

PASTOR'S REPORT

PUBLISHED BY THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

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FROM PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION

Dear Fellow Ministers:

Greetings from Pasadena. We are all fine here and in good health. The Personal Appearance Campaign, concluded here last night, went very well and we had about 550 average total attendance--even though we had earlier discouraged most of our Church people from coming. However, realizing that with the negative publicity we have had in this area and the severe gas shortages affecting people's driving, the attendance was not going to be what we thought, we did encourage the brethren, somewhat belatedly to go ahead and attend. In spite of the above problems, brand new people attending were estimated at about 60 to 80 each night and interest was excellent. From the responses we achieved, we hope and expect that at least 12 to 25 of the new people will come to follow-up Bible studies and, we pray, that at least several new people will be brought into God's Church.

An additional bonus along with the campaign was a much better-than-average article on the campaign by Pasadena Star-News reporter, Dick Lloyd. We will reproduce a copy of this entire article for your interest here in the Pastor's Report. Although I did not ever use the word "scourge" or turn to Obadiah or Nahum, Mr. Lloyd's article was, on the whole, objective and in itself served as a type of witness to those who read it here in the Pasadena area. For this we are thankful. As Mr. Herbert Armstrong said, this is the first positive publicity we have had around here for a long time! And it was in direct connection with preaching the Gospel of God's coming kingdom.

Mr. Raymond McNair took most of the faculty members over to Tucson this past Thursday for a fine visit with Mr. Armstrong. Everyone said it was a most inspiring and encouraging visit, and the faculty was able to get better acquainted with Mr. Armstrong and receive from him instruction and exhortation as to how to continually improve the approach in the courses taught at Ambassador. As Mr. Armstrong told me on the phone yesterday afternoon, he does want us all to follow his lead in getting the Church back really close to God and in helping prepare the Church for the coming marriage to Jesus Christ! I hope all of us can grasp this concept, and enthusiastically follow Mr. Armstrong's lead in preaching the kind of instructive and heartfelt sermons and in giving the Church the kind of constant advice and example in Bible studies, personal visits, social activities, etc., that will make them inspired to prepare themselves for that ultimate union--on a spiritual plane--with Jesus Christ Himself. I am sure a lot of information will be coming further from Mr. Armstrong along this line, so please note it and act on it.

Mr. Armstrong has reminded us again that we are to disfellowship any members who attend GTA's campaigns, church services or other meetings. Some of our weaker members apparently do not realize that this man is in direct rebellion against God and His government! We must not allow them, or ourselves, to rationalize about this matter, to try to "help the under-

dog," or in any other way lend support to one whose gross immorality, whose long-standing "play acting" and hypocrisy, and whose direct insubordination to the Government of God has long been and is now a source of confusion and DIVISION among God's people. So, as per Mr. Armstrong's instructions, I charge and exhort every one of you faithful ministers of the living Christ to explain this in no uncertain terms to your members, to warn them about this cause of division and then to disfellowship any who consort with GTA or any of his followers.

On a more happy note, I am glad to report that Mr. Gerald Waterhouse has so far reached 68 churches on his tour across the U.S. He reports positive and encouraging response from ministers and brethren alike.

Let me quote from a paragraph of his recent report:

"Thus far, I feel the tour has gone exceptionally well. Most of the brethren respond well. Those who have invested their lives in this Church and Work appreciate hearing strong support of our Father, Jesus Christ, their Apostle, and the definite and significant plan and purpose for our calling into this church era. Also, when they see its significance to the world tomorrow and plan of God, it becomes more apparent why Satan is so furiously attacking and fighting this Work! I feel most really want to prove loyal team members in this Work and Church era under God's Messenger and anointed one, Mr. Herbert Armstrong. I feel Christ has given powerful inspiration along these lines which is, in the case of most people, very convicting."

Getting to the International division, I would like to ask all of you International Directors to send your reports to me through the International Office from now on. That way, Rod Matthews will be able to sort them out and bring them to me in a special way, and he will automatically take care of any special requests that need to be expedited so that they do not get delayed in case I am out of town or busy when your report comes in. If you have a strictly confidential letter, you may, of course, send it directly to me either at the office or at home any time. But all normal reports should be sent through the International office.

Also, I would like to announce that--pending any problems about this date--we will plan for an International Directors' Conference to be held this July 17, 18 and 19 here in Pasadena. Some of you may wish to come in early and talk to me and Mr. Luker separately and some of you may wish to stay over later. But we will devote all three days to meetings together and plan, God willing, to fly over to Tucson on Wednesday, July 18, to spend most of the day with Mr. Herbert Armstrong. Please let me know immediately if there are any serious conflicts in scheduling that this might involve for any of you International Directors. I have talked to a couple of you about these dates, but not everyone yet.

Dean and Maxine Blackwell are out here looking for a place to live. They are anxious to get settled out here a few weeks from now, and we are certainly encouraged to have them on our P.A.D. "team." It is great to have this kind of experienced, dedicated "team" of men to work together with here at headquarters, and I hope all of you will let us know any way in which we can better serve you, or God's people as things progress over the coming months.

And thanks for all of your hard work, loyalty and support! It is much appreciated, and I am sure that under Christ's leadership, we will be able to turn the Church around and have the kind of solid growth we all desire in the months and years to come. So keep up the good work!

