

The

Good News



International Magazine of The Church of God





More About Our Cover...

The grim reminder of corrosive past—West Berlin's Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church stands lifeless as a corpse. Large gaping holes, broken bricks and battered mortar contrast with stark, ultramodern pillar. Designed by Professor Eiermann and completed in 1961, utilizing ruins of the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, the melting of these two architectural extremes has caused heated controversy. Church has been dubbed "the hollow tooth."

This gaunt horror, stabbing bluntly into the sky at the top of the Kurfürstendamm, Berlin's fashionable, main shopping street, is to remain a perpetual monument to the suffering, and an ever present reminder of the ordeal Berliners went through in the last war.

Perhaps it also warns them that they must WIN the next war!

Symbol of a RESURRECTED Germany, it carries double significance to us in God's Church. Read our Associate Editor, Mr. Kelly's article on the German baptizing tour, beginning on the opposite page.

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What our READERS SAY...

Some Canadian Comments

"We met with Mr. Dean Wilson and Mr. Ron Miller at Moosomin on July 1 when our son John was baptized and my wife and I extend greetings to these two fine young men and must say that the day over there was a real blessing to us. Several more of our large family were very interested in our account of the day's happenings and we feel sure that when your team next visits our vicinity there will be two or more carloads of us come over to fellowship with them."

Man, Saskatchewan, Canada

"I recently changed my employment. I've been driving trams for twelve years, but since reading your article about observing God's Sabbath I've been trying to find another job. A couple of weeks ago I answered an advertisement in the daily paper for a position for which they required five men. There were forty-two applicants. Having had no experience in this type of work I didn't expect to get the job.

However, I was selected. I feel that this position offers good prospects for advancement and I now realize that it pays off to try to live God's way."

Man, Victoria, Canada

Sad Ex-tither

"My husband used to pay tithes. Then he quit. Now he is paying in doctor bills what he used to pay in tithes. I still wish to get the magazine."

Mrs. Charles E. B., Michigan

"I had a very narrow escape a short time ago. The ceiling fell in my room while I was asleep, except the part over my bed held until I got out of my room. God looks after me and has through 86 years."

Elizabeth F., Illinois

"On the radio newscast this morning I heard another piano-smashing record was set by one university where stu-

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THE CHURCH OF GOD
*ministering to its members
scattered abroad*

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EDITOR

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Garner Ted Armstrong

MANAGING EDITOR

David Jon Hill

SENIOR EDITORS

Roderick C. Meredith

Herman L. Hoeh

Associate Editors

Albert J. Portune

Ronald Kelly

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Velma Van der Veer	Isabell F. Hoeh
Mary E. Hegvold	Rose McDowell

Editorial and Production Assistants

Paul W. Kroll
James W. Robinson
Donald G. McDonald

BUSINESS MANAGER

Albert J. Portune

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS to the Editor, Box 111, Pasadena, California 91109.

Canadian members should address Post Office Box 44, Station A, Vancouver 1, B. C., Canada.

Our members in United Kingdom, Europe, and Africa should address the Editor, Ambassador College, Bricket Wood, St. Albans, Herts., England.

Members in Australia and Southeast Asia should address the Editor, Box 345, North Sydney, N. S. W., Australia.

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The German Baptizing Tour

Around the world, God's Church is growing! The summer tour is now complete in the German-speaking world—we have more new brethren in Europe! Mr. Kelly here reports directly on this German tour, sharing his and Mr. Schnee's experiences with you.

by Ronald Kelly

Düsseldorf, Germany

A GREAT increase of the German brethren at the Feast of Tabernacles shows the growth God has given in the German work. The summer tour has been completed in Germany. Now we have brethren scattered throughout the entire German-speaking world. RAPID GROWTH keynotes the Work of God in Germany—the same as God's offices *all around the world!* This summer, over *one-hundred-and-fifty* different individuals were contacted by the baptizing tour conducted by Mr. Frank Schnee, manager of our Düsseldorf, Germany, offices, and me.

Think of it!

Far away from most of us, in Europe, a baptizing tour was conducted this year which met as many people as the early stateside baptizing tours met in the first years of Ambassador College. *What tremendous growth is taking place!*

And now, direct from the Feast of Tabernacles held in Prestatyn, North Wales, Mr. Frank Schnee has informed me that fifty-eight German-speaking brethren came all the way to Great Britain to observe the Festival of Tabernacles this year.

Can you imagine seeing those smiling faces beaming at the Feast of Tabernacles enjoying the messages of God's ministers. You may ask—how could they understand the messages when they speak German and all of God's ministers speak English? We will come

to that in a moment; you'll find it *most interesting.*

Not Many Baptized

It is not God's purpose to convert everyone in this age. Rather, God is now calling only a small flock who are the firstfruits (Jas. 1:18). But these few being called now soon multiply and grow. This inspiring growth should encourage each one of us.

On the baptizing tour itself, Mr. Schnee and I only baptized eleven people. This might sound very discouraging at first, and we had hoped we could have baptized more. However, there were many who were almost ready, yet needed to study, pray and, as John the Baptist admonished, "bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance" (Matt. 3:8).

Some did!

And at the Feast of Tabernacles in North Wales, *fourteen more* were baptized into the Body of Jesus Christ. Therefore, as a result of this summer's baptizing tour, TWENTY-FIVE newly begotten members of God's Church are now scattered throughout Germany, Switzerland, and Austria.

In addition to the fifty-eight German-speaking people who came from Europe, there are also about fifteen American servicemen and their families who attended the Feast from Germany. So, all in all, from Germany there were nearly seventy-five people keeping the Feast of Tabernacles this year!

The First Member From Behind the Iron Curtain

Another *historic milestone* was crossed this year. Mr. Schnee and I were able to travel down into YUGOSLAVIA to make contact with a listener of the broadcast who lived near the large city of Zagreb. We found this lady to be *very humble* and submissive to God's law and very zealous for God's Truth. She was *ready* in every way to be baptized.

However, because of the government setup in Yugoslavia and because of the spy system in that land, *IT WAS NOT SAFE* for us to take her in the car to the river for baptism.

Part of the reason it was not safe was that she had been sent to a sort of resort area rest home for a period of time due to a particular illness she had. This rest home was simply designed to give rest and provide warm, mineral-water baths.

However, because many people come to these baths, there are many guards stationed in the area. It was not safe to take this lady away for baptism.

We urged her to make every effort to see if she could receive permission from the government to attend the Feast of Tabernacles in England.

Many who knew about her circumstances *prayed* for her! She *was* able to obtain official permission to leave Yugoslavia and travel to England.

She was baptized at the Feast of



Mr. Ronald Kelly, left, and Mr. Frank Schnee, right in southern Germany. This breathtaking and picturesque scenery was very inspiring to both of them on this tour.

Tabernacles!

To my knowledge, this lady, Frau Menka Mershal, is now the **FIRST MEMBER** of God's True Church who lives **BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN**.

You can imagine what a **THRILLED** individual she is knowing that God presented her the opportunity to understand His Truth and now has given her the opportunity to be baptized.

She has God's Spirit to help her continue her life and Christian growth in Yugoslavia.

I am sure by now she is back home in Yugoslavia with many fond and happy memories of God's Feast of Tabernacles—and certainly very happy to be begotten of God's Spirit.

Why So Few Were Baptized

As Mr. Dibar Apartian reported on the French baptizing tour, those God is calling in Europe have *particular problems* which make obedience to God's laws very difficult.

This entire system of world government is *geared* to **BREAKING GOD'S LAW!** Whether it is the pagan world of worshipping carved gods of wood and stone, or this professing "Christian" world of western civilization, it is still

pretty difficult to obey God and remain a part of this society.

In Europe, **RELIGION** means *so much more* than it does in America or Great Britain. The church, whether Catholic or Protestant, has a *strong hold on the people* that even makes *listening to the Truth* or reading about it a *major step forward!*

Unlike France, Germany is not 100 per cent Catholic. However, it is nearly half Catholic—about 48 per cent. The other one half or 52 per cent of the population just as firmly believes in the Evangelical Church—that is, the Lutheran Church. So, there is a great deal of religious pressure on anyone who departs from either of these two large denominations.

The way of life of the German people for many years now has entailed work on Saturday—God's true Sabbath. Unlike America, unions have not enforced a forty-hour work week in Europe with free weekends. To ask for the Sabbath off is almost virtually unheard of—and of course is immediately branded **JEWISH!** And you all remember what happened to the Jews in Germany just a few years ago.

Even the public school system *requires* attendance at school on Saturday

mornings. Although it is possible to work out this problem with school authorities, it still is a very trying situation and these school officials try to make it very embarrassing for any who ask for Saturdays free as a result of religious convictions. A few of God's people in Germany have even had to move from their homes to an entirely different section of the country to obtain this permission. For this reason, although *many thousands* are hearing the Word of God, only *a very few* are able to step out **IN FAITH** and take the final steps of obedience and prepare themselves so that they are ready for baptism.

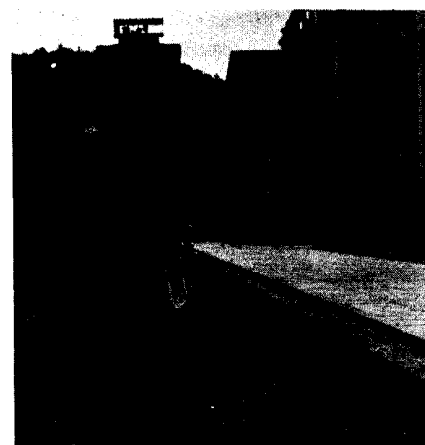
Many Germans we talked to this summer who avidly read *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine felt such a step as this was *virtually impossible!* But they did not realize, as the twenty-four who were baptized began to realize, that **WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!**

You can certainly be sure these new members of God's Church *appreciate THE TRUTH!* They have faced a great deal of persecution from family, friends, relatives, business associates, and the entire society around them. And in Germany one is even more "odd" for following God's way than he might be in America or Britain—although it certainly is not easier to obey God any place on earth than it is in any other physical location.

The Beautiful Countryside of Europe

For those of you who have never been to Europe, let me describe a little

Frau Menka Mershal



bit of it to you. Most of Europe is extremely *beautiful!* There are so many people who live in such a small space that it is necessary to keep virtually every square foot under cultivation. In America, one can drive through vast regions of land that have never been cultivated or tilled. There are other portions of property which are allowed to run down and grow up in weeds. One beautiful thing about Europe is that the people *can't afford* to have land go to waste like that. They need every bit of available space to grow crops, plant forest, or to live on. In driving through a great portion of Europe we *never* so much as saw one JUNK PILE.

The land of Germany is *heavily forested*. Most of these forests are a result of a man-planted reforestation project. Throughout these forests there are many different-sized trees, each planted in particular plots. As the larger trees are logged off, new trees are planted in their places so that the forest is continually being replanted and there will always be sufficient lumber for their needs.

Many small villages dot every valley and area where a small town could possibly be raised up. There are literally *thousands* of towns in Germany and it is only a short distance from one town to another on winding, narrow highways in the mountain and hill regions.

Throughout the major sections of Germany, however, there is an entire and elaborate *freeway system* which the Germans call the AUTOBAHN. These autobahns are modern superhighways which enable travel in Germany to be very pleasant and enjoyable as well as swift and safe.

The coal-rich region of central Germany forms the nucleus of a heavily industrialized and modern Germany. This region is called the Ruhr. Its huge smokestacks belch smoke nearly twenty-four hours a day and this vast area extends some 200 miles long and up to 50 miles wide. Driving through the Ruhr is like driving through heavily industrialized sections of Pittsburg, New York, Chicago, or Los Angeles—in fact, it's more like driving through all of these areas put into one huge

area of some 6,000 square miles. It is a *gigantic* area—you can't imagine it unless you see it yourself. Millions of people live in this vast sprawling area of trains, trucks, and smokestacks.

This by no means means that Germany is perfect. There are many beautiful spots to describe in every land on earth—God who created the earth made it all beautiful—each land in its own particular way.

