

# PASTOR'S REPORT

PUBLISHED BY THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

VOL. 3 NO. 25

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

JULY 2, 1979

## MR. ARMSTRONG VIDEOTAPES PERSONAL THANKS TO SOUTHLAND BRETHREN

(Editor's Note: The following is from a transcript of the videotaped message Mr. Armstrong prepared for the members of the Churches in Southern California. He expressed his deep appreciation of their support during the Church/state crisis and explains a bit further the why and wherefore of what the Church had to do.)

GREETINGS EVERYBODY back there in Pasadena! I've just finished recording my message for the opening on a Friday night of the coming Feast of Tabernacles, and the opening sermon on Sabbath morning which will be shown on the screen at all feast sites all over the world.

While I have the television crew here I thought that I might say a very few words to just you people there in and near Pasadena, and in the Southern California area.

I want to thank you millions and millions of times over. I don't have the words in my vocabulary to properly thank you for your loyalty and your willingness to get out and work when the State of California came down with their illegal and unconstitutional massive attack against the Church of the Living God.

You know government has always fought God and God's way. Way back at the time that God drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden, God said in effect, "You've rejected Me as your King and as your Lord and Ruler /so/ now go form your own governments, form your own kind of rulership." And so that's what man has done, and man has, ever since, been contrary to God.

Now some few have tried to misapply the scriptures relating to our personal conduct in regard to Caesar--in other words, in our relationship with the government. But they forget that we are to render unto God the things that are God's. I know Jesus said, "Render therefore unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's," but when it comes to rendering the whole Church of God and all of its assets over to the state, they are not Caesar's, they are God's! And we are not going to render what is God's over to Caesar. And we didn't, and thank you for standing back of us, brethren.

In our personal everyday life we are told in Romans and elsewhere in the Bible that we must be subject to the powers that be. I've explained that so many times. Here's a little example: if the government says that we must only drive 50 miles an hour, okay, only drive 50 miles an hour, not 55 or 60. That is for our everyday life and our private lives.

But what did Jesus do when the Pharisees came to Him? Remember the Pharisees were in government positions (or did you forget that?). The Roman Empire was ruling over Judea in the days of Christ and the Romans were pretty smart. They didn't send a lot of people from Rome over there to administer their lower and simpler form of government. They took the sect of the Pharisees to do that ruling. But remember that there were

Roman armies there. There was a Roman governor, and he had military forces. Jesus healed one man who was a centurion; in other words, he was a Roman soldier over 100 Roman soldiers.

And so it was the government of Caesar that came lashing out at Christ. And what did He say? He said, "You blind leaders of the blind, you hypocrites," you are lower than any animal. A snake is about the lowest animal --it crawls on the ground. You are lower than that, said Jesus to these people. He didn't mince words, He talked right back!

Now some few have tried to misapply the scriptures relating to our personal conduct. But they forget that we are to render to God the things that are God's. Now in our personal everyday life, we must be subject to the powers that be and we have always taught that, brethren. Concerning what happened in Pasadena, nobody was attacking the State--all we did was defend and protect the property of God. No one made any attack against people of the State. We didn't try to harm them. We didn't try to club them, to stab them or to shoot them. We did nothing of the kind. We had no arms at any time.

Peter and Paul had to spend all night in prison for preaching the truth about Christ and preaching the gospel. This suit has come on us because I preach the gospel around the world. After Peter and Paul had spent the night in jail for preaching the truth about Christ, the next day the government told them, "Don't you dare ever again preach that word about Jesus Christ anymore. You shut up your mouths and quit preaching." What did Peter and Paul do? They said, "Well, we shall obey God rather than man."

When it comes to defending Christ and His property against the government, that's a different matter altogether. I hope that you all understand that, and that some of the enemies of the Church are not going to mislead you.

Well, we're having nice hot weather over here, I don't know what you're having in Pasadena. But usually whatever you have today we'll get over here tomorrow. It just takes about 24 hours for the same weather you have to get over here. But we are thankful for one thing, the smog seems to settle somewhere along the way. It doesn't get all the way here and we don't have to endure that. Our temperature has been up above a hundred a great deal lately, but it's a dry heat and we have air-conditioning, so when we come inside we're out of it.

