ministers laid hands on Mr. David Antion, former Student Body President and a graduate of Ambassador College in 1959. Mr. Antion has been assisting Mr. Raymond Cole in the churches in Oregon for the past school year. Mr. Antion and his wife, Molly (formerly Molly Hammer, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hammer of Gladewater) have been a well-loved and useful couple in serving God and His people in the Portland Church through the past months. Mr. Antion and his wife, Molly, will be helping Mr. David Jon Hill raise up the two new churches in Oklahoma this summer, and Mr. Antion will remain there as the pastor of these two newest churches of God.

Next ordained was a man who has set an inspiring example of personal sacrifice, and a deep dedication to the serv-

ice of Christ. Mr. Roger Foster, a real spiritual leader among the student body prior to his graduation in 1959, has been assisting Mr. Burk McNair in the churches in Denver, Pueblo and Garden City during the past school year. Roger has been on two extensive baptizing tours in the past, and is now, as you read this, leading another baptizing tour, his *third*, assisted by Mr. Carn Catherwood, an advanced student at Ambassador College.

These eight men represent an additional, powerful, moving spiritual FORCE for God's Church!

I wonder, brethren, if we *realize* just how much these men really *mean* to all of us?

It is truly a heartwarming, soul-stirring and gratifying experience to see men whose lives have been literally CHANGED—conformed to God's will—made right side up, and who have *grown* enough in spiritual stature to be ordained as the ministers of the living Christ!

Another Ordination Service

Perhaps it has not yet been made publicly known, but there was a very gratifying ordination ceremony taking place in the *Pittsburgh* Church on the Sabbath prior to the Passover!

Mr. Wayne Cole, pastor of the Pittsburgh and Akron churches, ordained Mr. Robert Hoops, who had been a student at Ambassador College for four years and who graduated in 1959. Mr. Hoops was ordained as a local elder in the Pittsburgh Church. Then, on Sabbath, May 28th, additional local elders were ordained in the Headquarters Church at Pasadena. Mr. Al Dennis, formerly the head of the Transportation Department, and lately assisting in the large visiting program in the Pasadena Church, was ordained as local elder. Mr. James Kunz, who has been a member of God's true Church for many years, and formerly a pillar in the Church in Portland, Oregon and will be entering his senior year at Ambassador College this fall. Mr. Selmer Hegvold, who has been working in the cabinet making shop, and lately assisting in the visiting program in Pasadena, was also set apart as a local elder in the Pasadena Church.

Next, Mr. Sidney Hegvold, who is Selmer's brother, was ordained as a deacon in the Pasadena Church, together with Mr. James Duke and Mr. Keith Thomas of the Pasadena Church. All three of these men have been serving in the office of a deacon for quite some time—and it was a gratifying ceremony to see their services and abilities officially recognized, and the office of deacon bestowed upon each of them.

Next, three of the fine ladies of the Pasadena Church were ordained as deaconesses! Mrs. Myrtle Horn, who, through her abilities and particular talents, has been selected as the "house mother" (warden) for Ambassador College in the United Kingdom, was set apart as a deaconess. Mrs. C. O. Battles, who has been a quiet inspiration to all in the Pasadena Church through her willing services to the sick and afflicted, her attendance and help to many new mothers, and her services in every respect whenever called upon, was next ordained. Then, Mrs. Irene Eckert, who has been serving as pianist and organist in the Pasadena Church, and also at the Feast of Tabernacles, was ordained as a deaconess. Mr. Eckert, Mrs. Eckert's husband, was ordained as a deacon several years ago.

New Churches in Oklahoma

The brethren living in and around Tulsa and Oklahoma City received some really *good news* recently—when they got a letter telling them of the new church to be established there!

Mr. David Jon Hill is presently making arrangements for the beginning services in Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Mr. David Antion, recently ordained, will join him in these new churches, and will assist Mr. Hill during the summer months. Mr. Hill will then come to Ambassador College to join the faculty here, and Mr. Antion will become the pastor of the two new churches in Oklahoma. For many years, we have desperately wanted to establish churches in this heavily populated area, where many consecrated members of God's Church are residing. I am sure all the brethren in Oklahoma will really be *rejoicing* over this good news—and all the rest of us will be rejoicing with them!

Baptizing Tours

Don't forget to really PRAY for the baptizing tours!

In just the last few days, three baptizing teams have left Ambassador College and are now traveling in various parts of the United States, visiting and counseling hundreds of potential members of God's true Church.

Mr. Roger Foster, who was ordained on June 4th, is being assisted by Mr. Carn Catherwood, an advanced student of Ambassador College. These two men will be touring up into the northern states of the United States, and up into Canada, which is Carn's homeland. Mr. Bill McDowell, accompanied by Mr. James Wells, our first English student, is traveling across the central states, and will be counseling and visiting people in the great midwestern United

States, and on into the east. Mr. Ronald Kelly, accompanied by Mr. Carl McNair, is traveling across the United States down into Texas and Louisiana, and will be baptizing many dozens of people in the deep south. These men will be meeting hundreds of different personalities, meeting adverse weather conditions, be in perils on the highway, perils from antagonistic, unconverted mates, and will have to *drive* themselves day and night, oftentimes losing meals and sleep—in order to serve God in this way.

They desperately need your PRAYERS! Keep this article *with you!* Don't forget the baptizing tours!

Helpers for the Churches

It has been the policy in the past year or so to send advanced and older Ambassador College students to become "assistant pastors" in some of the local church areas around the United States.

This year, due to the increased burdens on the shoulders of many of our local ministers, and the growing church attendance, we have had to send an unusually large amount of men to some of the local pastorates.

Messrs. Richard Pinelli and Clarence Huse, both senior students of Ambassador College, will be assisting Mr. Carlton Smith in the large New York City Church, visiting and counseling with various of the members there during the summer months. Mr. Ronald Dart and his wife have been sent to Chi-

cago, to assist Mr. Dean Blackwell in the Chicago, Milwaukee and El Paso, Illinois churches. Mr. Armstrong reported the astounding number of about 700 in attendance in the Chicago Church for Pentecost! Chicago is now the second largest Church of God on the face of this earth—and certainly needs a great deal of help!

Mr. Richard Plache, also a senior student at Ambassador College, and his wife are in the Seattle-Tacoma area, assisting Mr. James Friddle in the pastoring of those two large and growing churches.