The People We Met

Most Americans probably have the idea that people in Europe or Germany are much different from us. I have personally thought there would be many different kinds of problems brought up by Europeans from those

most of them were able to see and to *prove* where God's Church is and that many thousands of people around the world are praying for them to understand the Word of God. They came to see that it was not important what nationality we are—but rather that it is up to each one of us to strive to enter *God's Kingdom* and that that has nothing to do with the nation of our physical birth.

Out of the 150 people we were able to counsel, only about eighty or eighty-five of these could really be considered baptism prospects. And remember, twenty-four of those were baptized. So the percentage is not really too bad, after all.

The remainder were extremely in-



Here are the German-speaking brethren who attended the Festival of Tabernacles this year. Mr. Schnee is on the extreme right-front, and Mr. Robert Neitsch, who is Dr. Hoeh's assistant in Pasadena, is on the extreme left, second row. Mr. and Mrs. Freibergs, who assist Mr. Schnee in the Düsseldorf office are seen at top-left.

which would be met on an ordinary baptizing tour in America. But this was not true.

These people have the *same kind of problems* and the answers to their problems are all the same no matter what language they speak.

Many we met were thrilled at the opportunity to hear God's Word expounded to them right in their own home *and in their own language*. Others were quite distraught and concerned about the Headquarters of God's work being in America instead of in Germany. But after talking with them,

interested listeners of the broadcast and readers of the magazine. They wanted to become better acquainted with us personally and asked many questions about the Bible. Quite a number of these will study and learn more of God's ways and very likely will be baptized *next summer* on the next baptizing tour.

These people were all *average people!* And yet to us, *each individual* was outstanding and had so many experiences in life to tell us that every visit was *jam-packed* with interest.

Many of the individuals who wrote

in were elderly widows who now lived alone in a small apartment way back in a small village in the hills of Germany. However, we were also pleasantly surprised to meet quite a number of young people of high school and college age. In fact, one young lady we met near Zurich, Switzerland, has been accepted for Ambassador College in Bricket Wood, England. She has studied English and hopes to make every effort to be a profitable student at Ambassador College there. Within the next year or two, three or four others we met this summer plan to enter Ambassador College.

Others we met were cleaning-women, nurses, housewives, common laborers, businessmen, retired elderly men, and even in one case a man who manufactured fine-quality wines—wine-making is a very important industry.

One interesting individual we met had been a member of the elite, brown-shirted, SA Corps during World War II and of course had also been a member of the Nazi Party. He personally knew many high Nazi officials. Yet, now, the same man is interested in the Work of God—and although he was not baptized this year, hopes to study and be ready by next year.

Almost all of the people we met who were old enough to remember World War II still had many tragic memories of the war. Some had lost husbands, sons, and loved ones. Their homes were bombed, they personally suffered from warfare, fire, cold, or hunger. World War II has left a bitter taste in their mouths, and many Germans still hold the Americans and the Allied forces responsible for the results of World War II and the poverty and hunger they had to suffer.

Even some individuals we met were displeased by the fact that I was an American coming to show them what the Bible said—after having bombed them to rubble in World War II. However, after I explained God's Word to them and after they learned that we really did care for them, that barrier was no longer a problem.

A Brief History of the Broadcast and Literature

The history of God's Work in this

modern era began when the door of radio opened for the first WORLD TOMORROW broadcast in January of 1934. *It began extremely small* and has taken many, many years to develop into *what is now the largest radio broadcast on the face of the earth!*

As the Work of God began the very smallest of all works and gradually grew to where it is one of the largest on earth, so the German edition of *The WORLD TOMORROW—Die WELT VON MORGEN*—began very small. In 1960 the giant, superpower station of Europe—Radio Luxembourg—opened its doors for the first German religious broadcasting made available to us. It began with one fifteen-minute broadcast a week very early in the morning—around six o'clock. It had "just so happened" that Ambassador College had a member of the student body who was born and reared in Germany prior to coming to America. He was just the man with the proper voice needed to be the voice of *Die WELT VON MORGEN*. So, under the direction of Dr. Herman L. Hoeh, head of the German Department, Mr. Erhard Klammer began making these fifteen-minute broadcasts weekly.

The response was extremely pleasing! It was *by no means* overwhelming, but at least people began to hear and letters began to come into our German Department offices.

There was a great need for *translating booklets* into the German language. Various members of the Church of God from around the world donated their time and efforts to begin this translation. Out of this, grew a German Department which now has a staff of *over twelve full-time employees*—translating literature, mailing out the magazine and booklets, and teaching German language students.

In the fall of 1961, the first German edition of *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine—*Die REINE WAHRHEIT*—rolled off the presses. It began as a 24-page magazine, later was upped to 32 pages, and just this summer now has gone to a 40-page magazine every month.

The mailing list also started very small with just a few scores of people

in the United States and a very few in Europe. Now, it has grown to a monthly publication where 10,000 copies are printed monthly. So giant strides forward have been made in all departments of God's Work—and the German Department is keeping pace.

You can imagine what a thrill it is to be riding in an automobile in far-away Germany or France and turning on the radio to hear the very Truth of God being broadcast to the people of these nations! And not only that, in the evening over this same superpowered Radio Luxembourg, *The WORLD TOMORROW* broadcast is sent twice a week in English and the voices of Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong and Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong blanket Europe for those who understand and speak the English language. And Mr. Apartian's voice is familiar to many thousands of French-speaking people.

Back to the Feast of Tabernacles

Special arrangements were made during the Feast of Tabernacles for *translation* of sermons. Mr. Frank Schnee and a member of the German Department at the college at Bricket Wood, Mr. Waldemar Rupp, sat in a soundproof room with earphones on listening to the sermon in English. *Simultaneously*, they translated into the German language speaking into microphones which relayed the message to the section of the room where the German-speaking people were sitting.

All fifty-eight of them sat in one special section of the room, *each wearing a set of headphones*. That way, they could *look* at the speaker on the stage preaching in English, but they *heard* only the voice of Mr. Schnee or Mr. Rupp through the earphones. That way, they could see and experience the feeling of the minister. They diligently sat and took notes and followed along in their German Bibles just like all of the other brethren did.

The ministers there jokingly said this reminded them of the account in the second chapter of Acts when the disciples were able to speak in tongues—that is, foreign languages—and be

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The Joyful *BLESSING* of God's Holy SABBATH!

Do YOU really ENJOY the Sabbath? Do you THRILL and delight in it? Here are some basic principles to remember in observing God's Holy Day—a compilation of some of the questions asked the Letter Answering Department, written by a member of that department.

by William F. Dankenbring

THE HOLY Sabbath is God's Day! Almighty God set the Sabbath apart from Creation as a SPECIAL DAY—a holy day—a day of REST from personal labor, work, and arduous toil (Gen. 2:1-3; Ex. 20:8-11).

Six days in the week God gave man to do his own labor. But the seventh day He set aside for a *special purpose*—A GLORIOUS PURPOSE! "... the LORD blessed the sabbath day, AND HALLOWED IT" (Ex. 20:11).

From the very beginning, God's Sabbath was a day of joy and supreme delight, a special day of blessing and happiness! It was a day when man could forsake his own works, ways, and thoughts. It was a day when God COMMANDED man to REST, be refreshed, rejuvenated—to relax, and REJOICE!

God declared thru the Prophet Isaiah, "If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing *thy* pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a DELIGHT, the holy of the Eternal, *honourable*; and shalt HONOUR HIM, *not doing thine own ways*, nor finding thine *own* pleasure, nor speaking thine *own words*: then shalt thou *delight* thyself in the Eternal; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Eternal hath spoken it" (Isa. 58:13-14).

The Pharisaical Sabbath

But, do you know HOW to properly enjoy God's Sabbath day? Do you know HOW to observe the Sabbath as God intended it to be kept?

All through history, God's people forsook observing the Holy Sabbath—trampled upon it, polluted it, ignored it—and sank into hideous idolatry! For dealing so despitefully with a day He made HOLY, God poured out His FURY AND WRATH upon them! (Ezek. 20:12-13, 16, 20-21, 24).

After the days of Ezra and Nehemiah, the Jews finally woke up to the dreadful SIN of Sabbath-breaking. So, following their human nature, they began to go to the opposite extreme! False teachers called Pharisees arose. They began making a ritualistic fetish out of the Sabbath. They added scores of technical, trivial, pointless *do's and don'ts* to God's original Commandment! And so, to the Jews, the Sabbath became a grievous burden—a day of BONDAGE—a legalistic technicality!

These additions to the original law of God began with a Pharisee named Joseph Ben Joezer, also called "Joseph the Permitter." After his time a veritable flood of new commandments issued forth from the Pharisees! It became a SIN to carry as much as *one dried fig* on the Sabbath! To carry more than *one swallow of milk* on the Sabbath WAS SIN! Even to carry a sheet of paper was absolutely forbidden!

Jesus Christ vehemently denounced these added traditions—these new man-devised commandments of the Pharisees (Mark 7:7-9; Matt. 23:13-33). *God never intended* for the Sabbath to become a matter of *legalistic interpretation and virtual bondage!*

Keeping this fact in mind, then, what is the PROPER way to observe

God's Holy Sabbath day?

Rejoice!

The haughty Pharisees forgot one important principle—they forgot that Almighty God created the Sabbath FOR MAN—not man for the Sabbath (Mark 2:27). The Sabbath was made FOR man—not against him! It was created to be a wonderful day of rest, relaxation, spiritual rejuvenation, AND REJOICING! *Never* did God intend for men to bog down into a listless, dragging, boring observance of His HOLY Day!

Since the Sabbath is GOD'S Day, it is the most important day of the week! It is a day to LOOK FORWARD to, to eagerly anticipate! It is a day of joy and rejoicing—a day of worship and prayer—a day of REST from the previous six days of the week!

How wonderful it is, after working arduously for the previous days of the week, sweating, straining, becoming mentally and physically exhausted, to WELCOME with open arms the arrival of God's Sabbath!

Only those who have been observing God's Sabbath truly *realize* what a joyous and inspiring BLESSING it is!

Contrary to the thoughts and ideas of men, the Sabbath was never meant to be a day of abstinence, affliction of the soul, a negative day of cant's and don'ts, a day of mental slavery and physical boredom! The Sabbath was never intended to become a human *strait jacket* which hampered, hindered and restricted!

It is a day of spiritual FREEDOM!

Freedom from the frustrations and anxieties of the week, freedom from one's own labor! Liberty from one's own thoughts and plans! It is a day when MORE TIME can be spent studying God's Word, praying, having fellowship with one's family and with God's people!

The Sabbath is a FEAST Day! A day of superabundance of joy, worship, and drawing close to God! It is a day which foreshadows the coming Millennial reign of Jesus Christ over the nations!

When we meditate upon the purpose of the Sabbath, we should clearly realize that it is a DAY OF JOY! It is indeed one of the greatest blessings God has given man!

Four Walls—and MISERY

Some of God's people, ignorant of *how* to observe the Sabbath, have too self-consciously restricted themselves on that day. One young man used to have a problem every time the Sabbath arrived. He existed in a tiny cubicle in a rooming house, without cooking facilities. The rest of the week he ate his meals in local restaurants—but on the Sabbath he did not know *what* to do!

He secluded himself in his bleak, barren apartment—his uninspiring four walls—every Sabbath, all day long. He *tried* to rejoice in these surroundings, but he felt hungry, a gnawing restlessness. He was frankly bored!

Have YOU at times felt the same way? This young man without realizing it was following the example of the PHARISEES! He was observing the Sabbath, as a *modern Pharisee*!

The Sabbath was not meant to be a day of seclusion, abstinence, depression and *loneliness*! Not at all!

It is a day of JOY! This young man should have *used his mind* to properly observe the Sabbath, remembering its purpose. There are several things he could have done to make the Sabbath more enjoyable!

He could have bought nourishing fruits and easily prepared foods to eat on the Sabbath. He could have continued his practice of eating in a restaurant, since no other facilities were available. He could have spent

part of the Sabbath in a nearby park, soaking up the fresh air, sunshine, and scenery. Or he could have packed an interesting picnic lunch, traveled a short distance, and then in a peaceful, calm, and subdued manner enjoyed worshipping God out in His Creation—a spot *away from* his bleak four walls.

The Family Sabbath

Families, also, should not feel overly restricted on the Sabbath. The Sabbath should not seem a dull day to children. Rather, it should be a day of interest, special Bible study, and subdued play.