With Christian love,



Roderick C. Meredith

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Southeast Asia

Burmese Tour: Mr. Saw Lay Beh, our Local Elder in Burma, reported that there were five baptisms just before Passover. Also, five Co-Workers have been added and are showing a great deal of interest in God's truth and Work.

Malaysian Tour: The results of a tour conducted by Mr. Rod McQueen and Mr. Chris Hunting during the latter half of April were very encouraging. Bible Study lectures were held in five cities in West Malaysia and 59 new people attended.

Mr. McQueen and Mr. Hunting also traveled to Sabah and Sarawak in East Malaysia. As well as visiting with members and prospectives there, contact was made with five new people interested in the Work of God.

Further details of the Malaysian and Burmese tours will appear in the Worldwide News.

Australia

(From the Australian April Report)

"At the beginning of February, the Australian Plain Truth mailing list stood at 40,218. Today it is over 56,500. This excellent increase of over 16,000 Plain Truth subscribers during the last three months has resulted mainly from our ads in national magazines and state newspapers, from responses to our house-holder card promotions, and from our special letter to non-active Plain Truth subscribers.

"We are continuing to promote The Plain Truth magazine through ads in national magazines and state newspapers. For the past ten weeks responses have been averaging over 1200 per week, with the total at the end of the month standing at 12,205.

"In addition to our regular weekly ads in state newspapers, the second week in June we will be placing one five-column ad in 38 leading country newspapers; our goal being a subscription list of 100,000 by the end of the year."

New Zealand

April was another very successful month for God's Work in New Zealand. For the fourth month in a row, income was up by more than 30% over the same

Church evangelist predicts grim U.S. future



RODERICK MEREDITH
speaks at Ambassador

By **DICK LLOYD**
Staff Writer

Through Genesis, Deuteronomy, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Isaiah, Micah, Nahum, Obadiah and a host of other books of the Bible, Roderick C. Meredith took his audience on a prophetic trip through scripture Friday, warning that destruction is imminent for the United States unless it returns to God.

It is the same message that his mentor, evangelist Herbert W. Armstrong, has preached over the airwaves for more than 40 years, he said — one that few other, if any, evangelists or churches proclaim.

Though Armstrong was not there in person, his presence clearly was felt, as Meredith repeatedly referred to the founder of the Worldwide Church of God and his prophecies.

Meredith, in fact, was introduced as speaking for Armstrong, in the first of three consecutive presentations billed as "The Gathering Storm." And while his voice did not resemble that of the magnetic Armstrong, Meredith spoke with the same fervor and manner that has won for Armstrong a worldwide following.

With arms waving and voice oscillating from loud to very loud, Meredith warned a half-full Ambassador Auditorium that the

vengeance "God is about to pour out upon the nation that he said has ungratefully received the blessings of Abraham.

But the message is not one of hopelessness, said Meredith, who is now head of the ministry of Armstrong's church. "Mr. Herbert Armstrong has taught a way of life to bring world peace." And peace is coming, said Meredith, though not until God's plan is worked out and the wicked are scourged.

Already the British Commonwealth has nearly reached the state of impotence prophesied by the Bible, Meredith said. Once the "proud lion" of Biblical reference, Britain now has lost its strength and power, he said. And the same is due for the United States.

He traced the identity of the two nations through the Bible, as well as the other 10 "tribes of Israel," showing in a slight degree where they are today and their place in biblical prophecy.

The world, said Meredith, is at the "end of an age," or the last days just before tribulation shall cover the earth in the form of pestilence, famine, drought, earthquakes, wars, blasphemy, perversions, witchcraft and many other plagues.

Along with the scourge, he said, will come persecution of the

true church," which he said is the Worldwide Church of God.

That persecution is evidenced in the state action against the church, including Armstrong, said Meredith. He termed the state intervention which has resulted in the imposition of a receiver "Satanic."

In the more than four months of investigation, no evidence has been found to justify the charges of financial malfeasance, Meredith said.

"And as time goes on, it increasingly becomes evident that nothing wrong will be found," Meredith said.

But the members take heart in the fact that there will be a place of refuge, said Meredith. "There is a place of safety on this earth from tribulation," he said. "This church, and this church alone, understands that," he said.

And that is the message that he and Herbert W. Armstrong have proclaimed for decades, said Meredith.

The personal appearance campaign will continue at 7:30 Saturday and Sunday evenings in Ambassador Auditorium.

It follows by one week a personal appearance by Armstrong's excommunicated son, Garner Ted Armstrong, at a rented hall in Arcadia. Garner Ted was attempting to gain support for his new church, the Church of God International.

month last year! April's figure was 33.5% up, bringing the year-to-date income increase to 35.6%.

The Unleavened Bread Holy Day offerings also reflected this excellent income trend. Holy Day attendances were up by 4.5% over last year, and the offerings were 31% up on last year. Their April report states:

"Because of the recent rate of increased income, and because we'd like to do our best to serve the many thousands of new Plain Truth subscribers being added in the current campaign, we've decided to step out in faith and go from our present 32-page magazine to a full 48-page Plain Truth, hopefully beginning with the July-August issue.

"We're also beginning to plan ahead for a nationwide series of campaigns by Bob Morton, to be held in about 9 months time. These campaigns will be timed to give a powerful witness to our huge new batch of Plain Truth subscribers just before they come up for renewal of the magazine."