Mr. Burk McNair, who was deprived of the help of Mr. Roger Foster, who is now leading a baptizing tour, will be assisted during the summer months by Mr. Frank Simpkins, an advanced student of Ambassador College. Kelly Barfield, another advanced Ambassador College student, will be assisting Mr. Bryce Clark in pastoring the St. Louis and Springfield, Missouri Churches.

As was previously mentioned, Mr. Hal Baird will be helping Mr. Cole take care of the heavy responsibilities of the churches of Salem and Eugene. Accompanying Mr. Baird for the summer is Mr. Tommy Blackwell, who is Mr. Dean Blackwell's brother.

As you can see, God's work is constantly *surging ahead—growing—BURSTING* with new energy and strength, as each local area grows in numbers, as new churches are raised up, many hundreds of new members being bap-

tized, and the harvest becomes greater and more multiplied!

All of these men really *need your prayers!* These experiences of the coming summer months, of helping to visit, counsel and baptize the converted ones who are being called of God, will be vitally important in forming a real part of the basic foundation of the spiritual character in these men.

Evangelistic Campaigns in England

Mr. Roderick C. Meredith and his wife Margie, now on board ship en route to London, England, are scheduled to hold a series of vitally important evangelistic campaigns in England this summer!

I know most of you brethren have already heard of these approaching campaigns—but we need to be constantly reminded of the all-encompassing, world-wide scope of this wonderful work of God!

Mr. Meredith will be assisted by Mr. Ernest Martin as song leader and assistant counselor, and Miss Ruth Myrick, Ambassador College's own "piano virtuoso" as pianist. Mr. Meredith and the others arriving in England will be going to a veritable "Bee Hive" of activity.

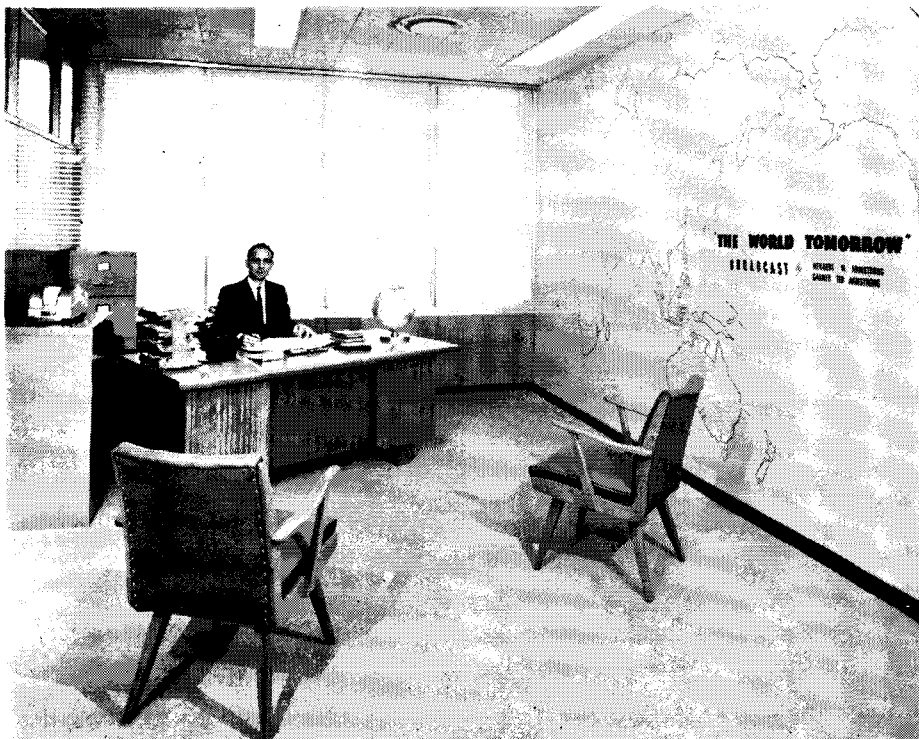
Mr. Armstrong, who will be in England during the coming summer months with Mr. Benjamin Rea, who is to be the "principal" (Dean) of Ambassador College in the United Kingdom, will be constantly busy with the overall decisions in the establishing and the management of this fabulous new British addition of Ambassador College!

Furniture is being delivered, buildings being altered, the painting and papering crews working feverishly, gardening crews busy, library books being ordered, study desks, tables and chairs being purchased, the catalog being prepared and printed, entrance examinations being made up, and all the myriad other chores necessary for the almost fantastically difficult task of establishing a whole *college* are being accomplished during these summer months!

Here is another major project of the work of God for this time—and certainly needs your constant attention and your earnest and prevailing prayers! Be sure not to forget the work over in England, as all of us in the United States, Australia and elsewhere may know that our English brethren are not forgetting us!

Australian Work Leaps Ahead

Mr. Gerald Waterhouse, manager of the Australian office, and pastor of the Sydney Church, was very gratified to meet Mr. Dexter Faulkner, together with his wife, Shirley, at Sydney's Mas-



Mr. Waterhouse's office and conference room in Australia. A close-up of the right wall may be seen on page 11 of this issue.



In Australian office the master tape for each broadcast—sent from Pasadena—is being dubbed for the 15 Australian stations we are on. Six broadcasts every week per

station mean almost 100 copies each week of the daily program are being made by Mr. Charles Hefner.

cot Airport recently. Dexter and Shirley, both former students of Ambassador College, have been sent as a husband-wife "team" to assist Mr. Waterhouse in the many heavy responsibilities in the growing work in Australia.

They will both be serving in the large Sydney office, which has recently had to double its office space. Dexter as assistant to Mr. Frank Longuskie, who will be handling most of the responsibilities of managing the Sydney office, and Shirley, his wife, as a stenographer.

Also, as previously mentioned in this article, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Hammer will be arriving in Australia prior to the time you receive this article. Tony, having recently been ordained, will be able to assist Mr. Waterhouse in taking some much needed baptizing tours in various other parts of Australia, and, as God leads and opens the way,

perhaps establishing even other Churches in Australia in the future.

This brings the number of Ambassador College personnel now serving in the Sydney office to a total of *seven!* (Remember the amazing pattern of twelves Mr. Waterhouse wrote of in a recent issue of *The Good News* magazine?)

The Australian *Plain Truth* mailing list is *leaping* ahead, and now the *Plain Truth* is to be, beginning with the month of July, **PRINTED IN AUSTRALIA!** Mr. Waterhouse has located a large printing plant in the chief seaport and second largest commercial city in all Australia, Melbourne. The printing of *The Plain Truth* in our own Australian edition will cost less than the money now spent in air mailing the heavy *Plain Truths* in bulk shipments to the Australian office.