The family can *sleep later* on the Sabbath, usually. Rise, shower and clean up. After time for personal prayer and study, a nice appetizing breakfast may be eaten. The head of the house might then lead the entire family in an interesting Bible study, perhaps reading and expounding from *The Bible Story* for children, written by Basil Wolverton.

The children might be encouraged to study some *educational*, profitable books, or to play quiet, subdued and educational games. It would be all right for young children to play quiet, subdued games on the Sabbath. They do not know how to keep the Sabbath *spiritually*, but the *difference* in the day should be impressed upon their young, pliable minds so that they will realize *God's* day is something *very special*! But noisy, boisterous, active games should be avoided.

Occasionally, a family might go for a Sabbath picnic, also, and relax and enjoy the peaceful, outdoor calm of a nearby park or picnicking area. On such an outing they should be careful to keep the PURPOSE of the Sabbath in mind, and they should use the opportunity to draw close to God—not to seek their own pleasures or think their *own* thoughts! *Keep* the Sabbath HOLY!

Another way to enjoy the Sabbath, without permitting it to seem like a monotonous routine, is to occasionally spend a little time listening to inspiring *music* which is in keeping with the spirit of the Sabbath. We should be careful that such music does *not* interfere with our Bible study. But a little relaxing, enjoyable background music

of the right kind can add to the atmosphere of the environment, and help make the Sabbath a delight.

Also, it would not be wrong for a family to tune in a *news broadcast* on the Sabbath! Christ commanded His Church to watch world events—to keep abreast of world happenings. To listen to a news program or commentator on the Sabbath would be all right. Once again, however, let us remember to *keep our balance*! We should NOT attempt to use this principle for *license* to go overboard and keep the radio playing *constantly*, thus detracting from and *breaking* the Sabbath!

A little time may be spent reading the newspaper or a news magazine, also, as well as *The PLAIN TRUTH* or *The GOOD NEWS*. Doing this would help break up the feeling of bogging down in Bible study *alone*. Just as too much honey is not good (Prov. 25:27), so it would not be wise to spend *too much* uninterrupted time in Bible study, without an occasional break, lest your mind becomes drugged or seemingly tired out. A break could be used to take the family for a short walk.

Although these little things can certainly add to the enjoyment of the Sabbath, nevertheless, remember—the BASIC PURPOSE of the Sabbath is to *draw close to GOD*, on His Holy Day, worship Him, and think His thoughts! DO NOT NEGLECT fervent, believing PRAYER, or diligent, inspiring BIBLE STUDY on the Sabbath! If you do, you are missing the entire spiritual benefit and blessing of the Day! *How you spend your time on the Sabbath* can be vital TO YOUR SALVATION!!!

Avoid *both* extremes! Don't be a religious Pharisee or a legalistic Sabbath-keeper! But don't bog down into carnal, fleshly pursuits on God's Holy Day! Draw CLOSE to God during the time He made holy!

How About Utilities?

Many have wondered about using gas and electricity on the Sabbath. Is this a sin? "If *we* use electricity on the Sabbath, we are forcing someone else to work during that time!" people have asserted.

What is the truth? Notice! MAN has organized his industry, his business

—his entire society—without the slightest regard to God's Sabbath. In his greed and covetousness for *wealth*, man has built enormous establishments which operate seven days a week—steel plants, automobile plants, architectural firms. Cities provide electricity and gas seven days a week. Otherwise, vast segments of industry would have to grind to a shuddering halt, thus *losing* millions of dollars!

The fact remains, however, that utilities which function on the Sabbath *could* be organized in such a way that NO ONE would have to be in attendance during God's holy time! Automatic controls could be established so that no one would be required to work on the Sabbath day!

The world, of course, pays no heed. But, then, WE, as Christians, are *not responsible* for the conduct of the world! What the world does is its *own* concern. If the world breaks God's Sabbath, the penalty will be exacted! God will hold the world accountable.

Since we are NOT responsible for men working on the Sabbath—and since they will be working on God's time *anyway*, regardless of what we say or do—and since these things could be organized in such a way that no one would be required to work on the Sabbath, it is *certainly all right* for God's people to make use of gas or electricity during the Sabbath!

Sabbath Travel

What about traveling on the Sabbath? Some have thought it is a SIN. Some have wondered what a "Sabbath day's journey" is (Acts 1:12).

True, the Jews of Christ's time had a custom that none should travel more than about three-quarters of a mile, in one direction, on the Sabbath. But, nowhere in the Bible does God stipulate such a law! Therefore we must keep the basic principle of the Sabbath in mind.

The Sabbath is a HOLY CONVOCATION! It is a commanded assembly for God's people (Lev. 23:1-3). It is a day of worship and spiritual fellowship, and God commands that we do NOT forsake the assembling of ourselves together (Heb. 10:25).

Applying this principle, then, *it is*

permissible to travel on the Sabbath, as long as it does not involve too much *work*, and as long as the *purpose* of the travel is to help a person properly *keep* the Sabbath! For instance, some of God's people must travel many miles in order to meet with other brethren and fellowship together at the local churches God has raised up!

If it is all right to travel on the Sabbath, some will wonder if it is all right to purchase gasoline, or pay to park a car, on the Sabbath. There is no "ironclad" answer to *this* question—the answer must depend upon the circumstances.

Usually, a person should purchase enough gasoline ahead of time, so that there would be no necessity to buy it on the Sabbath. But if an emergency arose, then it would be all right for him to purchase the gasoline, in order to attend services and properly *keep* the Sabbath. Some need more than one tankful to go to and from services, and must purchase gas to attend.

In the same way, if a person *must* pay to park his car on the Sabbath, he should not feel guilty for doing so. The *only purpose* for paying to park would be to *KEEP* the Sabbath and fellowship with God's people.

It is far more important that we have fellowship on the Sabbath, and attend church services whenever possible—rather than stay at home, alone, without receiving the instruction and correction of God's ministers, simply because we *felt* it would not be right to travel on the Sabbath, or purchase gasoline if necessary, or pay to park a car! Let's use wisdom—and *not* become modern-day replicas of the ancient Pharisees!

"Worldly" Functions

Other Sabbath questions—or problems—have arisen about attending such functions as commencement exercises, weddings, or funerals, on the Sabbath. If a Christian is faced with such a situation, what should he do?

Let's take a closer look at the problem. If a student is graduating from high school, and the graduation ceremony falls upon the Sabbath, it *may* be all right for him to attend! This

would be a rare situation, but it has occurred! If the student keeps the right attitude, keeps close to God—if his activities are not too involved, and all he must do is *be* there and briefly walk forward to receive his diploma—then it may be all right for him to go ahead and attend. There would be no *work* involved. He would not have to get involved in any worldly discussions, and he could *leave* as soon as possible after the ceremony is over.

If a close relative is being married on the Sabbath, and you receive an invitation, it *may* be all right to attend. If the distance is too far, of course, you should not. Or, if you would have to miss Sabbath services, you should not go to the wedding. In such a case, you should diplomatically explain that circumstances have made your attendance impossible—but, nevertheless, you wish the *greatest happiness* for the bride and groom, and you are sorry that you could not attend.

If you *are* able to attend, however, and if it might hurt the feelings of your relatives or offend someone if you did not go, it would be all right. We are to be shining *lights* to our relatives, and let them know we love them. We should strive not to offend anybody *unnecessarily!*

The very same principle would apply to attending the funeral of a close relative on the Sabbath. Your attendance would not necessarily break the Sabbath. Of course, once again—you should keep your mind on the things of God as much as possible, you should not engage in worldly conversation or idle chatter. When your presence is no longer necessary, you should quietly leave.

If you should become involved in this kind of problem—attending some secular function on the Sabbath—you should by all means discuss the matter with God's minister in your area. He will help you arrive at a sound decision as to whether you should attend!

Physical Duties on the Sabbath

Many questions have also arisen in regard to the little daily chores around the home. Many women have wondered if it is all right to do dishes, make

beds, or cook meals on the Sabbath.

Usually, dishes can be left to be washed later. Some of our women simply rinse, neatly stack and cover soiled dishes and utensils, waiting until after the Sabbath to give them a final washing. Others use paper plates, and thus avoid the problem.

Still, it is not necessarily wrong to ever wash dishes on the Sabbath. A great deal of time should not be spent at such a task, however. Such work should be kept to a minimum, and done only if it is necessary—if you do not have enough dishes to last throughout the day, or if you have a problem with ants or other pests!

Likewise, there is no express Bible command against making beds on the Sabbath. Unmade beds could give a person a feeling of disorder, confusion, untidiness. God does not want us to use the Sabbath as an excuse to be *sloppy*! However, it would not be wrong to leave beds to be made up later—just pulling the covers up neatly would be enough.

What about heavy cooking on the Sabbath? God commanded the Israelites to do their heavy cooking, baking, boiling, roasting—that which requires a lot of labor—on the preparation day, prior to the Sabbath (Ex. 16:23).

That does not mean, however, that sumptuous meals cannot be eaten upon the Sabbath! Not at all! The Sabbath is a *FEAST* day! Therefore, families should *plan ahead* for the Sabbath. Pies, pastries, and desserts may be prepared ahead of time, kept in the refrigerator, and then brought out to be eaten on the Sabbath. Elaborate salads may also be prepared ahead of time, and saved until the Sabbath. Likewise, a roast or other meat dish may be prepared on Friday, and saved for a special Sabbath treat!

With a little forethought and preparation, the Sabbath can be a *true feast*—and not a day of niggardly abstinence!

A little cooking, of course, can be done on the Sabbath. It would be all right to prepare breakfast, for instance, although work should be kept to a minimum. A hearty breakfast can help give a day a zestful start!

After discussing Sabbath dinners, some may wonder about *fasting* upon the Sabbath. Since the Sabbath is a *feast* day, it is *not good* to regularly or unnecessarily fast during the Sabbath. Once in a while, because of some special, pressing problem, such fasting may be all right—but not as a constant, or general practice.

For instance, some laboring men feel utterly unable to fast during the week because of the energy they must expend in their work. Fasting during the week, while working, would sap their strength, and they could not put in a fair day's work! For them, the weekend presents the best time to fast.

However, such fasting should NOT become a regular routine—so that you look forward to the Sabbath... with *dread*!

Sabbath Visitors

Here is a problem many have faced! What should you do if unconverted friends or relatives come to visit upon the Sabbath? Should you slam the door in their face and turn them away?

Of course not! Such conduct would be very offensive, and discourage *any* further visits!

Whenever possible, you should let those people who you think may want to visit you on the Sabbath *know ahead of time* that you prefer they visit on other days. If you are polite and friendly, they should not be offended.

However, if guests *do* turn up on the Sabbath—perhaps out-of-town visitors—you should *WELCOME* them to your home! You should let your light *shine* in friendliness and cordiality. Remember, Christ would be a perfect host under such circumstances!

While the visitors are with you, you should strive to guide the conversation in constructive channels—perhaps talk about world news, the latest events in national and international affairs. Since it is the Sabbath day, your visitors will probably notice your Bible and notes in plain view. Do not be ashamed! Be willing to admit you've been studying the Bible, if they bring up the subject. If they are interested in what you are studying, be friendly in answering their questions!

Such visitors should not keep you from attending Sabbath services. If they are with you when it is time to leave for services, just explain briefly and tactfully—and leave for church on time. If this offends them, then they are offended at Christ *in you*. But don't *you* offend Christ for fear of offending your relatives or visitors!

In the Country

Special questions sometimes arise regarding keeping the Sabbath in the country. Farmers, for instance, wonder about caring for livestock on the Sabbath. What is the principle involved?

Jesus Christ declared that it does NOT break the Sabbath to do good, relieve suffering, or care for animals (Luke 13:15-16). However, if farm chores or the care of animals *prevents* you from keeping the Sabbath holy, then you should use wisdom to alter your practice, so you can have more rest and free time on the Sabbath! By working late on Friday, before sunset, and by working Saturday night, right after sunset, a farmer may be able to lessen the amount of work which would fall upon the Sabbath.