--Compiled by Rod Matthews, International Office

"CHURCH VS STATE--PART 2" AIRING SCHEDULE

The second in a series of the new interview-format "World Tomorrow" programs is to be televised, initially, in Los Angeles and Tucson on May 27, and on first-leg stations the following week. (Please refer to the accompanying schedule for specific station play dates.)

In this program, titled "Church vs State--Part 2," Art Gilmore continues his interview with Herbert W. Armstrong, who discusses the spiritual and physical implications of the ongoing court battle.

Please inform your members and post the airing schedule so they may watch this informative program.

The sound track of this program is scheduled to air on radio stations carrying The World Tomorrow, Sunday, May 27, and Wednesday, May 30.

--John Lundberg, Media

"MEMBER PROGRESSION REPORT" HELPING US HELP OTHERS

In the last issue of the Pastor's Report we mentioned a new service developed for Mail Processing by the Data Processing Center. It is called the "Member Progression Report." We explained how this new report can help us evaluate the growth patterns of newly baptized members--and give us insight in how to develop programs to help potential donors, co-workers, and prospective members in their spiritual growth.

Now, in this issue, we'd like to share with you an example of what the "Member Progression Report" can actually show us. The following is a brief summary of the data for March 1979:

The Member Progression Report showed that 252 people were entered in the computer as being baptized in March 1979. This is how they all compared:

23% (58) were not on the mailing list. (They were probably friends or members of Church families, and had access to the Work's literature).

(Continued on page 7)

Television Program
"Church vs State -- Part 2"

AIRING SCHEDULE*

Sunday
May 27

KTTV-Los Angeles CA
KGUN-Tucson AZ

Sunday
June 3

WKJG-Ft. Wayne IN
WBFF-Baltimore MD
WLWT-Cincinnati OH
WPRI-Providence RI
WNCT-Greenville NC
KPTV-Portland OR**
KARK-Little Rock AR
KHGI-Kearney NE
KTVU-Oakland CA**
WTCN-Minneapolis MN
KDNL-St. Louis MO
WAPI-Birmingham AL
WUTV-Buffalo NY
WWL--New Orleans LA
WOR--New York NY
WGAN-Portland ME
WILX-Lansing MI
WCIX-Miami FL
KTVV-Austin TX
KARD-Wichita KS
WAKR-Akron OH

Sunday
June 10

WSPD-Toledo OH
WCIU-Chicago IL
WUHQ-Battle Cree MI
WTTG-Washington DC
WLEX-Lexington KY
WHYN-Springfield MA
WRET-Charlotte NC
WDAF-Kansas City MO**
WRCB-Chattanooga TN
WROC-Rochester NY
WAFB-Baton Rouge LA
KGGM-Albuquerque NM

Sunday
June 17

WJRT-Flint MI
WFLD-Chicago IL**
WSBT-South Bend IN
WSBA-York PA
WHAS-Louisville KY
WTEN-Albany NY
WKPT-Kingsport TN
KXLY-Spokane WA
KMTC-Springfield MO
KKTU-Colorado Sp. CO
KMJ--Fresno CA
KWWL-Waterloo IA
WATR-Waterbury (Hartford) CT

Sunday
June 24

WXON-Detroit MI
WVTV-Milwaukee WI
WISH-Indianapolis IN
WIIC-Pittsburgh PA

- * Check local listing or PT Log for air times.
- ** Airs previous day (Saturday)

Note: Some city names have been shortened for lack of columnar space.

The average length of time on the list before becoming a member was three years.

The average time it took for the people to become a co-worker was 20 months.

The average time to become a donor was two months. (30% actually sent in a contribution with their first correspondence with us).

Another significant aspect of the MPR is that it shows all the literature requested by newly baptized members over the past year. This feature will be especially helpful as we work to develop biblical literature to help and assist the spiritual growth which God is producing in these people's lives. As we have mentioned many times, our programs are simply to help plant and water. It is God who gives the increase!

Mail Update

Mail for the last three weeks has held quite steady at right around 22,000 letters per week in Pasadena. As of May 18, the mail count for the month is approximately 65,000 letters.

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

PUBLISHING SERVICES UPDATE

I spent this past week in New York with Ron Taylor, our Publishing Production Manager here in Pasadena. We had meetings with Lew Gillenson regarding the production and distribution of Mr. Armstrong's books and other Everest House titles for 1979-80. Things went very well and we have some good things coming along.

While at the New York office we also had some discussions with our Quest people regarding costing ideas and ways to cut down our production time to give advertisers a shorter leadtime.

This was my first visit since the receiver tried to take over, so I expected to find a very uneasy crew, but things seemed remarkably calm and supportive of the organization. This was largely due to the level-headed approach of the editor, Bob Shnayerson.

--Roger G. Lippross, Director of Publishing

JERUSALEM FEAST SITE

Plans are now in full swing for the observance of the 1979 Feast of Tabernacles in JERUSALEM! It will be the first time the city has been an official Festival site.

According to Sherwin McMichael, director of the Festival Office, the 12-day tour of Jerusalem will include visits to such historical sites as the Mount of Olives, Golgotha, the Garden Tomb, Bethlehem, Liberty Bell Park, Hebrew University, and the Dead Sea. The tour is limited to 300 people because of the number of housing accommodations available at that time of year. Reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Mr. McMichael also pointed out that morning and afternoon services will be held on the two annual Sabbaths, along with special Bible Studies at the various tour sites to emphasize their relevance to history and prophecy.