Almost everywhere we look—the

world over—God's work RACES AHEAD!

Report from Oregon

Here is more good news which we were unable to find room for in last month's report by Mr. Meredith.

Mr. Raymond Cole reports additional ordinations in God's churches in Oregon. All the churches there are growing continually—with the Eugene church being completely revitalized and now having an average attendance of about 80 members each Sabbath!

The largest church in the area, of course, is in Portland. This church has grown a great deal within the last two years and more deacons have been needed. Two men there have yielded themselves to God and qualified to become deacons in the Church of God. On March 26, 1960, Mr. Allen Stark and Mr. Dale McDaniels were ordained

(Please continue on page 7)

Daniel's "2300 Days" Prophecy *Revealed at Last!*

In the 8th chapter of Daniel is an amazing prophecy. Some believe it was fulfilled in 1844. Others believe it was fulfilled by Antiochus Ephiapanes. Daniel could not understand it. Yet it stands revealed for us today!

by Herman L. Hoeh

THE TIME has come to reveal an amazing prophecy for the latter days!

You need to understand it.

This amazing prophecy has been woefully misunderstood. Most scholars and churches admit they do not understand it.

Some claim it has already been fulfilled in 1844. They believe that in that year Christ entered into "the heavenly sanctuary" to "cleanse" it. But is this doctrine true? It's time we looked into the Bible to see what this prophecy really says.

A SEALED Prophecy

Open your Bibles to Daniel 8. Notice particularly verse 26. Daniel is commanded to "shut up the vision; for it shall be for many days."

Those who assume this prophecy was fulfilled in 1844 deny that Daniel was commanded to "shut up the vision"—to seal it up from human understanding. Yet that is what the Scripture plainly says!

Here is a vital prophecy for our time shut up from human understanding until these latter days—"for the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end. Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand" (Dan. 12:9-10).

This prophecy was not for Daniel's day, but for our age.

This prophecy was not meant to be understood till the time of the end. Today the wise shall understand. This is God's promise. These prophecies are to be known today! Now let us notice this amazing prophecy in Daniel 8.

Time-Setting of the Prophecy

Notice the setting of the prophecy. It is the third year of the reign of Belshazzar the king of Babylon. Daniel receives a vision while at Shushan in the palace in the province of Flam (Dan. 8:1-2). Here is what he sees in the vision, "Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and be-

hold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last. I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great" (verses 3 and 4).

Here is a mysterious "ram." What does this ram symbolize? Notice the explanation revealed in verse 20! "The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia"! This ram symbolized *the Medo-Persian Empire*. It destroyed the Kingdom of Babylon in 539 B.C. and ruled to 331 B.C.

But this is only the beginning of the prophecy. Now notice verse 5:

"And as I was considering, behold, a he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground; and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes."

Now notice the explanation of this mysterious symbol. "And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is *the first king*" (verse 21).

These symbols are revealed to Daniel so that we can understand the TIME SETTING of this end-time prophecy. The ram—the Medo-Persian Empire—existed on the world scene until 331 B.C. Then the Greco-Macedonian Empire came on the scene with its first great king, Alexander the Great (verses 6 and 7). The conquest of the Medo-Persian Empire by Alexander the Great occurred in 331 B.C.

Now continue with verse 8. "... the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven." Remember that the horn in the goat's head symbolized the "first king" of the Greco-Macedonian Empire. That was Alexander the Great. But this horn was suddenly "broken"! Alexander the Great died suddenly of a fever in Babylon little

more than thirty years of age!

Continuing with verse 22 of this amazing prophecy: "Now that being broken,"—Alexander the Great being dead—"whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the kingdom, but not in his power."

Consider the time setting of this prophecy. It commenced with the Medo-Persian Empire which lasted until 331 B.C. Then the Greco-Macedonian Empire came on the scene with its first king, Alexander the Great. In 323 B.C. Alexander died at the age of 33. Alexander's empire was divided into four major parts—verse 22. None of these parts was as strong as the whole kingdom had been under Alexander the Great. The time setting of this prophecy already brings us to the date 323 B.C.! The rest of the prophecy *cannot begin before* this date! Yet those who claim it was fulfilled in 1844 must begin the prophecy over a century too early.

Now notice what is to happen next on the world scene!

A Prophecy for the Latter Time!

Let us continue with verse 9: "And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land."

Look at this prophecy again. Here a "little horn" appears coming out of one of the four divisions of Alexander's empire. *This "little horn" cannot have arisen before the division of Alexander's empire*, as some claim! Notice that again! "Out of one of them came forth a little horn!"

Whatever this mysterious horn symbolizes, whatever this little horn does on the world scene, must occur AFTER the death of Alexander the Great—after the division of his empire into four parts!

We come now to the climax of this vision. Daniel was told: "For *at the time of the end* shall be the vision" (verse 17). The vision of "the little horn" is for the time of the end! Read verse 23,

"And *in the latter time* of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full."

But *who* does the "little horn" symbolize? Notice the Bible explanation!

"A king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences shall stand up. And his power shall be mighty, . . . and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace [the margin says "prosperity"] shall destroy many; HE SHALL ALSO STAND UP AGAINST THE PRINCE OF PRINCES; but he shall be broken without hand" (verses 23-25). There is the answer!

Look at this prophecy again. Notice it is a prophecy for the latter days. The little horn symbolizes a king who shall arise "in the latter time of their kingdom" (verse 23). This man stands up *against the Prince of princes*—that is Christ at His second coming! Here is a great Gentile world ruler who stands up against Christ and is supernaturally destroyed—"without hand"—not by human hand but by divine intervention in human affairs.

The Bible interprets this "little horn" as a ruler who shall exist at the second coming of Christ! He comes on the scene when world transgression—world sin—has reached its climax (verse 23).

This "little horn" is described again in Revelation 17:14. There we read that he makes war with the Lamb and the Lamb shall overcome him and his allies. This "little horn" does the same thing as the final "beast" of Revelation!

What the "Little Horn" Does

But to continue with this amazing prophecy for the latter days! "And it [the little horn] waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and *by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.* And a host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression"—the margin reads: "the host was given over for the transgression against the daily sacrifice"—"and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered" (Daniel 8:10-12).

Many have tried to interpret these mysterious symbols out of their own human reasoning. They have tried to read into the Bible meanings that are not there. Let THE BIBLE interpret the Bible! Notice the explanation in verse 24: "And his power shall be mighty." That's the explanation of the first part of verse 10: "It waxed great."