Even so, if the care of chickens or other stock is a real *burden* on the Sabbath, requiring hours, then it may be necessary to dispose of some of the stock—or change one's occupation entirely! *We are NOT to be slaves of our occupations!*

If *you* have a special problem in this regard, be sure to discuss it with God's minister in your area—or write us here at Headquarters for counsel.

What about selling eggs on the Sabbath? This problem has also arisen. To avoid this problem, you could post a sign, advertising the fact that you do not sell eggs on Saturday. If neighbors come by on the Sabbath, asking for eggs, you should courteously tell them you cannot do business on that day. Do not transact *business* on the Sabbath!

What about lending tools? If your neighbors realize you observe the Sabbath, they will probably avoid borrowing tools on the Sabbath. If a neigh-

(Please continue on page 18)

Inspiring NEWS of the Church of God!

Now THREE Ambassador Colleges are in full swing. Also, THREE more new churches have just been established and GROWTH is evident everywhere in God's Work!

by Roderick C. Meredith

THE SANTA FE "Superchief" from Chicago rolled smoothly and quietly into the Pasadena station. Showing the distinguished silver hairs of rich maturity, a vibrant and enthusiastic couple got off. The man joked and shook hands with the Negro porter before turning to greet the small group of friends and loved ones there to meet them.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Armstrong were home.

That very afternoon, on the Sabbath of August 22, 1964, Mr. Armstrong spoke to the Headquarters Church in Pasadena. He described his trip, the new stations to carry the broadcast, and the forthcoming book on sex and marriage entitled, "*God Speaks Out on the New Morality.*"

College Classes Begin

The largest freshman class ever to be admitted enrolled on the Pasadena campus this year, and Ambassador College in Pasadena is off to a fine start. On Wednesday evening, August 26, the annual Faculty Reception was held at Ambassador Hall and in the beautiful Italian Gardens outside. It was an inspiring and memorable occasion, and a more beautiful setting for such a reception would be difficult to imagine. The warmth and enthusiasm of the Ambassador students—new and old—is always a source of inspiration to visitors to the campus, and even to those of us on the faculty! For this is certainly God's College!

Ambassador College in Big Sandy, Texas, is also off to a fine start with about one hundred students enrolled

there for the first year. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. and Garner Ted Armstrong flew to Texas for the Faculty Reception there which took place about a week after the one in Pasadena. Also, they were able to be present at the Orientation and other beginning activities of the college in Texas.

The huge gymnasium we are building here on the Pasadena campus is just about completed. It is truly an *inspiring* sight! It will be one of the best-equipped and finest gymnasiums on the West Coast and many of our students are certainly looking forward to using it.

Before the end of 1964, Mr. Armstrong is in hopes that ground breaking may take place for the new *dining hall* so desperately needed here on the Pasadena campus. It will certainly be a wonderful addition to our college facilities, and besides its basic dining hall use, will provide a cultural setting for *many* student and church functions.

Through the increase in both students and facilities, the Living CHRIST is providing the means to train *many more laborers* to help reap the *abundant spiritual harvest which is waiting!*

Three NEW Churches

Within just the last few weeks, *three* new churches have been established! These new congregations are located in Lakeland and North Miami, Florida, and in Toronto, Canada.

On the Sabbath of August 15, Mr. Kenneth Swisher—newly appointed District Superintendent for the churches in the Southeastern United States—

raised up the new church in Lakeland, Florida, with 87 present for the first service. Mr. Swisher is also pastor over the new Miami congregation—which saw 81 present for the first service. Because most of these brethren have been unable to attend even Bible studies regularly and have been without *any* regular visiting or personal help, it will take some time for the full attendance potential for these two new churches to be realized. However, they have already increased in size since their founding with Lakeland running over 100 in attendance and Miami not far behind.

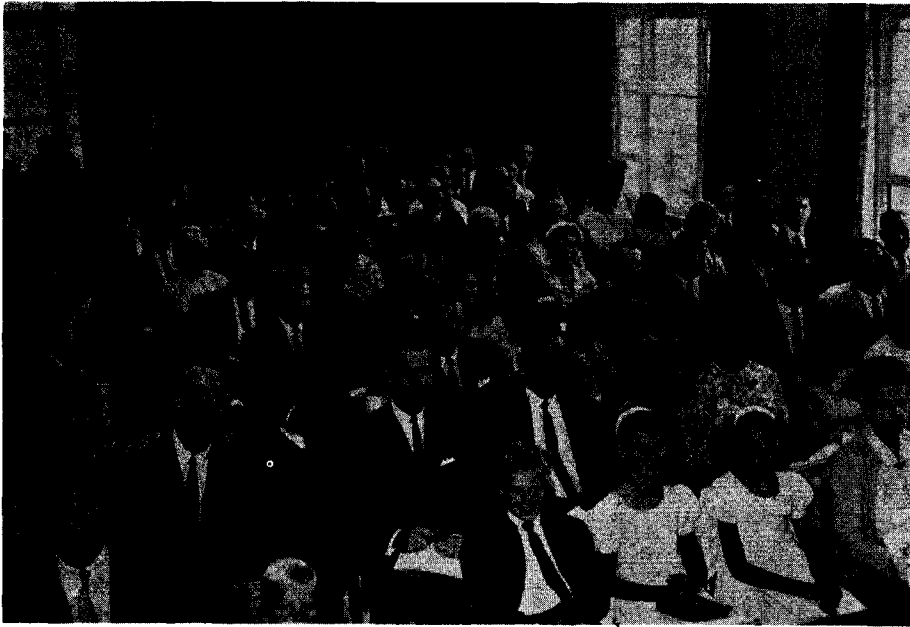
In Toronto, Canada, where a monthly Bible study has been held for some time now, Mr. Raymond Cole—assisted by Mr. Gary Antion—established the church there with a total of 243 for the initial attendance! This is certainly a fine start, and even greater growth is projected in this area within the next few months. Mr. Gary Antion—formerly Mr. Cole's associate pastor in New York—will be the pastor of the new Church in Toronto.

All of us should certainly both *rejoice* and PRAY for our brethren in these new churches!

When Hurricane Cleo Struck

Perhaps quoting part of Mr. Swisher's recent report on how Hurricane Cleo affected our brethren in Miami will help you realize how we do need to remember one another in prayer:

"The unexpected direct hit of Cleo in Miami caused millions of dollars in property damage. The electricity was off for two or more days. Perishable foods



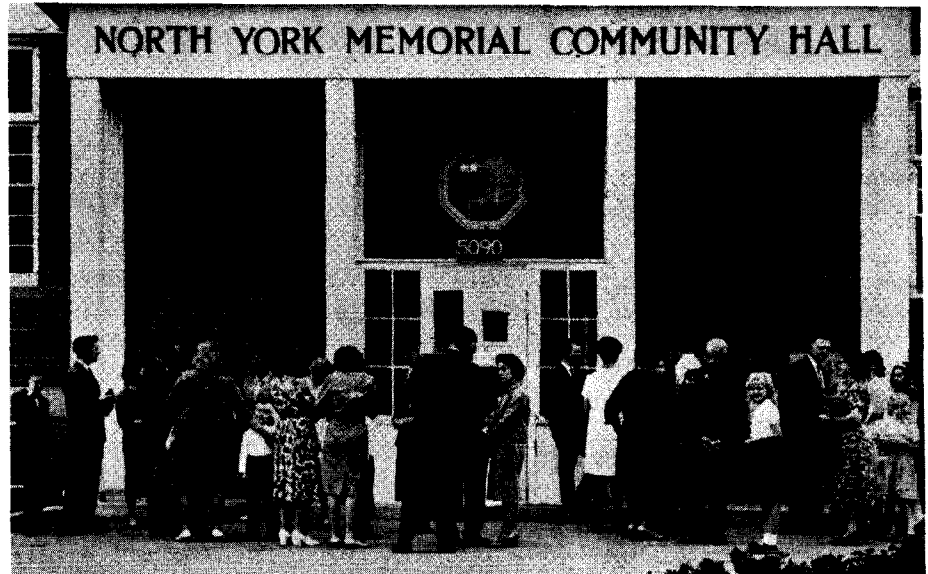
ABOVE is part of the congregation of the new church in Toronto. RIGHT shows the outside of the building with some of the brethren fellowshiping after services.

and meats were given away by the tons because there was no refrigeration. Dry ice was a premium item. Local radio stations were continuously announcing the locations where dry ice could be purchased.

"At 1:00 A. M. the Weather Bureau announced that the eye of Cleo would skirt the coast of Florida with predicted winds of 60 to 90 miles per hour. At 2:10 A. M. the wind gage at the Weather Bureau was blown away with 115 to 120 m.p.h. winds: Cleo's eye wasn't skirting the coast—she was directly over Miami! Plate glass windows snapped like soda crackers—fabulous hotel lobbies were filled with blasting sand.

"Mr. and Mrs. Houston, members in Ft. Lauderdale, lost their young fruit trees in the backyard—a large tree in their front yard was toppled, just missing their house. Had it hit, the house would have been demolished. For days they ran a little portable generator, first connecting it to their refrigerator for an hour or two, then connecting it to their deepfreeze. Fortunately they had a backyard swimming pool; otherwise, they would have had a water problem, as did many thousands.

"Trees were also uprooted around the hall where we meet on the Sabbath, but no damage to the hall. A twisted traffic light was lying on the ground



just a few feet from the hall entrance.

"One member reported that one of his small children was sleeping on a cot next to a large plate glass window. The plate glass window had been securely boarded on the outside with two-by-four boards. About 2:30 A. M. the child was awakened and being frightened got up and went into another bedroom. A few minutes later the father heard what sounded like the crack of a 30-30 rifle. In spite of the two-by-fours the plate glass window was pulverized, blanketing the cot with broken glass where his child lay just a few minutes before.

"God has once again demonstrated His endless power—but Israel remains blinded."

After reading Mr. Swisher's vivid report, we should certainly be better able to REMEMBER our brethren in prayer—*wherever* they are in this chaotic world!

Record Church Attendances

The new Bible study in Washington, D. C., recently had another *record attendance* with 123 present! This is certainly encouraging to have such a fine group in the nation's capital, and augurs the formations of a local church before too many more months have passed.

On September 5, the church in Springfield, Missouri, had 412 brethren in attendance! On the same Sabbath, a record number of 398 were in

attendance at God's Church in South Bend, Indiana.

Earlier, on August 15, a new record was set in the Minneapolis Church with 341 in attendance. And Cincinnati, Ohio had 525 in attendance as a *new record*, and also Lexington, Kentucky, with 301 in attendance! And on August 22, the church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, had a total of 619 in attendance!

These are certainly inspiring reports of growth, and show that God's Church everywhere is literally BURGEONING and many of the local church halls are bursting at the seams as God continues to add to *His Church* daily such as should be saved!

Several more *new churches*, are in

prospect, but we will save definite news on that for next month's article when plans will be more complete.

Alaskan Baptizing Tour

Besides the American baptizing tours on which *hundreds* were baptized—and the overseas baptizing tours which are being covered in different articles by Mr. Apartian and Mr. Kelly—one unique tour was that conducted in the "Land of the Midnight Sun." For a baptizing tour in Alaska was conducted this summer by Mr. Carlton Smith, assisted by Mr. David Roenspies. The following is Mr. Smith's report on the tour and his unusual analysis of conditions and a recent prophetic occurrence in that state:

"Greetings from the 'Land of the Midnight Sun'! I am not in Alaska at the present time, but this is my report on our tour in the '49th.' I returned here to Portland last night about 9:30. It was an interesting and profitable tour, but I (and Dave, too) was happy to set foot back in 'civilization' again.

"Alaska is a beautiful state, full of lakes and big, massive, gorgeous mountains. That is the part where man has not been able to set his corrupting foot down too much to befoul it. There is not much there that *man* has had anything to do with that appeals to me very much. Wherever he has trodden, he has left a trail of corruption in his path. I have never seen so much drunkenness and carousing around than in the city of Anchorage for its size. Saturday night people were out all night staggering in and out of the bars whooping and yelling. Dave and I were up before 5 o'clock Sunday morning, at which time the carousers were still going full blast. Then about 5:30 a.m. they all disappeared from off the streets and all was quiet then. They say that prostitution runs high in the towns of Alaska and politics are exceptionally corrupt. No wonder a good portion of Anchorage was swallowed up by an earthquake.