Well, I'd like to be there with you; I will be as soon as I can again. Thank you again a million times from the bottom of my heart! Good-bye.

#### FROM PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION

Dear Fellow Ministers:

Greetings again from Pasadena! We are all well here and in good health --and it is a joy to have Mr. and Mrs. Dean Blackwell out here on our team permanently now. His literal wealth of experience in the ministry will be a great asset to our headquarters team. And, again, I would like to ask all of you in the Dallas, Nashville, Kansas City, and Milwaukee areas to report directly to Mr. Blackwell when contacting headquarters about anything involving P.A.D. or the ministry. I know he will be a fine help to you and to all of us in the future.

Also, it was good to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Berg who just returned a few days ago from their two-month sojourn in Hawaii. Mr. Berg reported that the church out there has stabilized and that he even baptized two or three new members--so God is already beginning to replace those lost because of our former disloyal minister in the area.

Mr. Luker arrived back last night from a fine weekend visit to the S.E.P. camp up in Orr, Minnesota. He said the weather is fine now and the atmosphere of the camp is great. The campers are now enthusiastically awaiting the visit of Mr. Herbert Armstrong who plans to fly up there and speak to the campers this coming Sabbath.

A somber note from Britain: Mr. Frank Brown has asked all of us to please pray for Mrs. Arthur Suckling. It has just been discovered that she has a virulent form of bone cancer. Obviously, she will not be with us too many more years unless God intervenes--which He has in so many, many of these cases. So please PRAY FERVENTLY for Joyce Suckling and ask our Creator to hear the prayers of His servants and supernaturally intervene as our Healer.

Now to more of an administrative problem: From now on, God's ministers employed full-time by the Work should NOT take outside college courses unless directly approved by Mr. Herbert Armstrong or me. We are paying all of you men involved a salary for a full-time work and effort in the ministry. It should be your whole life. And, if we sincerely want to "rescue the perishing" and build up God's people all over this world, the opportunities and challenges of the ministry should be very fulfilling indeed!

There may be rare exceptions to the above rule in the future. Certainly, scores of our men in recent years have been taking outside college courses and even getting outside college degrees. Many of us, including myself had a year or more at another college before even coming to Ambassador College in the first place. We are not "afraid" of education or advanced training as such. However, our "field" of endeavor is religion. And virtually ALL of the religious and religiously-related courses taught in the universities and colleges of this world are taught from an essentially pagan viewpoint. The atmosphere involved in such classes and the attitude thus promoted is one of secularism, doubts, liberalism, and intellectual VANITY. I will not try here to argue or illustrate personal examples of, or partial exceptions to this principle. But the principle is obvious to DOZENS of our top men who have remained faithful in this Work and who have seen other men get "hooked" on the "leaven of intellectualism."

Often, the teachings involved in these courses in theology, psychology, or counseling are so very close to the truth that even some of our younger ministers have failed to perceive how different would be the outcome of following these teachings to their obvious CONCLUSION from the result of following the pure and simple laws and ways of God to their conclusion. It is a subtle thing--and therefore all the more dangerous.

Does this mean, then, that we should quit reading all outside books and confine ourselves to sentimentally perusing only the King James Version of the Bible?

Not at all! But we all should study the Bible itself much more than most of us do. And, with the help of commentaries and other study tools really "drink in" the biblical teachings on marriage, child rearing and the

whole WAY of life God has ordained. Then, as we view other material solidly from THAT viewpoint, we may find that there are many excellent ideas, principles and illustrations that may be derived from studying outside material on our own--coupled with prayer and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

In the literally hundreds of hours that I have spent personally with Mr. Armstrong, I have noticed that he often used to read books on a wide variety of biblical and Christian living-related subjects--marriage and human relations, principles of success, world conditions, prophetic occurrences, sex, child rearing, etc. Many times, as a student leader or young beginning minister, I would go up for a chat with Mr. Armstrong to his little "pent-house" over the library (much smaller than the present one) and, while waiting for him to complete typing an article or something, I would peruse one of the many books piled by his desk that he had obviously been reading.

This was a good education for me.