To continue: "But not by his own power." This king will not accomplish his great deeds by his own strength.

Revelation 17:17 reveals why. Ten lesser kings *give their military power and strength* "unto the Beast."

This little horn "shall destroy wonderfully" shall have marvelous, frightening military powers "and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people" (verse 24). Here is a persecuting power, a power which destroys God's people—the children of Israel—and persecutes the true church (Dan. 8:10, 24).

Verse 25 continues to explain verse 11, and so on.

But what about the "daily sacrifice" that is taken away and what about the "sanctuary" that is cast down? What do these symbolize? What do they mean?

Could this be true of "the heavenly sanctuary"—God's Throne?

The Surprise Answer

Before we can fully understand this prophecy we must read Daniel 8:13-14. "Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, 'How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?' And he said unto me, 'Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.'"

This is the mysterious part of the vision which was shut up to Daniel—which was not to be revealed until the latter days!

This is a prophecy for the latter days! Some have tried to explain this prophecy before God's time came to reveal it! One particular denomination claims that this vision of "2300 days" commenced in 457 B.C. and ended in A.D. 1844. This denomination claims that the "2300 days" represent 2300 years in fulfillment. This denomination further insists that the "sanctuary" that was cast down is the Holy of Holies in heaven itself—God's very throne! They claim that the very throne of God was "cleansed" beginning in 1844.

This denomination has assumed that the prophecy commenced fulfillment in 457 B.C. How did they arrive at this date? They certainly didn't get it from the Bible!

Notice why!

The Medo-Persian Empire ruled the world until 331 B.C. Then Alexander came on the scene. He died in 323 B.C., after which his empire was divided into four parts. Out of one of the four divisions of Alexander's Empire is to rise this little horn "*in the latter days!*" It is the little horn which takes away the daily sacrifice and casts down the sanctuary! Whatever the little horn is to do for "2300 days" cannot have begun *until after the division of Alexander's Empire*

into four parts! But 457 B.C. is over a century too early! That date cannot be the commencement of the "2300 days"!

But notice further. The little horn *takes away* the daily sacrifice! Was the daily sacrifice taken away from 457 B.C. until 1844? Did a king for 2300 years prevent the daily sacrifice from being offered? Did a king for 2300 years cast down the sanctuary of God? Of course not! *The Jews were offering the daily sacrifice almost continuously from the days of Ezra and Nehemiah until the Jews were driven out of Jerusalem in 70 A.D.*

The date 457 B.C. is the commencement of *another* prophecy altogether—the "seventy weeks" prophecy in Daniel 9:25. The year 457 B.C. marks the commencement of Daniel's prophecy of "seventy weeks" which led to the first coming of Jesus Christ! *That prophecy has nothing directly to do with the prophecy recorded here in Daniel 8!* The prophecy of Dan. 9 is a detailed explanation of one aspect of Daniel's first vision in chapter 7 (compare Dan. 9:21, 23 and 7:16).

The prophecy of Daniel 9 is not the explanation of the "2300 days." That prophecy was sealed from human understanding until this "time of the end."

Daniel 8 proves that this prophecy of the "2300 days" could not have commenced in 457 B.C.! And therefore *it did not end in 1844!*

NOT Heavenly Sanctuary!

This denomination claims, however, that the sanctuary was not on earth but in heaven! Of course! They could not claim it was the sanctuary on earth because during that time it was not cast down! The sanctuary on earth was not trodden underfoot—was not cast down—in the days of Christ and the Apostles as their theory requires!

Granted that the earthly sanctuary was a type of the heavenly sanctuary, God's throne. But what king has ever cast down God's throne in heaven for 2300 years? Notice the last part of verse 13. The "sanctuary" is to be "trodden underfoot"! No kingdom, no power has ever trodden underfoot God's sanctuary for 2300 years! The Bible itself proves that this amazing prophecy was not fulfilled in 1844!

The doctrines of the "Sanctuary Question" and of the "Investigative Judgment" spawned by Mrs. E. G. White are utter blasphemy against God's Throne.

Anyone who believes that it was fulfilled then is *deliberately throwing aside the testimony of Scripture itself.* Some people would rather put the words of the self-styled "prophetess" in place of the very Word of God! It's time we

opened our minds. It's time we straightened out our hearts before God and repented of following the snares of Satan the Devil! It's time we began to *believe the Bible* for what it says!

A Common Misunderstanding

Notice Daniel 8:26: "And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true . . ." The vision of "2300 days" is actually called in the Scripture "*the vision of the evening and the morning.*" Why?

Turn in your Bibles to verse 14 of chapter 8. In most Bibles you will find a marginal note for the word "days." This note reveals that the original Hebrew of the word "days" is "evening morning." This prophecy is *not* referring to 24-hour days but to evenings and mornings—*the evening and morning sacrifice!* Notice in verse 11 that the little horn takes away the *daily sacrifice*. The daily sacrifice was offered in the evening and in the morning. See Lev. 6:9 and 12.

Verse 14 is a *mistranslation* in the text of the King James Version, though it is correct in the margin. The Revised Standard Version more correctly reads, "for two thousand three hundred evenings and mornings."

In other words, here is a prophecy that two thousand three hundred evening and morning sacrifices would cease to be offered. Since the daily sacrifice was offered *twice a day*, this prophecy is actually speaking of one thousand one hundred fifty (1150) days. In 1150 days there would be exactly two thousand three hundred sacrifices offered at evening and morning.

At the end of this 1150-day period the sanctuary is to be "cleansed" or "justified." This prophecy is yet to be fulfilled! That's why it was shut up and sealed from human understanding until our time. It was not for God's people or the world until these latter days!

Another False Idea

Some have contended that this prophecy has already been fulfilled. This is NOT TRUE! Notice why: what happened to the daily sacrifice in the days of Antiochus Epiphanes (168-165 B.C.) was *only a type* of what is yet to occur! The wicked deeds of Antiochus Epiphanes are recorded in Daniel 11:31. He polluted the ancient sanctuary. He took away the daily sacrifice *but not for exactly 1150 days.*

Daniel 11:31 is not referring to the same event described in Daniel 8. Notice especially in Daniel 11 that the latter days do not commence until verse 40. "And at the *time of the end* . . ." That's in this generation, almost two thousand

years *after* the days of Antiochus Epiphanes.

But Daniel 8 shows that the little horn, which takes away the daily sacrifice and casts down the sanctuary, *arises in the latter days.* It is to arise at the time of the end. The little horn is the *last king* of one of the four divisions of Alexander's Empire. He is, in fact, the last king who rules over the "Kingdom of the North"—one of the four divisions of Alexander's Empire.