"Speaking of the earthquake, we were able to see evidence of the great damage which was experienced there. Most of the crumpled buildings have been cleared away by now, but there is

enough evidence still remaining to show that the damage was very great. Some of the people we met told us that the politicians tried to 'hush up' the reporting of the damage because they did not want to scare the tourists away which Alaska depends on to a great extent to keep its economy afloat. There were two primary areas destroyed. One was a three-block area in the middle of town composed totally of bars and taverns and the other was the elite area known as 'Turnagain Arms' situated on a bluff alongside the sea. A great big section covered with expensive homes just broke away from the earth and rolled into the water. Where those beautiful homes once were is now nothing but a sandy beach. A few of the houses remain as mute testimony to the destructiveness of the quake. We got a number of camera shots which we hope will turn out well. I could go on describing the damage in detail, but I think I have taken enough time in this report for that sort of thing. You would think that the people would have been shaken into a realization that something more than 'nature' was behind it, but tragically, they were only shaken physically. They now boast, 'We'll build it back better than before.'

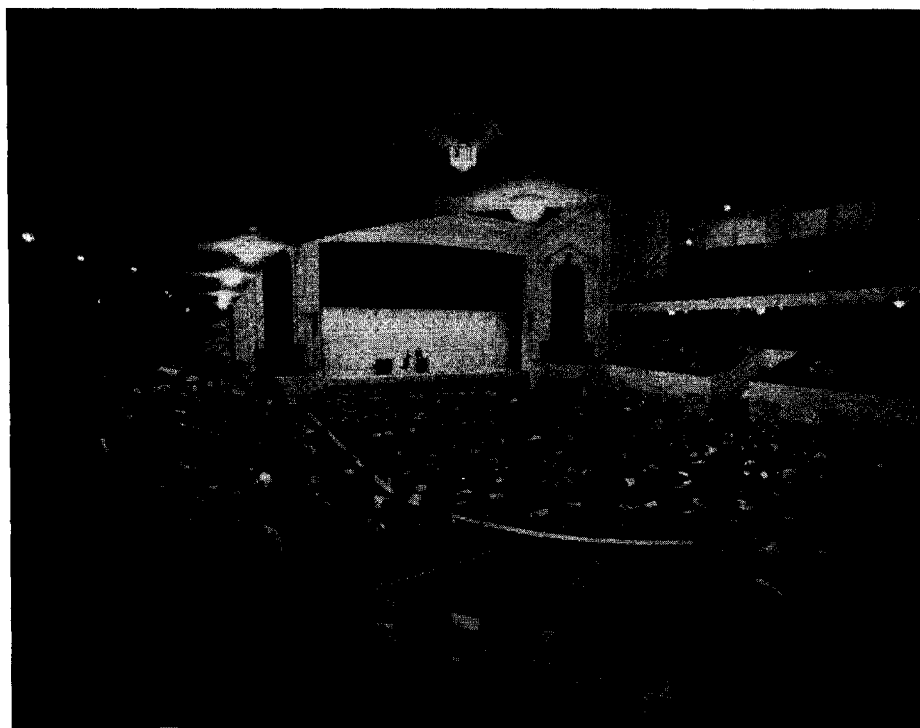
"We had good results on our tour. There were 17 baptized out of 38 requests for baptism. Two more, a man and his wife from Fairbanks, are probably ready, but were not baptized due to the fact that they are going to be in Portland in the early part of September. I thought it would be good to delay their baptism until then as it would give me a better opportunity to get to know them. The 17 mentioned above were out of 29 who actually met us. Nine did not show up. Out of the eleven who came and were not baptized, seven had divorce and remarriage problems. We were able to spend a considerable amount of time with one couple who seem to be willing to work out their problem. In addition to the 31 with whom we counseled about baptism, two met us just for a visit. Also, we were able to visit with 8 of the 14 who were baptized previously.

"So, all in all, I feel that we had a very good tour. Both David and I are thankful and appreciative for having been able to conduct the tour up there."

South African Baptismal Tour

Another unusual baptizing tour not reported otherwise was that conducted in South Africa by Mr. Ernest Wil-

Below is a large congregation of brethren on the Sabbath before the Feast at Columbia, South Carolina.



Williams accompanied by Mr. Botha—one of our members and leaders in the church there. Here is part of Mr. Williams' report on the South African tour:

"We are happy to report 19 people have been added to the Body of Christ during the past five weeks in the Republic of South Africa. Two separate baptismal tours have just been completed, by Mr. Botha and myself. These tours lasted two weeks each.

"The first tour left Johannesburg early Sunday morning, the 28th of June and returned late Friday afternoon, the 8th of July. This first tour covered Transvaal, Natal and the British Protectorates of Swaziland and Basutoland. We drove a distance of 2500 miles and planned to meet and counsel with 34 people—30 whites and 4 Africans.

"Throughout the entire tour we found very few people being called out of the Dutch Reformed Church, which is in actual fact more Catholic than Protestant. This church holds the vast majority of Afrikaans-speaking people (Dutch descendants) in abject fear. If they ever deviate from the teachings of the Dutch Reformed Church or stray to another denomination, they are ostracized by the church, their family, relatives and friends. They become an outcast among their own people. Another problem we are faced with is the Afrikaaners will have as little as possible to do with the English-speaking people. Consequently, there is very little response from the Dutch Reformed strongholds, since they feel the Work of God is an 'English' religion.

"When we include the additional 9 baptized in the Johannesburg area during the week intervening between the two tours, the figure jumps up to 19 baptized out of a possible 42. The percentage would then be 45 per cent which looks far more fruitful.

Future Tours—and PRAYERS Needed

"Tours are now being planned for Northern and Southern Rhodesia. We hope to take them as soon after the Feast as possible. Since Northern Rhodesia has gained her independence by

breaking away from the Commonwealth, acts of violence and bloodshed have been mounting daily within her country. Thousands of whites have already left that area and either returned to England, or gone south to settle in Southern Rhodesia and South Africa. No less than 7 members of the Church of God in Johannesburg have left Rhodesia within the last year or so.

"We do hope the tours can be conducted before too long and that we will have God's divine protection while traveling through some of those troubled areas."

Yes, brethren, let us remember to PRAY for Mr. Waterhouse, Mr. Williams, Mr. Botha and our other brethren and fellow servants in South Africa! Remember *always* that many of our brethren and ministers in scat-

tered areas around this earth are in definite and constant DANGER of their very lives in carrying Christ's message to this rebellious world.

Let us APPRECIATE the easy access we have to the Gospel—the local churches, Bible studies and Spokesman Clubs! Let us APPRECIATE the modern cars, freeways and well-heated and air-conditioned halls in which we have to meet! Let us APPRECIATE the nice clothes we wear, the full stomachs we enjoy at the end of three square meals each day and the clean homes in which we can dwell if we are willing to do our part!

Let us be truly THANKFUL, and *put our hearts in our prayers* as we remember the Work of Christ's Body throughout this country and *around the world!*

What Our Readers Say . . .

(Continued from page 2)

dents armed with axes, pick-axes and hatchets, smashed to pieces a piano in a little over two minutes. How glad can some of us be that in three institutions—the Ambassador Colleges in England and United States—students are taught God's way so that they can dedicate themselves, not to destruction, but to construction, building, developing, creating!"

Man, Manitoba, Canada

"We are awaiting the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Antion later in August and the first regular Sabbath service on August 22. We thank God that our prayers for a local church have been answered and we are very thankful for the many men God has called recently into the ministry. We shall continue to pray earnestly for those areas which do not have regular Sabbath services and we continue to remember the first work—that of preaching the good news of God's Kingdom to all the world—in our daily prayers.

May I express my sincere thankfulness to God our Father. During this past year we have been paying our third tithe as God commands. Faithful to His promise God has really opened the doors of heaven in pouring out

His blessings upon us. Recently I was told that my salary was being increased \$1,000.00 a year. On the first of January I had received an increase which even then I did not expect. These two increases mean that my salary has risen 25 per cent over what I was receiving when I began my third tithe year.

At the end of December our company pays a bonus from its yearly profit to certain employees on the supervisory level. Last year with our profit down 60 per cent from the previous year my bonus was twice as much. We have experienced these physical blessings after I had been called to see our top management (Executive Vice-President) over the Feast of Tabernacles last fall. Ordinarily it is impossible to be away early in the month as I prepare the financial papers for our company. I was asked if this time would be occurring yearly, to which I replied that it would be approximately the same time of year but not always the same time of month. I was then asked if my presence would be required even if I was the boss. Again I answered yes. Not only was permission granted for the Feast last year but

(Please continue on page 18)

Magus Counterfeit Marked Throughout New Testament

by Ernest L. Martin

WHILE the book of Acts gives us the KEY which shows the beginnings of the false religious system under Simon Magus, it does not describe its activities in any great detail. The Acts, however, performs *its purpose* in exposing who started the whole mess. God leaves it to the epistles, Revelation and also the Gospel of John to *describe the heresy IN DETAIL*. We are certainly NOT left in doubt concerning its abominable teachings.

The Chief Books of Exposé

There is hardly an epistle that does not mention the religion of Simon Magus. Even the scholars who have studied Church History have clearly seen that almost ALL of the references in the New Testament epistles exposing the errors in the first age of the Church are *directed exclusively to Simon Magus*, or his immediate followers.

Schaff's *History of the Church* says the following about Simon Magus and his doctrines: "Plain traces of this error appear in the later epistles of Paul (to the Colossians, to Timothy, and to Titus), the second epistle of Peter, the first two epistles of John, the epistle of Jude, and the messages of the Apocalypse to the seven churches.

"This heresy, in the second century, spread over the whole church, east and west, in the various schools of Gnosticism" (*Apostolic Christianity*, vol. 2, p. 556).

But to single out the one Apostle who seems to have made the most deliberate and planned attack on the false Christianity of Simon Magus—we must look to John.

Take his Gospel for instance. While

he records a history of Christ's ministry, he has an entirely different approach to the subject than the other three.

John wrote late. Times had changed. John knew that the teachings of Christ were being corrupted by a well-known plot to destroy the TRUTH. To understand John's approach to his Gospel we must be aware of his endeavour to *expose* this false system which had arisen and was gaining momentum.

Notice how John constantly hits at the necessity of *keeping the commandments* of God. Why? Because the false system was preaching LIBERTINE doctrines. Notice also John's particular geographical settings for his Gospel. He was the one who mentions Christ's meeting with the woman of *Samaria*. John is clearly striking home at something in this Samaritan incident that the Church of his time NEEDED to know.

All the other Gospels mention SAMARIA about five times, and even then only casually or in order to give a simple geographical indication. But, when we get to John, writing years after the others, he devotes more space to matters in SAMARIA than is done in all the rest of the New Testament *put together*. He had a definite and precise REASON for doing so.

John is noted for his plan of "tying up" or "capping off" the Gospel accounts of Christ so as to give the Church a well-rounded Gospel—bringing in the extra points which were necessary for our knowing.

Also, John's epistles are jam-packed with specific information regarding the conspiracy to overthrow the Truth. But yet, none of these works of John mentioned above *represent his* LAST

efforts to warn the Church of that conspiracy which was very much present. John's *last* witness to God's Church before his death was the book of Revelation.

Christ gave *His last* written message of WARNING of this system through John in Revelation! He tells us specifically the VERY NAMES OF THE SYSTEM TO WATCH in a remarkable and hidden way. Hidden, and yet SO PLAIN once the KEYS are understood. God certainly does NOT leave His Church in the dark.

The Book of Revelation

This book is perhaps the most important towards our study of SIMON MAGUS' Christianity. Why? Three clear-cut reasons.

(1) The book of Acts gives us *the PAST* history of the Church. It tells us about Simon Magus who *started* the false system. Without the book of Acts identifying the MAN behind it all, the activities of that false system as recorded in the epistles becomes obscured and in some cases unintelligible. So, the book of Acts is vitally important!!

(2) The epistles then come on the scene, describing the false system. With the epistles, the incident of SIMON MAGUS in Acts represents *dynamite!!* Each section of Scripture is designed to fulfill specific duties. It is when we understand those duties that the Bible really makes sense.