Tour rates will range from \$1,039 to \$1,119 for economy, depending on point of departure, or from \$1,239 to \$1,399 for standard rates. (Low figures are from New York, N.Y.; high from Los Angeles, Calif.) For a fully detailed brochure outlining the itinerary, transportation, accommodations and other pertinent information, all interested parties should consult their Festival adviser.

--Festival Office

ON THE WORLD SCENE

Time To Count The Costs: "T-Day" -- October 1, 1979 -- will be upon us soon. That's the day the Canal Zone ceases to exist and the property is officially turned over (that's what the "T" stands for) to the Republic of Panama.

For all practical purposes Panama has been sovereign over the zone and its canal ever since April 1 of this year when the Panama Canal treaties signed last year by the president and approved by the U.S. Senate by a two-vote margin, became law of the land. However, there is an official six-month waiting period. Hence T-Day is October 1.

During this six-month period, the House of Representatives, charged by the constitution with the responsibility of disposing of U.S. property, was to enact "enabling legislation" to implement the treaties and provide the technical means for setting up new post-treaty procedures--such as transferring U.S. bases and equipment to Panama and establishing a joint U.S.-Panamanian commission to operate the canal between October 1, 1979 and the end of the century when U.S. responsibility totally ceases.

The House is now proving to be very stubborn and is balking at key elements of the enabling legislation. Last Thursday, House representatives almost sidetracked the treaty implementing legislation, causing the bill's proponents to take the bill out of harm's way by temporarily delaying further action on it.

President Carter was shocked at how close the bill came to being indefinitely pigeonholed. He told members of Congress that while blocking the implementing laws cannot invalidate the treaties, such action could close the canal, cut off vital oil supplies and trade shipments and diminish U.S. ability to defend the waterway in the post-treaty period. The East Coast is now dependent upon the canal for delivery of Alaskan oil. And movements of U.S. farm exports through the canal have been very heavy lately, contributing a lot in export earnings to offset the price of imported oil.

What has caused House conservatives to rise up at this late date is the full realization of just how much the canal turnover will cost U.S. taxpayers.

Projected costs vary but according to one estimate, the dollar breakdown could be (1) For out-of-pocket Panama Canal transfer costs, \$4 billion (including termination of the \$20 million a year interest payments now made by the canal to the U.S. Treasury); (2) For Panama treaty contingency costs, \$2 billion; (3) For Panama Canal property to be transferred, \$20 Billion; (4) For Panama treaty costs after the year 2000, \$200 million per year.

These projected costs were not honestly reported by the administration before the Senate's debate last year. In fact, the impression was given

that little or no extra expenditure would be required in turning over the canal to Panama.

On October 22, 1977, President Carter said in Denver: "We are not taking any taxpayers' money to pay the Panamanians." On February 1, 1978, he repeated: "Are we paying Panama to take the canal? We are not. Under the new treaty, any payments to Panama will come from tolls paid by ships which use the canal."

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance promised the Senate Judiciary Committee: "The treaties require no new appropriations, nor do they add to the burden of the American taxpayer." Warren Christopher, deputy secretary of state, promised the same committee: "The treaties will not require any appropriations from the American taxpayer."

Senate opponents of the treaty, of course, knew these professions were not correct, but Senate liberals bought the "no-cost" package.

Panama has not made things any easier either. Its government has demanded extra compensation for items clearly not a part of the new treaties, either in the letter or the spirit. For example, Panama has demanded the right to tax 180 American businesses, churches and fraternal organizations in the Canal Zone as far back as 1903 and that the U.S. restore two military installations that haven't been used for 20 years to their original condition.

It's still possible that the enabling legislation will squeak through. It's certainly no time now to count the costs--that time was before the U.S. Senate approved the new pacts. If the House doesn't come through, "T-Day" will be Trouble Day for America.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau

Just what is the Worldwide Church of God?

FOUNDED A.D. 31 by JESUS CHRIST
Non-Proselyting—Non-Denominational

WE DO NOT seek persecution—we seem to get it without the asking—just as Jesus Christ did A.D. 27-31.

**A FRANK AND OPEN
STATEMENT
BY ITS PRESENT-DAY
PASTOR-GENERAL**

IN THE FALL OF 1926 I was challenged into an in-depth study of the *Holy Bible*. My marriage depended on it—a marriage that did last fifty years. I had been born to and reared by substantial and upright parents, with ancestors that migrated from England with William Penn a hundred years before the birth of our nation. I was reared in a respected Protestant church, but lost interest in religion and broke off church attendance at 18. I became successful in the advertising and journalism field.

A SERIOUS CHALLENGE

As the Apostle Paul was struck down with temporary blindness, and brought into the brightness of God's Truth, so I, in a different manner, was struck down with a serious challenge, when a seeming blinding light struck my eyes as I read in Romans 6, verse 23: "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."
"Who, that can't see!" I exclaimed in irritated surprise. "I was taught in Sunday school that what is earned by sin is eternal life—in hell fire! And how could I receive eternal life as a gift, when I already had it—as an immortal soul!"

FURTHER SURPRISES

My shock deepened when a concordance referred me to Ezekiel 18, verse 4, which stated: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." This surprising statement was re-emphasized when I glared across the page and saw, verse 20: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die."

Then I read that God had said the same thing to Adam and Eve. To those two souls God said that if they ate of the forbidden fruit, "Thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:17).