The King of the North, described in Daniel 11, was originally Syria—*north of Palestine. But Syria was swallowed up by Rome.* The Roman system of government became the "Kingdom of the North." It has existed to our time in Europe. This amazing history is described in Daniel 11:36-41. In Daniel 11 the last King of the North is pictured as occupying "the glorious land" Palestine (verse 41). This is the same region that the "little horn" of Daniel 8 is yet to control *in our day!*

The Final Fulfillment

This amazing prophecy is about to be fulfilled in our day. A great crisis is yet to occur in Palestine. After nearly 19 centuries a part of the tribe of Judah—the Jews—has come back to Palestine. In their war of independence in 1948 they gained possession of the new part of Jerusalem, but the Arabs still control old Jerusalem. Not only Jerusalem, but the whole land of Palestine is divided. It is an armed camp likely to ignite at any moment!

In the near future we shall literally see the next great prophesied event for Palestine—"the daily sacrifice" and "the sanctuary" restored before our very eyes.

Then will come World War III and the occupation of Palestine and Jerusalem.

A great European Church-State union will be in control of Palestine and the whole Western World. It will prohibit the Truth. It will "cast down the truth to the ground." It will practice and prosper!

It will persecute and martyr God's Holy people. It will be allowed to tread Jerusalem underfoot and to prohibit the daily sacrifice at the sanctuary for 1150 days. It will substitute its own abominable, idolatrous rites in place of the evening and morning sacrifice. Jesus referred to this same event in Matthew 24:15. "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, **STAND IN THE HOLY PLACE,** (whoso readeth, let him understand;) Then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains . . . for then shall be great tribulation . . ." climaxing in the second coming of Jesus

Christ (verses 15-21).

The Gentiles will trod down Jerusalem for 1260 days (Rev. 11). It will be the time of the two witnesses who will prophesy in the streets of Jerusalem for 1260 days, then be killed, and—just *immediately before the return of Christ*—be raised from the dead in the sight of the people!

God will suddenly intervene in human affairs. He will put an end to this wicked idolatrous system. "The sanctuary *shall be cleansed.*"

We are very near the fulfillment of these amazing prophecies. It is time we wake up to world events and free ourselves from fables and traditions began more than a century ago! It's time we believe the Bible and not false teachers! It's time we asked God for wisdom and ask Him to lead us and to show us *His Truth!*

More ORDAINED

(Continued from page 4)

as deacons in the Portland church by Mr. Raymond Cole. He reports that both of these men are sources of inspiration and help to all concerned in this church. In turn, brethren, let us dedicate our earnest and prevailing *prayers* for these men and all of God's servants who are yielding themselves to qualify for offices as deacons, local elders, and ministers in His Church in this most important MISSION on earth today to which God has called us all.

As we *rejoice* in the great blessings of this recent spring season, let us not forget the increased *persecution* and *challenge* that lie before us as we carry Christ's own MESSAGE to a God-hating, God-rejecting world. We NEED each other's love and earnest PRAYERS!

Commencement Exercises

And, as if all these amazing developments weren't blessings enough, *by far* the largest graduating class in the history of Ambassador College received their Bachelor Degrees in commencement exercises in the lower gardens on the college grounds June 3rd!

[Editor's note: And two ministers received their M.A. in Theology—Messrs. Garner Ted Armstrong and Ernest Martin.]

Mr. Armstrong, delivering the Commencement Address, spoke on the "culture" of the world which is always just a little "offset" from normal, a little "out of line," and contrasted this false "culture" with the truly NEW culture being acquired by Ambassador College students!

(Please continue on page 11)

Did Jesus Have Brothers and Sisters?

Millions assume that Jesus Christ had no brothers or sisters in the flesh—that Mary, His mother, was a perpetual virgin. But is this idea true?

by J. W. Robinson

WHEN Jesus came to His own hometown synagogue to preach, he astonished the people with His teachings. In their amazement, they asked, "Whence hath *this* man this wisdom, and these mighty works? Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, are they not *all* with us?" (Matt. 13:54-56).

Notice it!

This scripture clearly states that Christ had *four* brothers, all of them being personally named. The added question, "And his sisters, are they not *all* with us?" implies that He had *at least three sisters*. If He had only two, they would have used the term, "both," instead of "all."

Some claim that these were not really brothers and sisters, only cousins. But Scripture reveals this is *not true*.

Here is the proof.

The word "brethren" is translated from the Greek word for "brother"—*adelphos*. This word may mean a spiritual brother, but it does not mean "cousin."

The English word "cousin" in Luke 1:36 and 58 is translated from *suggenes* in the original Greek. This clearly shows that the New Testament, when referring to Jesus' family, makes them brothers and not cousins.

Not Spiritual Brothers

What about the contention that these were Christ's spiritual brothers and sisters, instead of His blood brothers and sisters—His siblings. We find the answer in John 2:12. Christ went to Capernaum, accompanied by "His mother, and His brethren, and His disciples." Here we find a sharp distinction is made between His *brethren* and His *disciples* showing that they were *NOT* the same. His *spiritual* brethren were His disciples—those who believed His teachings. His *flesh* and blood brothers did not believe Him (John 7:5). This scripture certainly makes James, Joses, Simon and Judas His blood brothers.

In Mark's account of Jesus' visit to His hometown synagogue, we find the

people wondering about His great wisdom. They asked, "Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Judas, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us?" (Mark 6:3). These people, who had known Jesus from childhood, specifically stated that He was the brother of several other young people who had grown up in their midst. These people were *very* familiar with family relationships throughout the village. Notice that they are not called cousins, but brothers.

Christ the "Firstborn"

In Matthew 1:25 we find that Christ is called the "FIRSTBORN" son of Mary. The word "firstborn" is translated from the Greek word, *prototokon* which means the firstborn among other children—the oldest of several children in a family. If Jesus had been Mary's *only* child, the Greek word *monogenes*, meaning "only child," would have been used in the original Greek text. Jesus was the "only begotten" human son of the Heavenly Father (John 1:18). But He was the "first born"—not an "only child"—of Mary!

Many other New Testament scriptures tell us distinctly that Jesus Christ was not the only child of His mother.

In Galatians 1:18-19, Paul mentioned having seen not only Peter, but also James the Lord's brother in Jerusalem. We know that Paul was speaking of a brother in the flesh. If he had been speaking of a spiritual brother—a brother in the faith—he certainly would have included Peter among Christ's spiritual brethren. But he did not!