(3) Now to the all-important book of Revelation. While Acts describes the beginning of the false system; the epistles nail down its doctrines and describe its activities; the Book of Revelation next comes to the foreground showing the false system's

PROPHETIC HISTORY THROUGH ALL ERAS OF THE CHURCH. We must remember that Revelation intends to show us "things which shall be hereafter." This is its duty—and it marvelously performs what it was intended to do.

The Seven Churches of Revelation

This section of Revelation gives a big KEY. It describes a brief prophetic history of the Church until the coming of Christ. But also—and this is important—it continually shows the *false system* with which the TRUE Church would come in contact. Though different names are used to describe the corrupters of the Truth, careful study shows Christ is referring to ONE general false system—perhaps with ramifications, but nevertheless ONE system which will counter the True Church in its entire history.

And in regard to this, Christ tells us in the plainest of words what people it will be who represent this false system. He tells us it will be SAMARITANS! That is, it will be Samaritans alias Christians or, plainly, the followers of SIMON MAGUS!

Christ gives us *double witness* of this identification in a most remarkable way. What He tells us in Acts of SIMON MAGUS being the beginning of the diabolical scheme, He reinforces by telling us in Revelation that Simon's followers will make up the false system until Christ returns to this earth. Remember that Dr. Schaff, speaking of Simon Magus, says that "*plain traces of this error appear in . . . the messages of the Apocalypse to the seven Churches.*"

But before seeing these clear references, I must say that the material to follow would have been in the past classified as ABSURD in the extreme, but recent discoveries put a whole new complexion on the matter. Let us see.

The Evidence

Christ identifies the people behind the false system with several names, but these are simply different names of the *same system*. Notice this. In two *distinct* AGES of the Church we read of these people with a distinct description.

"Behold, I will make them of the

synagogue of Satan, *which say they are Jews, and are not, but do LIE*; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet" (Rev. 3:9).

This is a promise for us today in the Philadelphia Church. We also read of these false people called by this same name afflicting the Christians of the Smyrna church era (Rev. 2:9). The identification is repeated TWICE and both are describing conditions hundreds of years apart. Now the question remains: WHO ARE INTENDED? The answer is so *clear*. They are *Samaritan-Christians*, that is, the followers of SIMON MAGUS the Samaritan!

The Proof

Look again at this verse ". . . which say they are Jews, and are not, but do LIE. . . ."

If we would take that expression out of its Biblical context and, for example, place it into an ordinary secular work written in the first century, that expression could IDENTIFY only one people—and especially if a Jew were doing the writing: THE SAMARITANS.

The Samaritans were the only *distinct* people in the world in the first and second centuries who said they were Jews, and yet were NOT Jews and they knew it. The Samaritans were LIARS!!

Notice what Josephus said at the end of the first century—just about the time John wrote Revelation. He is speaking of the Samaritan nation: "When the Jews are in adversity they [the Samaritans] deny that they are kin to them, and THEN THEY CONFESS THE TRUTH; but when they perceive that some good fortune hath befallen them, they immediately PRETEND to have commune with them, saying, that they belong to them, and desire their genealogy from the posterity of Joseph, Ephraim and Manasseh" (*Antiquities*, XI, 8, 6).

This is plain history! The Samaritans, if to their advantage, called themselves Jews. But they were LIARS! *They knew better*. Their own records showed they came from Babylon and adjacent areas. This is exactly what the Old Testament says. They were clearly Gentiles.

Josephus continues about these Samaritans: "And when they see the Jews in prosperity, they PRETEND they are changed and allied to them, and call them kinsmen, as though they were derived from Joseph, and had by that means an original alliance with them; but when they see them falling into a low condition, they say that they are no way related to them, and that the Jews have no right to expect any kindness or marks of KINDRED from them, but they declare that they are sojourners, that come from OTHER countries" (*Antiquities*, IX, 14, 3).

Now this should begin to make sense. At the time of Simon Magus it was clearly an *advantage* to the Samaritan followers of Simon (and Simon himself) to call themselves JEWS. Why? ALL the prophecies stated that Christ and Christianity would come from the Jews. There was no way around this. So Simon went over to the time-honored custom of his Babylonian ancestors and contemporaries of calling themselves Jews WHEN IT WAS TO THEIR ADVANTAGE.

The Jews, however, *never* had any real association with these Babylonian imposters. Even when Christ discussed matters with the Samaritan woman at the well, she acknowledged—with amazement because Christ, a Jew, talked with her—that "the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans" (John 4:9). But even though the Samaritans were Gentiles, they consistently lied about their origin *when it was profitable to them*.

Notice that the woman at the well carried on the fiction of kinship with the Jews when she said, "Art thou greater than OUR father Jacob, which gave us the well?" (John 4:12). They claimed to be a type of Jew, but they were LIARS.

This is made plain by Christ Himself when He first sent forth the twelve. He charged them: "Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: *but* go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel!" (Matt. 10:5, 6).

Pretty plain, isn't it? The Apostles were to go to the Jews and Israel—but not to the Gentiles or Samaritans.

The Samaritans were plainly Gentiles—NOT Jews!

Review

With the foregoing in mind, let us now go back to the two identifying scriptures in Revelation. The whole matter becomes so plain when the KEY about Simon Magus and the Samaritan-Christian heresy is realized.

"Behold, I will make them of the *synagogue of Satan* [inspired by Satan himself], *which say they are Jews, and are NOT*, but do LIE; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet" (Rev. 3:9).

The synagogue of Satan are those "Samaritan-Christians"—the followers of Simon Magus.

The phrase "which *say* they are Jews, and are not, but do lie" could easily be set off by brackets for that is the way John intended it. He meant only one people—the "Christian" Samaritans.

The Other Churches of Revelation Two and Three

When we now look at the other indications about this heretical system, the Simon Magus (and followers) identification becomes exact. Look, for example, at the Ephesus Church era. Notice the group they had to counter.

"And thou hast tried them WHICH SAY THEY ARE APOSTLES, and are NOT, and hast found them LIARS (Rev. 2:2).

Now, if we let the Bible be our guide in understanding this matter, it shows only *one man* who heretically sought an APOSTLESHIP and never repented of his desire to have that office—it was Simon Magus. History shows us that Simon established *his own* "Christianity" with *his own apostles*.

And also, notice this important point. Compare the statements about the Samaritans—"Which say they are JEWS, and are NOT, but do LIE" (Rev. 3:9)—with our present scripture under discussion "which say they are APOSTLES, and are NOT, and hast found them LIARS" (Rev. 2:2).

The only differences are the words "JEWS" and "APOSTLES." But—if we

get the point John is driving at—he is saying that these people were calling themselves JEWISH APOSTLES, but that they were all LIARS.

The Female Counterpart of Simon

It is well-known that the history of Simon and his religion is connected with the old Babylonian idea of the *male* and *female* religious principles. Simon's Helen (alias Semiramis) figured high in his system.

It would seem odd if the book of Revelation didn't mention something of the *female* side of the false system. However, Christ seems to emphasize the *male* portion of the system in six of the Church eras—the genders are all masculine. *But*, when He comes to the Thyatira era, Christ switches remarkably to the *female* part. Yet, there are not *different* false systems being discussed, but only the various divisions of the ONE system.

It is when we come to Thyatira that we find the system described under the symbol of a woman—the woman Jezebel. This analogy was deliberately chosen for many obvious reasons. Reasons so plain that John's first century readers could not help but comprehend what he was talking about.

We must remember that John was writing to seven literal churches all contemporaneous with one another, and he was using language or symbols that *they* were acquainted with. We, of course, realize the prophetic meaning of the seven churches, but we know that John also had distinct and pertinent messages to the seven congregations which existed in his day. By keeping this obvious fact in mind, the real truth of what John was talking about is made clear to us today.

Prostitute Prophetess

First, we notice that John says this "Jezebel" called "herself a prophetess" (Rev. 2:20). There must have been a particular *false prophetess* which had caused God's servants to commit fornication and to eat things sacrificed to idols. By looking on this "Jezebel" as having been contemporaneous with all the heresies of the other churches—

and that these heresies were in reality only ONE *false* system which originated with Simon Magus—we can then easily see that this "Jezebel" can be equated with the "Female Principle" which Simon introduced into his "Christianity." None other than Simon's Helen—the reclaimed temple prostitute from Tyre. Helen WAS a *prostitute*—what better type of person is there who could so expertly "teach" and "seduce my servants to commit fornication," literally as well as spiritually?

Simon Magus came in contact with a priestess of Tyre who had been a temple prostitute. The Samaritans worshiped SUCCOTH-BENOTH who was the goddess VENUS. Her devotees continually prostituted themselves. It was their religious duty to do so.

This woman was overawed by Simon's demonistic power and was persuaded to follow him—to live with him—to become the female principle, the necessary counterpart to his claim as being a type of male deity. Relative to this, the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, vol. 25, p. 126, quoting from Justin states: "And almost all the Samaritans and a few among the other nations, acknowledge and adore him as the first god. And one Helen, who went about with him at the time, who before had had her stand in a brothel, they say was the *First Thought* that was brought into being by him."

This is interesting because Justin was himself a Samaritan—born and reared in the country. He certainly knew his people's native traditions and teachings. What he says agrees exactly with the New Testament revelation of how the Samaritans regarded Simon. They actually called him the "great power of God" (Acts 8:10). It is because of this that they believed him to have creative powers. He himself said he created Helen, his female companion whom he later elevated to a goddess.

"Irenaeus, Theodoret, and Epiphanius agree in identifying Simon *with the Supreme God* and Helena with *ennoia*, the first conception of His mind and His agent in creation" (*Dict.*

(Please continue on page 23)

Readers Say . . .

(Continued from page 14)

the physical blessings mentioned above have been poured out and, then recently, upon the retirement of the Office Manager, I was asked to fill this position. In thanking God I do pray that I may be able to carry out the responsibilities required of me and that I may continue to be obedient to His commands, through the Bible and His ministers by the power of His Holy Spirit."

Member, Ontario, Canada

"We're so thankful for the Church at Asheville. I feel like I'm dreaming sometimes. Just a year ago, when I was baptized, I felt like crying when Mr. McCrady and Mr. Paul Flatt left us. I wondered if we would ever see any of the true ministers again. Pray that we'll always fulfil our responsibility to God and the Church and have a greater zeal for the Kingdom of God."

Mrs. Verna C., Burnsville, N. C.

"Thank you for your prayers for my brother. He is feeling fine and has had an X-ray which showed the ulcer has healed. Oh how I thank God for His wonderful love and healing power!"

Mrs. Mabel B., Spokane, Washington

"We were baptized a month ago and we went to church August 8th for the first time. We drove 200 miles to go. Everyone was so nice and friendly. I didn't know people could be so nice. My father-in-law went with us. He has been a member of the Church for over 12 years and it was his first time to go. He sure did enjoy it, too. He is going the next time we go."

Mr. & Mrs. Richard B.,
Union, Mississippi

"I am a teenager who tries to keep the commandments, but after reading your article 'Who Should Young People Date?' I thought to myself that this was obviously too much. I just didn't see anything wrong with dating a girl who wasn't a good *real* Christian as long as she was nice. Well, this last week I got a sample of how it would be

SABBATH BLESSING

(Continued from page 10)

bor should drop by, however, you should politely inform him that you cannot lend any tools at that time, but if he would drop by the next day, you would be *happy* to help him. Or, you might tell him that although you cannot lend him the tool right then, *you* will bring it to him, later (when the Sabbath is over!). Friendliness and courtesy will go a long way in avoiding hostility or resentment!

What if a neighbor needs some small household item, such as salt, sugar, or bread? It would certainly be good to help him out, *giving* him what he needs—with a *cheerful smile*, as an added benefit!

Enjoy God's Sabbath!

As you can readily see, MULTITUDES of tiny questions could arise about keeping the Sabbath. However, most of those questions can be easily answered if we KEEP IN MIND the basic PURPOSE of the Sabbath day!