This opening shock pricked my interest, half in anger, half in fascinated interest. I had heard a very famous evangelist say, "The Bible says, 'When we all get to heaven.'" Then my eyes fell on John 3:13: "And no man hath ascended up to heaven..." words of Jesus.

**GOD AND BIBLE
PROVED TRUE**

Simultaneously I researched Darwin, Haeckel, Huxley, et al. Soon my mind was swimming in confusion. I had been reared in the belief of the existence of God. But now I wasn't quite sure. I realized I had accepted the belief without proof! Now I had to have proof!

My studies did prove to me. Then I questioned the Bible—and in due time proved to myself the inspired authority of the Bible as the very Word of the living God.

This gave me a solid foundation for belief. This intensive research swept my mind clean of assumptions and previous beliefs.

**MAN'S
TRANSCENDENT POTENTIAL**

It was a rude shock to learn that church teachings were in many, if not most cases, the very opposite of biblical truth. I was brought to a complete repentance, being conquered by Jesus Christ. From His written Word, He opened my mind to the almost totally unknown, incredible, transcendent potential of man. It all made sense, as nothing else ever had.

I learned Jesus had said He would build His Church, and that not even death would prevail against it.

**WHERE IS THAT CHURCH
TODAY?**

Then the thought leaped to mind, "Where is that one true Church today?" I searched for a church whose teachings squared with the Bible. It narrowed down to a possible two, then by process of elimination, only one.

"But it is such a small church," I exclaimed. "Surely that could not be the true Church Jesus Christ founded!" Yet it was the only one whose doctrine and beliefs were those of God's Word. And it appeared to be an important, fruitless church. That did not, then, seem to make sense. Further exhaustive

research into church history confirmed the truth. It was the remnant Church, which after centuries of persecution, still existed—just barely! I saw that Jesus foretold all this, and continual persecution.

My wife and I began fellowshipping with them. All the time God was opening my eyes to many vitally important truths this Church had lost. I began writing articles on these findings. Finally I yielded to pleadings to lecture on these truths, constantly opening new vistas of understanding—of why humans were placed on this earth—with the causes of this world's evils—on just who and what God really is—of what and why man is—and amazing prophecies of the imminent future.

**CHRIST'S COMMISSION
TO HIS CHURCH**

All that started 52 years ago. As these basic truths were revealed, at first in a small area, then nationally, finally worldwide, I learned the true meaning of persecution. Under the Divine Hand, the original true Church of God, always opposed and persecuted, has grown in these latter days to the present Worldwide Church of God. It proclaims worldwide the Gospel message Jesus Himself taught. Its history is at once one of the most astonishing "success stories" of our time, as well as one of enduring and growing amid this world's religious confusion and persecution. Jesus Christ said of His Church: "I will never leave nor forsake you"—and He never has! Our mission is not member-building, but TRUTH going and sharing, in these last days of a world that has lost its way. God's Church, as we call it, has done nothing to cause or deserve the unjust persecution it has suffered. But for those who would like to know more about us, we have an attractive booklet, titled, *This Is the Worldwide Church of God*.

To receive your free copy of this booklet just complete the coupon below and return to: Worldwide Church of God, Box 111, Pasadena, CA 91123.

Herbert W. Armstrong



Pastor General
Worldwide Church of God

CLIP THIS COUPON AND MAIL TO:
Worldwide Church of God, Box 111, Pasadena, CA 91123

Yes! Please send me a copy of the free booklet
This Is the Worldwide Church of God

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____

NEWS SUMMARY

WORLDWIDE EDITION

U.S. CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Mr. Dennis Luker has recently returned from our second campaign in the month of May. It was held May 11, 12 and 13 in Denver following immediately on the heels of the San Antonio, Texas campaign headed up by Mr. Rod-erick Meredith. This past Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights the Pasadena campaign was held in our own auditorium, again with Mr. Meredith as the featured speaker.

As Mr. Meredith reported in the May 14th Pastor's Report, the Denver campaign was "a success and inspired a great wave of enthusiasm among the brethren in the area there. Like the San Antonio campaign [the week before], new attendance was not large, but those attending did respond much more and it now appears there will be more 'fruit' in the local churches as a result of these campaigns than any in recent years." Total attendance ranged from 220 to 428 over the three nights and new attendance was 50, 77, and 35 on the three nights respectively. Mr. Meredith said that Mr. Ronald Kelly and Mr. Luker both felt the final night's attendance was somewhat lower because, unfortunately, it coincided with Mother's Day.

The Pasadena campaign went well with total attendance ranging from 504 to 737, with the highest number coming Saturday night. New attendances were 60, 80 and 60 respectively on the three successive nights. Mr. Sherwin McMichael, who was MC for all three evenings, observed good interest in the follow-up Bible studies among the new people--many of whom stayed after services to talk.

An interesting though unexpected trend was apparent at the Pasadena campaign. Approximately half of the new people came from the Spanish language PLAIN TRUTH subscriber's list. Mr. Ralph Levy of the Spanish Department gave a simultaneous translation for the monoglots among them. We can readily serve these people since the Spanish speaking church here in Pasadena meets in the Fine Arts recital hall on campus.