Paul knew that Christ had other brothers. He stated: "Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the *brethren of the Lord*, and Cephas [Peter]?" (1 Cor. 9:5). Notice that the brethren of the Lord are distinct from the twelve apostles. In Acts 1:13-14 we find that *the disciples* "continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, AND *with his brethren*."

Some have, in argument, referred

to Matthew 12:46-50. Here Christ said, "Whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother." They have claimed this scripture as proof that when the Bible speaks of Christ's brethren, it means spiritual brethren. They claim therefore that He may not have had any brothers in the flesh. Such an argument is without foundation. If this scripture proved that Christ had no brothers or sisters, *it would also prove that HE HAD NO MOTHER*. What Christ meant in this statement is that those who *obey the Father* are all equally precious in His sight, regardless of blood relationship.

"My MOTHER'S Children"

As a final proof that Jesus Christ was not the *only child* of His mother, let us turn to Psalm 69:8, which all Bible scholars recognize as a prophecy concerning Christ. In this scripture we read, "I am become a stranger unto MY BRETHREN, and an alien unto MY MOTHER'S CHILDREN." Christ certainly was speaking of His *physical* mother and brethren—blood relatives—in this prophecy. Christ's spiritual mother is the Church (Rev. 12:1-5) and His spiritual brethren are His followers—those who compose the true Church today (Matt. 12:49-50, Rom. 8:16-17, 29). Christ's spiritual brethren certainly recognized Him from the beginning of His ministry (John 1:35-49). He WAS a stranger (an alien) to His physical brethren, however. They did not believe in Him during His ministry (John 7:2-5), although some of them were converted after His resurrection.

Anyone who earnestly believes that the Holy Bible is the inspired Word of God, *cannot* fail to see these facts. These scriptures definitely *prove*—absolutely—that Jesus Christ did have brothers and sisters who were the children of His mother. Their father was Joseph. Joseph was the legal, not actual, father of Jesus. This means that Jesus and His brothers and sisters had the same mother, but not the same father.

The question we now must answer
(Please continue on page 12)

How to *Know* You Are “Called”

Here is the surprising answer to this much misunderstood problem!

by Bryce G. Clark

THIS subject is vital! Some brethren assume because they are not overcoming, they have not been called. Unless we can know—*unless all doubts are removed*—we have no assurance of withstanding the trials certain to come in this generation.

A Divine Call

All really converted Christians receive a Divine call! This is one of the plainest truths of the Bible, yet millions assume it is a matter of their own “choice.”

Notice what Jesus told His disciples: “Because IT IS GIVEN unto *you* to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to *them* [the vast majority] IT IS NOT given . . . Therefore speak I to them in parables [to obscure the truth] . . . lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should *understand* with their heart, and should *be converted* . . .” (Mat. 13:11-15).

Jesus here revealed that only a tiny minority [a small number of disciples] were being given real Bible understanding. Jesus said it simply is not God’s intention to convert everyone at this time!

Notice further: “No man can come to me, except the Father which has sent me draw him . . .” (John 6:44). And again: “No man can come to me, except it were given unto him of my Father . . .” (verse 65).

The apostle Paul said the same thing. Notice it. “For ye see your calling brethren, how that *not many* wise men after the flesh, *not many* mighty, *not many* noble, are called” (I Cor. 1:26).

These are only a few of many Bible examples. But these make it plain to see that *only a minority* are being converted during the present age.

No wonder humanity, as a whole, feels no real need for God. Men believe themselves to be self-sufficient. They fail to recognize Bible truths! They fail to realize what is really wrong with this world, how spiritually blinded professing Christianity is, and, by contrast, just how great and glorious God is.

Understanding these things *is the result of being called!* True Christians—those who *see* things as they REALLY are—receive a *divine call!*

Call is NOT Conversion!

The most difficult thing for any human being is to admit error, and then to change. The mind excuses misdeeds,

justifies itself, seeks a “way out.” One of the most dangerous avenues anyone can take is the attempt to “get around” God’s truth with the excuse that “since I’m not converted, then I have not been called.” This deceptive disregarding of responsibility is an attempt to disobey God by *pretending* to be a bystander!

What is wrong with this reasoning?

Just this! The call in itself doesn’t convert anyone! *Conversion is the result of heeding the call!* Lack of conversion does *not* mean you have not been called.

Every human being is altogether carnal and rebellious until *conversion* takes place. God *calls* us while we are yet unconverted—while we are still rebelling! Conversion is a changing process, our becoming more like God. Unless we heed the call and decide to change our way of life, the call of itself has no power to convert—the call *merely reveals what we must do in order to be converted!*

The natural or fleshly mind we are born with is automatically contrary to God’s law (Rom. 8:7). *All* have sinned and “come short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23). Since we have all been a part of this world, a *divine call* is necessary to reveal our *need* to repent and come out of the world. Whether or not *conversion* takes place as a result of that call is *our responsibility!* Jesus stated that he had come to call the sinners, not the righteous (that is, the “self-righteous”) to repentance (Mat. 9:13). Repentance—with belief and baptism—is the first step we must take in heeding the call. Then, through the power of God’s Spirit, we begin the struggle against the downpull of human nature. We must—by the supernatural power of God’s Spirit—master ourselves. We must overcome society and the influence of the Devil. We must put off the “old man” and put on the new until, at the resurrection, we become completely converted. So the call itself doesn’t convert anybody! Conversion results from *heeding* the call.

Notice how this is illustrated in II Tim. 4:10. Demas had the knowledge of God’s truth. He knew and worked with Paul personally. But this was not enough! He did not remain steadfast! *He had not made his calling sure!*

Peter warns us to give diligence “to make our calling *sure*” (II Pet. 1:10). If the calling of itself meant we are automatically converted, Peter would not have written this warning. We make

our calling sure by *yielding totally* to God.

Once God decides to call an individual, He will not change His mind (Rom. 11:29). We each receive only one opportunity for salvation. If God calls us during this age, we are having our one and only opportunity. Let us not excuse ourselves by *pretending we haven’t been called* when we do understand the truth! We must yield ourselves to God, contrary to what we naturally prefer to do.

How does God Call?

Many misunderstand how God calls. Some feel God calls by means of an audible voice. Others feel it is done by drastic intervention such as accidents or fires. Still others—emotionally inclined—desire a “good feeling all over” to be assured of a calling. What is the truth? How does God call?

Amazingly enough, the answer is very simple. No lengthy theological exposition is necessary—such would only complicate the clear, understandable scriptures on the subject. Turn to II Thes. 2:13.