Remember! And NEVER FORGET!

to live with a nice girl who wasn't a real Christian. One of my relatives came up and is staying one week with us. She is a well-mannered girl, but she is driving me crazy! Television 11 A. M. to midnight! No respect for the Sabbath! And spoiled! Boy, did I learn! No more non-Christian girls for me"

Mike M., Fairfax, Oklahoma

God No Respector of Persons

"I am indeed happy to write to you once again in this letter. You will notice that my above address has been changed. I should have reminded you four weeks ago, but I only learned three days ago that I was going to be discharged from Makogai hospital. The medical department told me to prepare my luggage and move to my home as soon as possible. That is why I have not had time to remind you that my address is changed. You will recall that I was a patient at Makogai hospital suffering from leprous germs. For nearly eight and a half years I stayed at the hospital to be treated by the so-called 'miracle drugs' of leprosy and with no

The Sabbath is GOD'S Day—the day He made HOLY! It is not only a day of physical REST and relaxation from the toil of the week, but it is also a SPIRITUAL BLESSING—time we can and should spend drawing CLOSE to God, spending extra time in prayer, Bible study, meditation, and spiritual fellowship! It is a day of WORSHIP!

Use God's Sabbath! Use wisdom in observing it! Be BALANCED in your approach to the Sabbath! Be neither hypocritical, self-righteous, Pharisaical; nor haphazard, sloppy, unmindful!

If you will USE the Sabbath properly, and keep a humble, submissive attitude toward God—if you will DELIGHT in God's Holy Day—He will exalt YOU to "ride upon the high places of the earth!" (Isa. 58:14). God created the Sabbath—FOR YOU!! It is a SIGN between *you* and *Him*! It marks you as being *His* own!

Rejoice in the BLESSING of God's Sabbath! And LIVE a truly full, ABUNDANT LIFE!

result at all. I write for the healing cloth to you only last April, I applied the cloth to my body on the 24th of that month. After only three months and three weeks from that date I was told by the doctor that I was going to be discharged. I didn't believe it at first! I was amazed. I couldn't believe my ears, but here I am. I know that the Almighty God works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform."

Man from Lomaiviti, Fiji

Not a Cure in a Carload

"I would like to thank you for your prayers for the healing of the allergy on my hands. For years doctors have given all manners of creams, ointments, pills, shots, and every other type of cure a person could imagine. All the while they charged exorbitant fees for something they couldn't even do. God did it neatly and free! Through prayer I was cured from a terrible pain in the area of the appendix almost immediately, also a corn on the bottom of my foot."

Jack H., Texas

Wise Teen-Ager

"I am a 14-year-old babysitter. After reading *The PLAIN TRUTH* and many of your pamphlets, I think this is where God's money should go. I am sending \$32 which is the tithe for 1 year of babysitting. I hope I will be able to go to Ambassador College when finished with High School."

Carol L., Arizona

Healing Comments

"God has been wonderful to us and has given us a fine baby boy. It is only through God's healing that we have our baby. Before he was born I was healed of diabetes, a scorpion sting, a case of the flu (that lasted 6 weeks) and a bad case of anemia. We know the doctors would have filled me up with drugs that would have harmed the baby instead of helping it. We can never thank God enough for leading us into the truth and for bringing us in contact with His true ministers."

Mr. & Mrs. Leland E., Arizona

"My foot was healed almost as soon as I received the healing cloth. The pain and swelling went away and I could move my toes for the first time in weeks. I want to thank you for your part. I know you are an instrument in God's hands."

Clara J., California

"After reading your booklet on '*Does God Heal*,' I know that I can never again look to a doctor to cure my family as I once did. I used to think doctors were the instruments with which God healed us. Today I know that is a completely false idea. My son has been ill, but instead of rushing him to the doctor as I once would have, I am going to use God's method. Also, I have hay fever and allergy to numerous things. It would be wonderful to be liberated from this troublesome affliction. Therefore, I request the anointed cloths and your prayers."

Mrs. Robert R. S., West Virginia

Church Appreciated

"We are sure thankful to God for the Church in Ashville, N. C. When Mr. Plache counselled with us I was working swing shifts. He said we were going to have to just tell the supervisor

I would have to be off on the Sabbath. Since then I have been put on straight days. Now I am off on Saturday and Sunday, haven't missed a Sabbath yet. Isn't God just wonderful?"

Justin C. F., Virginia

Thankful

"This letter is to say thank you very much for the box of nice clothing. Everything you sent fits as if we'd been there and picked it out ourselves. It's hard to say how much these clothes mean and are appreciated. They are wonderful. God has blessed and

kept our garden through our cool and unusual summer. This growing season we have gotten rain every time our garden needed to be watered. It was barely nipped by frost in early July. Last July 26, our last Bible study date, horses got in our garden while we were gone. The horses ate only a few hills of corn on the ends of the rows, left our garden and didn't trample any of it. The owner couldn't figure out how we came to be so 'lucky.' We know that God was watching over our garden."

Mr. & Mrs. Adam J., Washington

The Bible Answers Your Questions

Please address any questions YOU would like answered
in this column to the Editor.

Some churches say I Peter 4:6 proves there is a purgatory. Will you please explain this verse?

If we understand *who* "the dead" are and *when* they heard the Gospel preached it is immediately apparent there is no support for the false doctrine of purgatory in this verse.

At the time I Peter was written Christians had been living according to the Gospel they had heard preached (I Pet. 4:1-4). Some had lived out their lives, died and were buried in their graves where they awaited the promised resurrection. Many of these had been martyred—killed—and were dead—because of their religion. Prejudiced pagans had judged and sentenced them according to "the flesh." Nonetheless, the faithful were assured that they would be resurrected to "live according to God in the spirit" (I Cor. 15:16-54).

When did these dead people have the Gospel preached to them? Why, *when they were alive*, of course!

Notice! The word "preached" is in the *past tense*. These *dead* people had the Gospel preached to them while they were yet alive. This verse is *NOT* saying that dead people hear preaching. The Bible *positively* tells us that "*the dead know not anything...*" and "... *there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the*

grave..." (Eccl. 9:5, 10). Nothing could be plainer! The dead simply can receive no communication whatsoever. The Gospel cannot be preached to a dead man.

"The dead" of I Peter 4:6 may also refer to the *spiritually dead*. Jesus mentions such people in Luke 9:60. Paul explains further in Ephesians 2:1 where he says that such people are "dead in trespasses and sins." Some people are alive physically but dead spiritually because they reject the Gospel of the Kingdom. The Church has always been commissioned to preach the Gospel *as a witness* to the world (Matt. 24:14). The *spiritually dead* do not heed the Word of God and its judgment. They remain in their sin. They prefer to be judged according to the ways men devise in spite of the fact that God wants them to "live according to the spirit."

With this understanding it is clear that this verse simply cannot be made to mean that men remain alive in hell, heaven, or purgatory after death as some try to teach.

I Peter 3:19 is another scripture which some churches twist in an attempt to support the deceptive theory of purgatory. Our article, "Did the 'Thief on the Cross' Enter Paradise Immediately?" tells exactly what this verse means. If you wish a copy of that article just write for it. It's free.

You Have *BRETHREN* IN MARTINIQUE!

by Dibar Apartian

HOW much does God's TRUTH mean to you? How much are you willing to *give up* for it? How *far* would you go?

Christ said, "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me" (Matt. 10:37-38).

Are you ready and *willing* to do this? Are you willing to *give up* your *very life* if God wanted you to?

In the last issue of *The GOOD NEWS*, I gave you some of the highlights of our summer *baptizing tour* in France, where 12 new brethren were added by Jesus Christ to His Church. Some of these people, as you remember, faced difficulties which are often greater than ours. Many had to give up much more than we Americans, who are blessed to live in the United States.

But how about MARTINIQUE? What kind of situation exists there? What are the difficulties that people there have to cope with? Is Catholicism as strong in Martinique as it is in France? Finally, who are the few *brethren* whom God is calling on this small island where winter never comes?

Martinique!

Martinique is a French island colony in the Lesser Antilles group of the West Indies. Because of its tropical climate, agriculture is the main occupation, the chief crops being sugar, pineapples and bananas. The island's population is mainly Negro and Mulatto. Its former capital, St. Pierre, a city of 26,000 inhabitants, was wiped out in

May, 1902, when volcano Mt. Pelée erupted—40,000 people perished in *four minutes*!

"It took the volcano just four minutes to completely destroy the city of St. Pierre, and kill every single one of its inhabitants," the taxi driver told us as he drove Mr. McCullough and me to our hotel.

Mr. Leslie McCullough, as you all know, is the Administrative and Executive Assistant to Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong. We took this trip together in order to get acquainted with our small group of *French-speaking* people in Martinique, who had been corresponding with us during the past three years. Our trip also included a short visit with Mr. Leo Joseph on the neighboring island of St. Lucia; Mr. Joseph and his small group are former members of the Sardis Church.

The present article, however, is primarily to introduce you to our *French-speaking* group in Martinique and their leader, Mr. Louis Jubert.

Meet Mr. Jubert

A graying gentleman in his late fifties, a father of five children, and an excellent host, Mr. Louis Jubert welcomed us with a broad, genuine smile. "In all probability, never before in the history of the True Church have two of God's ministers set foot on this island," he told us, as he shook our hands. Then he introduced the various members of his family to us.

For the first time since we left the States, Mr. McCullough and I felt at ease and at home. We could sense the spirit of LOVE that surrounded us.

Mr. Louis Jubert is rather well known in Martinique. Prior to his

conversion, he had been a *leader* in his community and an Adventist Elder for nearly 27 years.

"The moment I heard your broadcast and opened my Bible to check up, *I knew* your teachings were right—AND MINE WRONG!" he wrote me over three years ago. At that time, he requested a few booklets which we sent to him immediately. Less than three months later, despite vehement protests, Mr. Jubert had *turned in* his credentials to the Adventist Church.

"Now that I know the truth, *I can't teach a lie*," he told them. "May God forgive me for having taught so many wrong things for such a long time. But now, for the first time in my life, I am beginning to see the truth. I must PERSEVERE in it."

Mr. Jubert's entire family, as well as 25 former members of the Adventist Church, followed him in turning to us for *guidance* and *instruction* in the TRUTH.

Today, three years later, these people are still with us—and *very much so!* They keep God's SABBATH and the FEAST DAYS under Mr. Jubert's able leadership; they send their TITHES and OFFERINGS in regularly, and they read and STUDY our booklets as well as the *Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course*.

"Welcome Our Pastors!"

This was the *sign* that greeted us as we arrived at Mr. Jubert's. You can't imagine our surprise since the group we were meeting was one-hundred-percent French-speaking.

Mr. McCullough and I spent three memorable days in Martinique. The hearty welcome we were given sur-

We had two Feast-type luncheons at Mr. Jubert's with his entire family and a few members of the church. We learned later on that they all had taken two or three days off from work to be with us as much as possible and to learn how to become *better* CHRISTIANS.

Martinique is a rather *poor* and *filthy* island. "It is the filthiest place on the face of the earth," wrote Mr. René Payot, Editor of the "Journal de Genève." This may well be the case, but the fact remains that those whom God is calling on the island have certainly *learned how to be clean*.

As we sat at the dining table, Mr. McCullough and I couldn't help but notice how *clean* everything was. The table was covered with a *white*, beautifully pressed tablecloth, with dishes of *good quality*, and an abundance of *homemade food*. We were served wine and champagne. The only undesirable intruders were the flies—but then, on these tropical islands, flies and mosquitoes are people's inevitable companions!

The Church Service

For two consecutive evenings, beginning at 7 p.m. and lasting for two or

Mr. Leslie McCullough is pictured here near the hotel in St. Lucia.

passed all of our expectations; we were deeply moved by these people's eagerness to grow in the Truth, and by their thoughtfulness and consideration for us.

"You know, I feel perfectly *at home* with them," Mr. McCullough told me with a smile. "I don't understand what they are saying, but you can see that the SPIRIT OF GOD is with them and *guiding* them."

Indeed, this was the thing that impressed us from the moment we set foot in Mr. Jubert's home. Here were people *eager to know and to learn*. They were ready and *willing* to take correction.

These were *praying* people!



Mr. Apartian is conducting a Bible study here in Mr. Jubert's home.



In this group, Mr. Jubert is the second from the right, with Mr. Ménil on the far right.

three hours, we had CHURCH services with the whole congregation present at both meetings. They numbered some *eighty* members—including teen agers and infants.