For I was able to learn from him how to grasp the "meat" out of a book without patiently reading all of it and absorbing all of its ideas and attitudes as might be done in a typical college class. For instance, I would generally notice that he would read the first 30 to 60 pages of a book, grasp its central idea with a few of the main supporting branches of the argument or thesis presented. Then, using this basic idea or "thrust" of the book he had been reading, coupled with other information from other books, magazines and his rich personal experience, he would be able to make a broadcast, write an article, preach a sermon or in some way USE this information to help others. Remember, Mr. Armstrong has always said: Knowledge is of no value except as it is used or applied." In other words, learning information or facts just to titillate one's personal vanity is of no particular consequence. Only when such information can be put to practical service is it of any great value.

Also, I would often notice that in marking key sentences and ideas in a book or extended magazine article, Mr. Armstrong would often circle a key word or phrase, draw a line out to the margin and write: "No!", and then proceed to briefly jot down why this particular slant was wrong or, contrariwise, what the right slant should be on the particular issue being discussed. In other words, Mr. Armstrong did not blindly "drink in" from ANY book other than the Bible since these other books convey only the ideas and viewpoints of human men--usually unconverted men CUT OFF from the understanding and viewpoint of God as they approach their particular theme in psychology, counseling, theology or whatever. Mr. Armstrong would CHALLENGE their thinking in his marginal notes. Yet, through his reading he did obviously broaden his thinking, and gained specific insight into various areas of human study and acquired specific information, facts, quotes to use and ideas to be used in God's Work if they truly harmonized with the Bible.

Mr. Armstrong has NOT in any way asked me to write this, but I sincerely feel that it may be of help to a number of you younger ministers, or perhaps even "middle level" ministers who have never had the privilege of indepth personal exposure to Mr. Armstrong as some of us pioneers did in the early days of the college. I hope you can use this approach in your own life to as much benefit as I feel I have in mine.

Then, if we concentrate on truly saturating our minds and hearts and lives with the direct Word of God--the Holy Bible--we will build a depth

of understanding and faith as a minister FAR BEYOND anything we would remotely approach if we keep looking over our shoulder at the world and thinking "that's where it's at."

Please fellows, let's not think ourselves more highly than the original apostles of Christ. Remember how they appointed the original seven deacons with the statement: "But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word (Acts 6:4). A lot of extra time spent in personal PRAYER and in personal, indepth, heartfelt BIBLE STUDY is exactly what the true ministry of Christ ought to be doing!

Remember that it was to Timothy, an evangelist, that Paul gave instructions: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (II Tim. 2:15). As ministers of Jesus Christ, each of us must be a "workman" and delve deeply into, meditating upon and studying the Bible constantly and fervently. By SATURATING our minds and hearts with God's word--His viewpoint, His attitude, His way--we will build a reservoir of true understanding, faith and fervency which will genuinely INSPIRE our people when they hear sermons and read articles and listen to Bible studies and heartfelt personal counsel of those strengthened and motivated by this foundation!

So let's emphasize the positive on this, fellows, and truly strengthen our own spiritual lives and the lives of all those about us. Then we can truly help one another and all of our brethren grow "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ."

Please do it.

With Christian love,



Roderick C. Meredith

#### ATTORNEY GENERAL FORCED TO DISCLOSE CHURCH DOCUMENTS IN HIS POSSESSION

For some time now, the Church's attorneys had been attempting to get the Attorney General to admit that he has had adequate information and material upon which to make a determination that the Church, College and Foundation were above reproach. And, of course, conversely that there was no reason for his having brought the action against the Work of God in the first place.

Since the beginning of the year, the Attorney General has resisted in court all of our efforts to obtain a list of the various Church documents that have been in his possession. Finally, several weeks ago the Attorney General was ordered by the court to produce such a list! Consequently, Friday afternoon we did receive the court ordered list. The papers furnished by the Attorney General revealed that he has had in his possession some 818 different documents, some of which are 24 to 50 pages in length! Others, of course, amount only to a one-page letter or interoffice memorandum. But please note that there are more than eight hundred documents (not just pages).