NEW CHURCHES AND BIBLE STUDIES

Mr. Meredith was pleased to announce to the ministry in the May 14th Pastor's Report that nine new churches and two new Bible Studies will be starting this summer. New Church locations are: Augusta, GA; Canton, OH; Harlan, KY; Mansfield, OH; Oak Hill, WV; South Pittsburgh, PA; Kent, WA; West Pittsburgh, PA; Atlanta, GA (split into East and West). The Bible studies are in Cadillac, MI and West Plains, MO. It is felt that these new congregations will save hundreds of our brethren from additional driving which is especially important now that the gasoline shortage is becoming more of a problem across the nation.

EXCERPTS FROM SPECIAL LECTURE TO SABBATICAL MINISTERS

On May 8th, at Mr. Armstrong's request, Mr. Stanley Rader, Mr. Ralph Helge and Mr. Ellis LaRavia spoke to the sabbatical ministers and a few other students about the key issues relevant to the Church's legal battle with

the State of California, and the attitude and approach needed to meet the challenges which lay ahead. The entire lecture was transcribed and filled 18 pages in the May 14th Pastor's Report. Following are excerpts from this special lecture for the interest of our brethren around the world.

Mr. Rader: Captitalizing On Church/State Crisis In Doing God's Work

Now we're going into a period where, to a certain extent (as Mr. Armstrong said yesterday) it /the court case/ is going to be a little bit on the back burner, so to speak. The problem is still there. The fight still goes on. But the state has been stopped. It has been thwarted. It has been frustrated. Any other plaintiff would have left the field. They would have dismissed, and hoped that they were dismissed without being responsible for damages.

The state came to us /in early April/ and they wanted to settle out of court if they could, but they didn't want to be "emasculated." That was their own expression. We can't let them lift themselves up by their bootstraps. And this is a war. It's a war between God and the Work of the Living God on the one hand and (if you want to couch it in those terms) the anti-Christ on the other. And it's a war we can't lose; we can't afford to lose it. That's not why we've been called. We haven't been called to lose this battle. We will win it.

And it /the legal battle/ is not what I would consider as a distraction or a preoccupation. It now makes everything that we're doing relevant. Mr. Armstrong's latest copy for his latest ads have very powerful headlines --ARE WE LOSING OUR CIVIL LIBERTIES? (I think he says) and JUST WHAT IS THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD? /The latter ad is reproduced on page 3/. And now he's beginning to preach the Gospel in the ads. In other words, he's building. He has the public's attention. Not only about the case but about us, and now he's getting the Gospel message right into it. So it's not a preoccupation. It is not a distraction. It's THE THING--it's all part of getting the Work done....

But we will capitalize (as Mr. Armstrong said just yesterday to me) on the publicity that we've had because it has catapulted us to the front pages around the world. You can't go anywhere in this world now without people knowing the Worldwide Church of God. And people begin to ask who are we, what we are doing. And they're not concerned any more. If you can "steal" \$45 million and the business is still here--the Church is still here--/they realize/ it's got to have something going for it. How do you get \$45 million or \$70 million out of an operation that is still here? We're bigger than Oral Roberts and Billy Graham combined. People are wondering about us now, so we'll capitalize on it....

Now we have peoples' attention at long last. Everything we say out there has some relevance to some people. So the job is now getting done as never before. The costs of the litigation are another way of getting out the Gospel. We've paid millions of dollars every year for broadcasts that very few people were heeding, relatively few people were listening. Now we have their attention. And if we follow those programs up with more effort in the field, you are going to see the Work start to grow in a vertical curve again.

Mr. Helge: Why the Church Must Resist

There are certain questions that constantly keep coming across my desk. One is "Why don't we just let the receiver in, let the state in, and give them everything?"

ADVERTISEMENT

Just what is the Worldwide Church of God?

FOUNDED A.D. 31 by JESUS CHRIST
Non-Proselyting—Non-Denominational

WE DO NOT seek persecution—we seem to get it without the asking—just as Jesus Christ did A.D. 27-31.

**A FRANK AND OPEN
STATEMENT
BY ITS PRESENT-DAY
PASTOR-GENERAL**

IN THE FALL OF 1926 I was challenged into an in-depth study of the Holy Bible. My marriage depended on it—a marriage that did last fifty years. I had been born to and reared by substantial and upright parents, with ancestors that migrated from England with William Penn a hundred years before the birth of our nation. I was reared in a respected Protestant church, but lost interest in religion and broke off church attendance at 18. I became successful in the advertising and journalism field.

A SERIOUS CHALLENGE

As the Apostle Paul was struck down with temporary blindness, and brought into the brightness of God's Truth, so I, in a different manner, was struck down with a serious challenge, when a seeming blinding light struck my eyes as I read, in Romans 6, verse 23: "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

"Why, that can't be!" I exclaimed in irritated surprise. "I was taught in Sunday school that what is earned by sin is eternal life—in hell fire! And how could I receive eternal life as a gift, when I already had it—as an immortal soul!"

FURTHER SURPRISES

My shock was deepened when a concordance referred me to Ezekiel 18, verse 4, which stated: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." This surprising statement was re-emphasized when I glanced across the page and saw verse 20: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die."

Then I read that God had said the same thing to Adam and Eve: To those two souls God said that if they ate of the forbidden fruit, "thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:17).

This opening shock pricked my interest, half in anger, half in fascinated interest. I had heard a very famous evangelist say, "The Bible says, 'When we all get to heaven.'" Then my eyes fell on John 3:13: "And no man hath ascended up to heaven..."—words of Jesus.