Any one of you would have felt perfectly at home *at these* services, despite the language barrier. They began with two hymns sung to the accompaniment of a violin and two harmonicas; then there was an *opening prayer*—after which the services were turned over to us.

"Where did you ever *find* these nice songs?" I asked Mr. Jubert later in the evening.

"We went through some of the well-known song books," he answered, "picked out a few, then changed the

words to fit the TRUTH."

This procedure is quite familiar to us at Headquarters in Pasadena, but it was amazing to see that Mr. Jubert and his group had the same idea *without our telling them*.

The Place of Assembly

Where would you guess such a relatively large group of people could gather every SABBATH to worship God? And where could they meet twice a week for Bible study? In some rented hall in Fort-de-France, which is the capital of Martinique? Or in someone's home? No, *neither*.

"I am a cabinet finisher," Mr. Jubert told us when we asked him these questions. "In my own back yard, I have a shop. Every Sabbath, and whenever we have a Bible study, we convert this shop *into a hall*."

"But isn't it too small?" I asked. "Shouldn't we be renting a larger and more comfortable hall for you?"

"There aren't too many," he answered. "What's more, the other islanders—predominantly Catholics—are *not* too friendly with us. Both Catholics and Adventists would trouble us if we had our meetings in a public hall. Here, at least, we are at home. No one can disturb us."

Mr. McCullough and I spent quite a few hours in Mr. Jubert's cabinet shop—converted into an assembly hall. To most Americans who are used to a higher standard of living, this extraordinary assembly hall had much to be desired. But we discovered that *it served its purpose perfectly well*.

Like most buildings in Martinique, Mr. Jubert's shop had *no windows* and *no electricity*; there were no comfortable chairs to sit on. Two wide openings on opposite sides served as doors and windows, while straight, narrow, wooden benches, placed rather closely behind each other, provided the seats for the entire assembly. To obtain light, several *kerosene lamps* were placed at every corner of the room, and primed every so often.

We Baptized Mr. Jubert and his Assistant

To counsel with each member of the

group for baptism would have required much longer than the *three days* we spent in Martinique. Therefore, we decided to devote most of our counseling time to Mr. Jubert and to his assistant, Mr. Ménil, also a former Elder in the Adventist Church.

These two men were *totally ready* for baptism.

"This is the greatest moment in my life," Mr. Jubert told me as he and I were about to walk down into the waters of the Caribbean Sea. "It is more important than my birth or *any other event in my life!*"

Yes, Mr. Jubert knew *what baptism really meant*. In fact, he and Mr. Ménil are perfectly qualified to counsel with the other members of the group and to baptize them. We expect soon to hear that many of them have since been baptized!

"Au Revoir"— Not "Good-bye"

I am sure that neither Mr. McCullough nor I will ever forget the last evening we spent with our group in Martinique. We were with them all afternoon, talking and counseling with quite a few; then came time for the evening services, which lasted from 7 to 10 p.m. Afterwards, for nearly another hour, we did more talking and counseling. But when time came to leave, *we just didn't have the heart* to say good-by. It was hard to leave these people behind. *They were a part of us*.

"THANK YOU—thank you very much," Mr. Jubert told us as he and the others walked with us toward our car—a station wagon owned by one of the men in the group who had volunteered to drive us back to the hotel. "We won't say 'Good-by,' but just an '*Au revoir*'—till we meet again!"

Thinking perhaps that the bumpy roads would be too much of a discomfort to us, our hosts had taken all the rear seats out of the station wagon, and had replaced them by two comfortable armchairs, borrowed from Mr. Jubert's living room!

These are the humble and *thoughtful* people whom God has called to his TRUTH in Martinique. These are the

people *praying* for all of us in God's Church—and especially for God's KINGDOM *to come* on earth very soon.

A Personal Letter

We were about to go to press when Mr. Apartian received the following letter (translated from the French) from Mr. Louis Jubert:

"Dear Pastor,

We were extremely happy to have you with us expounding to us the Word of God.

We could really feel the Holy Spirit speaking to our hearts. Indeed, we consider the instructions we received coming from God—not from man. The whole congregation is grateful to God for the great blessing He gave us in sending His ministers to visit our little island of Martinique.

Our people here have now learned just what baptism is. Each and every one of us is determined to obey God by keeping all His commandments.

At the close of the Sabbath, August 15, we gathered at the seashore at the same place you baptized us. Here we baptized 18 people (10 men and 8 women) including my wife. God blessed us and watched over us as all was done in peace and order. We were extremely happy.

Others in the congregation also asked for baptism. We will counsel with them soon.

Your visit was a gift from God to aid us in our spiritual growth. We pray continually for all of you at the Headquarters, and are eagerly awaiting the time when, according to God's will, we shall all be together in the wilderness Christ has chosen to protect His Church. What happy days those will be!

Our members send their sincere Christian greetings to you and to Mr. McCullough.

(Signed, Louis Jubert)"

Pray for New Brethren

These are the people who, like each and every one of us, are striving to become a part of that Kingdom some day. Now that you know more

about them, you can include them more personally in your prayers.

"You surely can see that they are *God's people*," Mr. McCullough told me as our car began to move, and the hands behind us waved "Au revoir." "Yes, you surely can see that they are God's people, because *they are led by His Spirit!*"

MAGUS COUNTERFEIT

(Continued from page 17)
of Religion of Ethics, vol. 11, p. 517).

What blasphemy!! But this is what he taught everywhere he went—and under the guise of Christianity.

Typically Pagan

There always had to be the Man and Woman divinities in paganism. Or, to make it plain, Nimrod and Semiramis.

Now notice what the *Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics* says about this teaching of Simon which he took to Rome and they accepted: "The original of Simon's Helen is the moon-goddess of Syria and Babylonia. In the *Clementine Recognitions* Helena is always translated 'Luna.' *The theory that Simon was accustomed to borrow from paganism* IS CORROBORATED by the assertion of the Fathers that he and Helena were worshipped by their sect with the attributes of ZEUS and ATHENE and received the cult-title 'Lord' and 'Lady' (i.e. our Lord and our Lady)" (*ibid.* p. 518).

As stated before, it was Simon's plan to bring about a UNIVERSAL religion under the powerful name of Christianity. Remember that Simon NEVER gave up the Christian name.

His followers were called Christians. In amalgamating the pagan Babylonian religious beliefs with Christianity, he placed himself at the head—the personification of the chief pagan gods of old, and Helen as his companion in creation, the personification of the female deities. The name Helena for his consort fit his plan exceptionally well.

"There existed a wide-spread cult of

the moon goddess in Syria and Egypt under the name Helene; she was identified with Aphrodite, Atargatis, and the Egyptian Isis, who was after represented with Horns to betoken her relation to the moon. One feature of the myth of Helen can be traced to the very ancient connection of the religion of Osiris with Syria. According to legend, Isis spent *ten years at a brothel in Tyre* during the course of her wanderings in search of the scattered limbs of her husband. The imprisonment of Helen (Simon's Helen) is then only a variant of the many myths relating the degradation of the Queen of Heaven" (*ibid.*).

How important these observations are, for Osiris was clearly Nimrod and Isis was Semiramis. Thus, Simon Magus said that he had been the power that motivated Nimrod and that Helen was Semiramis—the Queen of Heaven.

Now let us carefully note that Simon brought his "Female Principle" from the City of TYRE. And who was the original Jezebel—the woman who seduced Israel to worship BAAL? She was the daughter of the king of the Sidonians whose capital city was TYRE. (I Kings 16:31). *The original Jezebel was also from TYRE.*

And not only that, Helen claimed herself to be the creation of Simon—that it was Simon who brought her into existence (*Ency. Britannica*, vol. 25, p. 126). She was, in a sense, the daughter of Simon. But, the original Jezebel WAS THE LITERAL DAUGHTER OF THE KING OF TYRE (I Kings 16:31).

The Gospel of John

With all of these things in mind, we can see why John hits hard at the Samaritans in his Gospel as well as the book of Revelation. He was the only Gospel writer who mentions the incident of the Samaritan woman at the well. He saw it absolutely necessary by his time, for doing so.

Actually, the whole incident at the well is of relative unimportance if it were simply put there to show us that Christ could perceive that the woman had had five husbands. But there was *MUCH more to it than that.* If we will

carefully notice what the conversation between this Samaritan woman and Christ was, we will see that John is giving the DEATH BLOW to the claims of the "Christian"-Samaritans of his day—the anti-Christ system.

Since these false Christians *DID NOMINALLY REGARD* Christ as the (or perhaps better) A founder of the "Christian Church," John tells them what Jesus informed the Samaritan woman.

(1) "Ye worship ye know not what" (John 4:22).

Christ meant by those words that the Samaritans were NOT worshipping the True God at all. They were worshipping something foreign to the God of the Bible. It was the Devil.

(2) "We know what we worship: *FOR SALVATION IS OF THE JEWS*" (v. 22).

We can see why John saw the necessity of explaining what Christ really said on this matter. Christ said the JEWS would give forth salvation, NOT the Samaritans—and He was even talking to a Samaritan *at the time.* John put this here primarily to show that Simon Magus, the Samaritans and his followers, were in COMPLETE error in their grandiose claims.

And to further emphasize the true Messiahship of Christ—who was a Jew—John records that one whole city even of the Samaritans recognized Jesus as the Christ (vs. 39-42). He was showing that some of the people in Simon's own home-ground knew that Jesus Christ and the Jews were responsible for salvation.

John tells us that the woman at the well had FIVE husbands. This is to be taken literally, but isn't it remarkable that the original Babylonian tribes which became the Samaritans were FIVE in number—and they each brought their false deities with them. Thus, according to the figurative language of the Old Testament, these Samaritans—who claimed to be worshippers of YHVH—were in reality, like the woman at the well, committing adultery with FIVE spiritual "husbands."

(To be continued)



Above you see (from left to right) Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong—Director of the Foreign Offices—with Mr. Schnee—manager of the Düsseldorf office—Mrs. Schnee and Mr. Hunting—Business Manager of the Work in England—all standing in front of our office in Düsseldorf, Germany.

The German Baptizing Tour

(Continued from page 6)

able to be understood by all present.

All of these seventy or seventy-five people from Germany look forward with great anticipation to the time when they can once again return for the Feast of Tabernacles next year. And, God willing, they will be joined by many more who will be contacted and baptized or invited to the Festival during the course of the next year.

Looking to the Future

As God continues to prosper and bless His Work, there is a great deal in store for those who serve in the German Department as well as the French and Spanish Departments of God's Work. Next year, Mr. Frank Schnee anticipates that there will be *over two hundred different* individuals who possibly will be contacted by the baptizing tour. In the meantime, the mailing list from our Düsseldorf office continues to grow at a steady rate. Hundreds more will be receiving *Die REINE WAHRHEIT* every month. Which

will in turn lead to bigger and more profitable baptizing tours the following year after that.

God is sending this warning witness AROUND THE WORLD. Each one of us, no matter where we may be in the world, has an important part in praying that God will continue to bless and prosper His Work so that the commission of Matthew 24:14 will be totally fulfilled and the church will have fulfilled its commission by the time Jesus Christ returns.

All of us who are affiliated with the German work certainly want to beseech all of you who are members of God's Church to *PRAY DILIGENTLY* for these brethren. They are totally *alone* in the world! They have no local church. They have no minister in Germany to help direct them. All of their help and inspiration must come through the magazines—and they don't even receive *The GOOD NEWS*—plus what extra additional help God makes possible for them.

Members of God's Church are not concentrated in any one part of Germany—rather, they are scattered through every corner. It does not look like there will be a local congregation in Germany for yet some time. All of these brethren diligently need your prayers to help them remain faithful—to help them withstand the tribulations and temptations that come upon them in this present world.

If we do our part, we all will be able to meet and speak with those who remain faithful along with the brethren in France whom you read about last month in a place of safety in just a few years when the warning message of God is sufficiently completed and when the time is right to flee to a place of safety.

I know we're all looking forward to that time with great anticipation and pray that all whom God is calling will remain faithful and diligent so that all of these brethren around the world we have read so much about will one day be very close friends of ours for the final few years of our time on earth prior to being born into the Kingdom of God at Christ's return.