It is obvious to any reasonably informed individual that no greater amount of information should be necessary for the Attorney General to glean than what has already found its way by stealth, and in some cases by outright theft, to the Attorney General. For example, the Attorney General has copies of the Work's certified financial statements going back more than 10 years. He also has copies of various tax returns and information returns filed by the Church, College or Foundation going back ten years or more. In addition, the Attorney General has copies of all of Mr. Jack Kessler's audit working papers which go into great detail for each of the years that Mr. Kessler /the Church's outside auditor/ and/or others have audited the Work. The documents include many, many highly confidential ecclesiastical materials as well as letters from Mr. Herbert Armstrong to other members of the ministry, and letters from members of the ministry to Mr. Armstrong.

Hence, I believe it is important for all of you to realize that not only has the Attorney General been a receiver of stolen property, as we have stated on more than one occasion, but has in essence lied repeatedly to the public as well as to the courts when he has said that he needs an audit. The Attorney General never was entitled to an audit under any law, as he well knows. But more important, he was never entitled to trespass upon the property of the Church and/or the College in his effort to seize control of Church property and Church records, to convert the property to his own purposes and to allow his handpicked receiver--the ex-judge Steven S. Weisman--and any henchmen that he would appoint, to rip off the Work of the living God at a cost of over \$350,000 for the short time the Receiver was here. The Attorney General is now, by the way, "hanging on by his teeth," as they say, or "by his fingernails," desperately trying to convince someone that he had a right to proceed in the manner that he did even if he cannot prove, as he cannot, of course, that any of the outrageous allegations of his lawsuit were true.

In the meantime, it appears that the California Supreme Court in San Francisco has been hearing our appeals for help. Friday afternoon I received a "stay" and my petition for a hearing before the California Supreme Court was granted on a matter involving my personal suit against Hillel Chodos and Lawrence Tapper for defamation in their public statements about me made to the media. In the matter that was taken to the California Supreme Court, I had argued that I should not be legally compelled to cause the Church or the College to produce for Tapper's and Chodos' benefit copies of television tapes of any remark that I might have made about them. (Actually, the video tapes are so favorable to my lawsuit that I would probably want to show them as evidence myself!) As you can readily see, my action against both of them is as an individual and there should be no burden--no burden of any kind--imposed upon the Church or the College merely for their convenience.

--Stanley R. Rader

#### CHURCH DEMANDS FURTHER INVESTIGATION OF PACTH AND CHODOS

As our readers may recall, the NEWS SUMMARY of May 25 reported the white-washing of Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Jerry Pacht and attorney Hillel Chodos by the California Commission on Judicial Performance. The Church has taken great exception to the commission's press release of May 22 which exonerated these men--both of whom also happen to be members of the commission. (Chodos and Pacht were allegedly disqualified from participation in the commission's decision.) As you may also recall, that press release was very misleading!

On June 25th, Church attorney Allan Browne wrote a letter to the Executive Officer of the Commission on Judicial Performance. In the letter he clearly outlined the Church's objections to the commission's woefully inadequate investigation of Pacht and Chodos. Two days later the following news release was issued to the media by the Church, accompanied by a copy of Browne's letter.

The Commission on Judicial Performance is continuing its "investigation" of the California Supreme Court, and attorneys for the Worldwide Church of God have demanded that the Commission on Judicial Performance conduct a full investigation, which has been demanded before, of the unethical and unlawful activities of Judge Jerry Pacht of the Los Angeles Superior Court and Hillel Chodos--both members of the Commission on Judicial Performance now investigating the California Supreme Court.

Attorneys for the Church and church officials have insisted that both Jerry Pacht and Hillel Chodos be removed from the Commission on Judicial Performance pending a full investigation. The request comes because there are presently pending before the California Supreme Court, three separate petitions in the instant case involving the State of California and the Worldwide Church of God. Furthermore, additional petitions are expected to be filed as the litigation continues.

The Commission on Judicial Performance said that after going to "special lengths" and examining "all the facts" of the Church's original complaint, they found that "standard practice was followed." "If anything is clear," said Mr. Browne, "it is that standard practice was not followed. Standard, and indeed, required, practice obligates a party to file his action /lawsuit/ before seeking any legal relief whatsoever..." (Superior Court Rule 7, Section 1 cited). As our readers know, the dissidents' attorneys, headed by Chodos, conversed with Judge Pacht before ever appearing in court. Far from being "standard practice" therefore, such conduct was highly irregular and improper.