**GOD AND BIBLE
PROVED TRUE**

Simultaneously I researched Darwin, Haeckel, Huxley, et al. Soon my mind was swimming in confusion. I had been reared in the belief of the existence of God. But now I wasn't quite sure. I realized I had accepted the belief without proof! Now I had to have proof!

My studies did prove it to me. Then I questioned the Bible—and in due time proved to myself the inspired authority of the Bible as the very Word of the living God.

This gave me a solid foundation for belief. This intensive research swept my mind clean of assumptions and previous beliefs.

**MAN'S
TRANSCENDENT POTENTIAL**

It was a rude shock to learn that church teachings were in many, if not most cases, the very opposite of biblical truth. I was brought to a complete repentance—being conquered by Jesus Christ. From His written Word, He opened my mind to the almost totally unknown, incredible, transcendent potential of MAN. It all MADE SENSE, as nothing else ever had.

I learned Jesus had said He would build His Church, and that not even death would prevail against it.

**WHERE IS THAT CHURCH
TODAY?**

Then the thought leaped to mind, "Where is that one true Church today?" I searched for a church whose teachings squared with the Bible. It narrowed down to a possible two, then by process of elimination, only one.

"But it is such a small church," I exclaimed. "Surely that could not be the true Church Jesus Christ founded." Yet it was the only one whose doctrines and beliefs were those of God's Word. And it appeared to be an impotent, fruitless church. That did not, then, seem to make sense. Further exhaustive

research into church history confirmed the truth. It was the remnant Church, which after centuries of persecution, still existed—just barely! I saw that Jesus foretold all this, and continual persecution.

My wife and I began fellowshipping with them. All the time God was opening my eyes to many vitally important truths this Church had lost. I began writing articles on these findings. Finally I yielded to pleadings to lecture on these truths, constantly opening new vistas of understanding—of why humans were placed on this earth—with the causes of this world's evils—on just who and what God really is—of what and why man is—and amazing prophecies of the imminent future.

**CHRIST'S COMMISSION
TO HIS CHURCH**

All that started 52 years ago. As these basic truths were revealed, at first in a small area, then nationally, finally worldwide, I learned the true meaning of persecution. Under the Divine Hand, the original true Church of God, always opposed and persecuted, has grown in these latter days to the present Worldwide Church of God. It proclaims worldwide the Gospel message Jesus Himself taught. Its history is at once one of the most astonishing "success stories" of our time, as well as one of enduring and growing amid this world's religious confusion and persecution. Jesus Christ said of His Church: "I will never leave nor forsake you"—and He never has! Our mission is not member-building, but truth giving and sharing, in these last days of a world that has lost its way. God's Church, as we call it, has done nothing to cause or deserve the unjust persecution it has suffered. But for those who would like to know more about us, we have an attractive booklet, titled, *This Is the Worldwide Church of God*.

To receive your free copy of this booklet just complete the coupon below and return to: Worldwide Church of God, Box 111, Pasadena, CA 91123.

Herbert W. Armstrong

Herbert W. Armstrong
Pastor General
Worldwide Church of God

CLIP THIS COUPON AND MAIL TO:

Worldwide Church of God, Box 111, Pasadena, CA 91123

Yes! Please send me a copy of the free booklet
This Is the Worldwide Church of God.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

The state has said, "Look, we own, not only the property, but all the books and records." We have picked that statement out of three or four places in the court transcripts where they said it in court. But now just this last time, they put it right in the amended complaint. They laid it right out--"The church has no proprietary interest in any of its property, its books, or records."

You see, at this point, simply to say, "Yes, here are the books and records," would mean we are conceding to that statement. We would be saying, "Yes you are right. You are the owner. Here are your books and records, state. May we please have your books and records back when you feel free to give them to us. And may we please have permission to use the Auditorium next week?"

Do you see what I'm getting at? They have now made a statement--these are their books and records. To concede to that, we would be acknowledging it. Hence, there is no way under that theory that we can give it to them.

You know, it's like the difference if I were to come to you and say, "May I please borrow your car?" And you would say, "Well yes, that's O.K. I'm not going to use it. Here are the keys." But, wouldn't it be different if I said, "Look, that is my car. That car belongs to me, not to you, and I'm going to take it. I'm not going to give it back to you until I'm good and ready." Now, would you give the keys to me under those circumstances? Would you say, "Yes, O.K., here are the keys. Fine. Thank you, Ralph. Good-bye." Obviously you would have to draw a line there. You would have no option. You would have no other way to go other than to stand fast.

So I want to just bring that point home to you. But there is another point to help explain to people why we can't. It comes down to the point to where the state is saying that they are in control of all church property. They are virtually saying that they can control all churches, that we're a charitable trust, that the people of the State of California own the property, and they are going to dictate and supervise everything the church does. They say, "Oh, not the ecclesiastical; only all the money." Well, tell me one thing that we can do ecclesiastically, virtually, without money. What pays for the PT? What pays for the booklets? What pays the ministerial salaries? What pays the hall rents?

Obviously, if they are going to control the money, they are going to control the church! Hence, it really comes down to a very fundamental principle: Either we're going to stand as free men under Christ, or we're going to bow our knees as slaves, and we are going to become a slave to the state. And the Bible tells me that I'm a free man, and that I should not become a slave. And that's one reason why we're fighting so hard--to keep from becoming a slave to the state....