“But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning *chosen* you to salvation through *sanctification of the Spirit* and *belief of the truth.*”

Did you catch it?

MANY are being *called*—but few chosen!

Jesus Christ orally **CALLS** many individuals hearing the World Tomorrow program, or who read the **PLAIN TRUTH** magazine. Perhaps some will be *called* through YOUR personal example, or witness. In each case, it is the Holy Spirit doing the calling, *through human instruments!*

REMEMBER the *parable of the sower*. **MANY** will *begin* to receive the Word—but, through selfish interest, persecution, or just plain spiritual lethargy, will **REJECT THE CALL!** They have not been *chosen* to spiritually understand the truth. They only carnally saw some points of truth.

A Fatal Mistake!

Think of it! Evangelists shout, “GIVE YOUR HEART TO THE LORD!” People hear the piteous plea—“Won’t you come?” And yet—the inspired Word of God reveals, they **CANNOT UNLESS THE FATHER SPECIFICALLY**

DRAWS THEM! (John 6:44)

Jesus sternly warned there will be *many* who will *seek* to enter in, and *will not be able!*

It is only those who have been called, and to whom the Father has *chosen* to REVEAL Himself, who can be truly converted. Paul was inspired to write, "But as it is written, 'Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.' But God hath REVEALED them unto us BY HIS SPIRIT" (I Cor. 2:9-10).

Notice—many might WANT to understand—but it must be specifically GIVEN them of God's Spirit! ". . . for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the DEEP things of God. 'For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.'" "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world but the spirit which is of God; *that we might know* the things that are *freely given* to us of God!"

What Is "Sanctification of the Spirit"?

God has not merely called, but also chosen you to salvation through *sanctification* [setting apart] of the Spirit. Here is how God works out the first step in bringing each individual to a full knowledge of salvation. He sanctifies — or sets each one apart—by means of the Holy Spirit! Jesus told Peter that the Spirit of the Father revealed to him that Jesus is Christ the Son of God (Mat. 16:17).

Here is the supernatural power of God working on the minds of men, revealing truth to them, *prior to conversion*. Jesus further illustrated this when He instructed His disciples that they would later (on the day of Pentecost) have the Spirit dwelling *in* them, but at that present time (prior to His ascension to heaven) the Spirit was *with* them (John 14:17).

It is the Spirit of God which reveals truth—which sanctifies or sets apart an individual to make him an heir of salvation.

Now back to the latter portion of II Thes. 2:13. Notice that ". . . *belief of the truth*" is the second feature of this divine call. The Spirit of God leads us to the truth, but we must *believe* that truth! Jesus said, ". . . thy word is truth" (John 17:17). The truth is the inspired Word of God—the Holy Bible! God calls us by leading our minds, by means of His Spirit, to believe the Holy Bible! But spiritual truth cannot be understood or believed without the influence of the Spirit of God (I Cor. 2:14).

Turn to Acts 13:44. "And the next Sabbath day came almost the whole city

together to hear *the word of God.*" And verse 48: "And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified *the word of the Lord:* and as many as were *ordained* [called] to eternal life *believed.*" What did they believe?

The Word of God—the Holy Scriptures!

Those called to salvation believed God's Word! *There was no doubt in their minds!* They knew the Scriptures meant exactly what they said! They *believed* the Word of God which Jesus said is truth. Their calling resulted from being set aside—sanctified—by God's Spirit and their *believing the truth!*

There are many reasons today why men do not believe the truth—why the vast majority of professing Christians do not understand the Bible! Though God has allowed mankind to be deceived, yet He has given of His Spirit to a *called few* so that we can understand the purpose of life. It is God's Spirit that enables us to comprehend the basic principles of understanding.

What These Principles Are

Consider these principles. They manifest the Spirit of God working upon and through the human mind.

1) Live by EVERY Word of God:

First of all, Jesus said, "*Man shall not live by bread* alone but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4). Here is the first principle. To really understand the Bible it is necessary to *live by every word of God*, not just some portions or pet doctrines. Most churches accept a few Bible truths but for the most part walk in dismal error. This is because they are not willing to *live* by every word of God. They deliberately reject all but a relatively *small* portion which has no bearing on their personal lives. God gives understanding only to those who are willing to live by *all* of His word!

2) ALL Scripture Inspired:

"*All scripture is given by inspiration of God*, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (II Tim. 3:16). How can anyone really believe the Bible if he feels portions are uninspired? Yet this is exactly what many "Christians," so-called, believe today! Some regard the Old Testament purely as historical literature. Some teach Revelation to be the writings of a man obsessed with hallucinations. Others say only the epistles of Paul should be accepted. What nonsense! All this doctrinal confusion is a direct result of choosing certain portions of the Bible to believe—refusing to accept all scripture as given by inspiration of God.

3) According to LAW:

"*To the law and to the testimony:* if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isa. 8:20). The significant feature of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation is LAW. Yet, how men disregard and try to do away with God's law! Every conceivable argument has been advanced in an attempt to do away with the ten commandments, the very theme of the entire Bible. It is small wonder men cannot understand God's Word when every reference to His law is distorted, twisted, perverted, and maligned. Disobedience to God is the keynote in today's world. But Isaiah said under inspiration that if men do not teach in accordance with God's law and the testimony (all of God's word) it is because there is no light in them!

4) Bible does NOT Contradict Itself:

"*. . . The scripture cannot be broken*" (John 10:35). Jesus said the scriptures make a complete chain—they do not contradict one another, yet books have been written to expose assumed Bible contradictions. But Jesus said Scripture does not contradict itself!

Every supposed contradiction is the result of either a mistranslation or a misinterpretation. Unless you approach the scriptures with this truth, you cannot hope to grasp the full meaning of God's word. You will fool yourself into believing the Bible is full of contradictions and cannot be depended upon.

5) No Private Interpretation:

"*. . . No prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation*" (II Pet. 1:20). Many cannot understand scripture simply because they have not learned the Bible interprets itself! Many supposed contradictions occur because men have not learned to let the Bible interpret itself. Through diligent and earnest study, we can understand perplexing verses only in the light of other scriptures.

These simple principles serve as guides in enabling us to believe the truth. Because educational theories of men have been substituted in place of these rules, men fail utterly to comprehend the means God utilizes to call us to His truth. These principles are not discernible to the carnal mind un-influenced by God's Spirit.

Called BY THE GOSPEL!

Notice carefully!