"In addition," continued Mr. Brown, "both the United States and California Supreme Courts have clearly and unequivocally held that orders affecting First Amendment rights cannot be granted ex parte without notice" (cases cited). Since no notice was given to the Church of the pending action, nor was there any attempt to notify the Church so it could defend itself at that time (actually, no one wanted to give the Church a chance to state the truth in court to answer the dissidents' false allegations), Judge Pacht could not properly have even considered the application for placing an ex parte receivership over the Worldwide Church of God!

No evidence was presented to Judge Pacht--only hearsay and false allegations. Mr. Browne further stated that it was absolutely clear the judge must have placed heavy emphasis not only on the oral argument, but also upon the presence of fellow Commission member Mr. Chodos, a retired judge whom he knew, and a deputy attorney general who came into court under the cloak of credibility and authority of that office. But it appears to Church attorneys that he placed the most emphasis on the fact that Chodos and Weisman were his long-time influential friends.

Mr. Browne concluded by asking the Commission to reopen the investigation of Judge Pacht and attorney Chodos in order to give Church attorneys a chance to present to the Commission their concerns about Pacht's conduct in the case. The Church should have been given this chance to be heard but had not been even contacted in the so-called "thorough investigation"!

#### COST OF LIVING DATA

One of the most difficult areas to administer for those of us in Ministerial Services has been the Area Wage Adjustment program. The concept of area wage adjustment is fairly simple--to compensate those who have been required to move into areas where the living costs are higher than those upon which their salaries were based. Salaries have been administered from Pasadena, and the pay scales set based on salaries in the Los Angeles area. Therefore, we have adjusted upward the salaries of those living in areas where the cost of living exceeded that of the Los Angeles area.

Translating the area wage adjustment concept into an equitable program has been difficult because of a lack of suitable information. Individual perception--the individual concerned making judgments based on his own feelings about his area--hasn't been shown to be a reliable guide. This is the main weakness, among others, that led to the failure of the Third Tithe Housing Subsidy system. In that system, serious inequities developed.

Reports in newspapers and magazines have proven to be misleading and unusable for our purposes. They have data on a very limited number of cities and often their data isn't of a suitable nature. Also, we learned in discussions with the head of the Los Angeles office of the Department of Labor that their statistics aren't applicable to our needs.

We have, for several years, used information from the American Chamber of Commerce Research Associates. We feel their data is accurate, sufficiently broad in coverage, and applicable to the Area Wage Adjustment program. In addition we recently have had a cost of living report prepared specifically for the Church by the Runzheimer and Company consulting firm. This seems, thus far, to be the best information available to us. It is only from this kind of factual basis that we can equitably administer the Area Wage Adjustment program.

Over the past six years as the cost of living has gone up all across the nation, it has gone up even faster in the Pasadena/Los Angeles area. The result has been that fewer and fewer areas have been eligible for area wage adjustment; and now according to the latest, most accurate information available to us, no area in the United States is eligible.

According to a May 1979 report produced for us by Runzheimer, the Pasadena area has higher living costs than any of the other areas studied which included in descending order: Pasadena, Honolulu, San Francisco/Oakland, Anchorage, Chicago, Washington, D.C., New York City/Northeast New Jersey, Boston, and Seattle.

Having talked to a number of men in some of the traditional high-cost areas, I know that it's hard to perceive of the shift in living costs that has been happening across the country. However, those of us living in the Los Angeles basin know there has been a change.



All of us across the country will find it necessary, in the face of increasing inflation, to be more selective on how we spend our money; and may have to revise downward certain aspects of our living standards. Making do with less is never easy, but that is essentially what is being forced on us by inflation.

For those few individuals who presently are receiving an area wage adjustment, we will not be making any revisions immediately. We feel it may be best to make any changes gradually and hopefully in conjunction with cost of living adjustments.

In a future Pastor's Report, we want to discuss other aspects of cost of living, transfer costs, and purchasing houses. We are continuing to study this important area and want to keep all of you informed of the latest available facts.