What "Love" Is to Some People

Mr. Armstrong has said for years we're not to be a floor mat, we're not to be a slave. And that's the only thing we're trying to do here is just preserve our liberties, not to try to wreak vengeance. We're not trying to take vengeance on anybody. So we're not violating that scripture. Some talk about "love," but you know, isn't it fundamental that love by itself has no meaning? How do the dissidents apply the one word, "love?" They decide which way they want to go and they say that's "love." Right?

That's the way love is. "We don't take tithes because that's not love." They don't want to pay tithes--hence it's not love.

And they ask: "Is that what Christ would do?" Of course, what would Christ do in their minds? Whatever they want to do. If they want to do it this way, that's what Christ would do. Hence, if you don't do that too, you're not of Christ and you're not showing "love."

As Mr. Armstrong says, the fundamental fallacy in that is they didn't look back into the Bible to find out what Christ did. There are certain ways that dissidents misconstrue Scripture. But to me there's one scripture that they cannot misconstrue, and that's the act of Christ when He was in the temple. He used force and He used power to overturn the money changers' tables and everything else--to run the men out, and to run the cattle out. Now you can't just say, "Well, that's not love."

I tell you, there are people in the Church today that really would have condemned Christ. And how about Paul? I've got a beautiful book. It's called A Harmony of Paul's Travels. And when you consider the persecution that Paul was under--I wonder how many people today would have followed him? You know, he was accused (if you take all those scriptures) of sedition and every type of wrong--probably thievery and everything else--and locked up in prison and chained! Of course, many people didn't follow him because of that. Right? He said "So-and-so left, so-and-so left, etc." So what this comes down to in my mind is that this is true persecution that we're under today... I think it's good to bring home to God's people that we have a pure and simple test of faith!

Mr. LaRavia: The Basic Issue Before God's Church Today

You know, this has been an experience to end all experiences, in one sense. And yet I know we've got a lot of experiences ahead of us. Some of them are going to be tough; some of them are going to be delightful.

But I think through all of this--and it's been a nightmare of gigantic proportions in many respects--it all comes down to one basic issue as far as we're concerned, as far as the Church is concerned: Is GOD in charge and has He appointed Mr. Armstrong to lead this church?

When you get rid of all of the issues that you can talk about, and all of the things that tend to confuse; when you get right down to it, it's that basic issue. And I think that every church member and every minister has to come to the point where they have decided (something we all should have decided a long time ago) that God is in charge, that God called us, that God has appointed Mr. Armstrong, and caused all doctrines to flow through and come from him. I don't know of any other way that God can accomplish that purpose because He doesn't go around revealing to each one of us, "Well, this is my doctrine on tithing," or, "This is my doctrine on the keeping of the Sabbath," "This is my doctrine..." He doesn't do it that way. God has never worked that way.

But God has worked through Mr. Armstrong in a powerful way. And He does reveal doctrines through Mr. Armstrong and always has. But again, this has been a very basic issue and some have questioned whether Mr. Armstrong has a right to make the pronouncement about the sit-in.

Well, there's another startling thing that he has mentioned to me several times lately. He says, "God revealed certain things to me." Now God

didn't literally speak to him--he didn't say that. He said God has put things in his mind. There are those who would gainsay and say, "Aw, hogwash. That's ridiculous." Well no, it's not ridiculous. I think it's either true or else there isn't a God because God has worked that way for centuries.

I think what is difficult, maybe, for us to see is that "a prophet is without honor in his own country. " You know, it's very difficult to realize this about Mr. Armstrong, whom most of us have come to know in various degrees of intimacy. Yes, he is a man. He has frailties just like all of us. But I think the thing we miss is that God can still use a man and use him powerfully, and can reveal things to him--and does indeed reveal things to him--things that He wants for His church, for the benefit of His Church.

I think until we come to that understanding, deeply and sincerely, then all these things are always going to bother us. And if it's not a sit-in, or it's not a demonstration, or if it's not tithing, or if it's not how you keep the Sabbath, or whatever it is--these things are always going to bother us. There is always going to be some other issue. You can be assured of that! There will always be another issue. It's just moments away or hours away, or a day away. But something else is going to come.

We must be willing and able in our own minds to come to the deep understanding that God IS--the "I am that I am," the Eternal; the Ever-existing One who does stand forth and speak and reveal, and make known to the one whom He has chosen what it is He wants done....

When it comes down to it, we have to know where God is working, and if we know that and through whom He is working, then everything else fits into place. Then you've got the stability, you've got the foundation, and it will all fit. It will not fit any other way. It just won't fit any other way. Now you can force it. You can try to make it fit another way. You can strive with it, you can wrestle with it, you can talk about it with your fellow ministers. You can talk about it with all the pastors or evangelists or whatever--but nothing else will work. It just won't work!..

Our image of God must be such that we know that God is all-powerful, that God is on His throne, that God is the Creator, the Law-giver, that He's the One who has called us, He's the One who has extended mercy to us, He's the One who has sent His own Son and is able and willing to give everything that we have need of. Otherwise, we take to ourselves opinions, making judgments ourselves, and it always involves judging God and His apostl whom He has appointed. That's what it always is, when you get down to it. It's making judgments upon God. Whether or not we agree with every decision (and you probably will never agree with every decision that any man makes) doesn't have anything to do with it.