As a result of sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth ". . . *he called you by our gospel . . .*" (II Thes. 2:14). Now that the mind has been properly conditioned, the active means God uses to call us is the gospel message! Men do not grasp the gospel message because they have not received the

(Please continue on page 12)



A partial view of the office staff at work in Sydney.

Australian visitors to the office see the far-flung stations which broadcast each night The WORLD TOMORROW.



More MINISTERS ORDAINED

(Continued from page 7)

The commencement exercises were held in the beautiful outdoor garden theatre, with the Chorale and segments of the Ambassador College orchestra providing an inspiring anthem, and several hundred guests providing the largest crowd ever attending commencement exercises here.

Brethren—in sitting here writing this article—and in putting down these many, many tremendous BLESSINGS which God is just pouring forth upon those of us in His service, it seems almost impossible that so many wonderful things could have happened in such a short time! And yet, just as Jesus said, "All things are possible with God!"

God has truly "opened the windows of heaven" in pouring us out the greatest blessings to ever be given any group of fallible, stumbling, mistake-ridden

human beings in the history of this whole earth!

I wonder if we really *appreciate* it?

So really *be thankful* for these blessings—*remember* the responsibilities they entail, and keep these things constantly in *your prayers*.

God is supplying *His* part *abundantly*—are we really doing ours?

Did Jesus Have Brothers and Sisters?

(Continued from page 8)

is this: Are we willing to *totally submit* ourselves to God and accept *His Divine Word* as Truth? or would we rather believe the edict of pagans who want to deify a woman by claiming her as a *perpetual virgin*? The doctrine of "perpetual virginity" is the teaching of Semiramis, the harlot founder of the Babylonian Mysteries upon which much of *modern Christianity*, so-called, is based. It is rank heathenism.

According to the Bible, Jesus' physical mother led a normal married life and bore Joseph, her husband, several children after the birth of Jesus Christ. Any other doctrine is a fable.

How to Know You Are Called

(Continued from page 10)

vital principles of understanding which make the truth clear. As a result of your believing the Bible to mean exactly what it says, the gospel message is perceived to be God's personal message to you. Here is how God called you! Absolutely no one can be called unless and until he hears the true gospel. The gospel is not alone a message about Christ's person, but the message of God's government soon to be established on this earth—a government made up of the very Family of God that will rule all nations with a rod of iron, that will restore world peace, that will bring untold blessings, happiness, and joy everlasting through the All-Wise and Loving God. God is calling some now to assist Him in ruling the world. What a wonderful message! What a wonderful calling! The time of universal deception is to cease. Men will no longer listen to counterfeit gospels which misrepresent the truth.

Conversion a Result of the Call

Let us reiterate! Conversion is the *result* of heeding the call! Refusing to obey, or being incapable of obeying, does not mean you haven't been called. It means your condition is the same as all human beings when they are first

called. You must surrender your will to God, repent, and be baptized in order to receive the divine, supernatural power to obey. *If you receive and understand the true gospel, if you understand God's word to mean exactly what it says, you have been called!* You will feel convicted of your sins. This conviction leads to repentance and baptism, the assurance you have HEEDED the call.

Conversion brings joys never before realized. Mastery over human nature, lusts, and passions is evident. The power of God affects definite changes in attitude and outlook on life. Happiness and peace of mind are experienced even in the midst of problems, troubles, and persecutions. There is a special love for the converted brethren as well as an increase in love toward all men in general. More patience on the job and with your family develops. Prayers are answered.

God's power is manifested more and more in your life. You won't be perfect—much overcoming is yet necessary—but you will be thanking and praising God for what He is doing in your life.

If you have heeded the call, conversion is taking place and must continue to do so unto the very end.

Brethren, a deep-seated *misunderstanding* of these vital principles has been evidenced by some. One or two, wishing to justify themselves in their own carnal-minded rebellion have "convinced" themselves they weren't truly CONVERTED, and, hence, ARE NOT YET HELD ACCOUNTABLE and RESPONSIBLE for their present sins! They have "reasoned themselves astray," "kidding" themselves God will CALL THEM AGAIN AT SOME FUTURE TIME!

THIS IS A DEADLY ERROR!

NOTHING could be farther from the truth.

If you have progressed so far in God's Church you're now READING THIS ARTICLE—*make no mistake about it, YOU HAVE RECEIVED YOUR ONE, YOUR ONLY CALL!*

Accountable According to Knowledge

God holds us accountable according to knowledge. Some have turned from God on the pretense they had not been called. Yet this acknowledgment indicates they *were called but refused to heed!* Christ said to whom much is given of him shall much be required (Luke 12:48). Peter said if we turn back to this world after having escaped its pollutions, the latter end will be worse than the beginning.

God has given us a priceless calling. We must not "kid" ourselves into thinking we are not accountable because

of not being converted. Jesus Christ told the Pharisees that some of them were accountable because they *knew* the truth but refused to obey it (John 9:41). The lack of strength or desire to obey, unanswered prayer, and weakness in overcoming are not sufficient to prove we have not been called. Rather, they indicate we are not heeding the call. Brethren, let us give diligence to make our calling sure!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fruits Borne in South Africa

"God has opened our eyes through your Gospel message."

Married Couple from Durban, South Africa

Finds True Church

"I have been searching for the true Church of GOD. The Church that is not a deceiving imitation, but a Church that is truly God's Church. I prayed that I would find it. It was shortly after this that I read The PLAIN TRUTH. I believe that this was God's way of answering my prayers. The PLAIN TRUTH explained the Bible as I thought I understood it. I would like to take your Bible Correspondence Course so I can know God as He is, not as some religions claim Him to be or not to be. I am nineteen years old, single, and in good health, but I am missing something, and I now know what it is—God.

Young Man from Indiana

From letters to the ENVOY Staff

"I neglected to order my 1960 Envoy earlier in the year. Are copies still available?"

"Enclosed is \$5 for a copy of the 1960 Envoy. I hope I'm not too late in ordering at this time."

Editor's note: A limited supply of 1960 ENVOYS are still available. Address all communications and make all checks payable to The ENVOY.

"Dear Mr. Herrmann,

"I ordered my Envoy in February, paying the subscription price in full, but have not received my copy as yet. What has happened?"

Answer: Subscribers who have paid in full and have not received their copy should write *immediately* giving Receipt Number, date of subscription, and any other pertinent information. A few ENVOYS were returned to us because of change of address. In a few cases address labels were lost in Post Office handling. Your copy is still being reserved for you. Write immediately to The ENVOY, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif. Your copy will arrive by return mail.