--Ted Herlofson, Ministerial Services

Notice

If you or any members have questions regarding John D. Siemasko, a dis-fellowshipped member, please contact John D. Hammer at (615) 452-0876.

--Ministerial Services

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Ghana

This report is for those who feel they have it rough..... In the West African state of Ghana 88 members and one minister are currently experiencing the danger and tension of internal strife in their country.

Ghana has been under a military government since 1972. This government has been marked by corruption and the military has been thoroughly discredited. The latest coup was by a group of junior officers and NCO's pledged to cleaning up the corruption, and determined to succeed no matter how many stand in their way.

Our minister, Melvin Rhodes, who resides in Accra, the capital, wrote recently to the English Office which services that area. Here are the excerpts from his letter:

We are not worried about the situation here, but I think I should advise you of what is happening just in case the situation deteriorates. As the U.S. Embassy advised us this morning, "This is how Ethiopia and Iran started." They (and the British High Commission) have established a phone system to evacuate nationals should it become necessary. Not being on the phone, we have been advised to listen regularly to the BBC and VOA (Voice of America, radio).

The main problem is that the soldiers are not disciplined. They are constantly drunk and then start beating up and shooting Lebanese (and Ghanaians). The shootings are usually accompanied by looting, especially in the Airport residential area and around Teshie (we are in the middle, tho' on the other side of the road. We've had no trouble in this suburb yet.) Teshie is right next to the road that takes you to Kumasi (large town north of Accra). Last Sunday, while we were in Kumasi, there was a great deal of shooting in both areas. At least six Britons were shot--allegedly mistaken for Lebanese. None of the Britons died, fortunately. But it's put the wind up a lot of people. At this time of year most whites go home on leave anyway, and most say that they are simply bringing forward their leave. But many men are sending out their wives and children. I've been asked a number of times (by whites) if we are leaving, or if I'm sending Diane and the children out. Oh, I forgot to mention that two of those shot on Sunday were children.

Estimates of the number of dead range from 300 upwards to about 700. I know that people can easily exaggerate, but there is no way of either confirming or disproving these figures. But the atmosphere is very unpleasant. Shops are being forced to sell everything at the official price. This morning I was asked to show the baby's weigh-in card to obtain baby food. I didn't have it, but got some when I produced Kurt. Soldiers just march into stores and force their way through to the back, bringing out "hoarded" goods, and then sell them at controlled prices. A site has been readied for a firing squad to shoot anyone for hoarding or selling above the official price; or for corruption. I don't think it's been used yet, but the mere sight of it in the newspapers was enough for me.

But our major fear regards the car. Going to Kumasi a soldier demanded a lift. Not uncommon, but I thought he was going to commandeer it. Those who had their vehicles commandeered during the coup received some hopes of getting them back yesterday. The radio announced that commandeered vehicles should be returned to the Air Force base (not returned, I suppose, but at least taken there). Then the owners can go and collect them, a process which may take weeks.

On the way back from Kumasi, we had to open our boot (trunk) twice. (Difficult since a minor accident. The difficulty makes them more suspicious, as if we are purposely delaying.)

Anyway, as I say, we are not unduly worried and are staying at home as much as possible, which isn't really much. I've cancelled my intended trip to Togo next week, as the Border Guards are causing people problems. I would feel safer if we had access to money enabling us to leave in an emergency. But I suppose we'll just have to wait for an RAF airlift! No, I don't think it will come to that. But the next few months are going to be difficult. The election is scheduled for next Monday. But the new government plans on cleaning up for some months.

(Forgot to mention, yesterday I got held up by a demonstration. I couldn't read all the placards but they were directed against foreigners, whether just Lebanese or not I don't know.)

Meanwhile, I'm applying for another two-month visitor's visa.

P.S. The expressed fear at the U.S. Embassy was that if someone in the British or American governments condemned Ghana's "revolutionary tribunals" (as per Iran), there would be reprisals against British and U.S. nationals.

### Fiji

Mr. Bob Morton, Regional Director for New Zealand and the Pacific, recently visited the island nation of Fiji. To this date we have not had a congregation there although we have 22 members. As well as baptizing 5 new members, Mr. Morton ordained our first elder there, Ratu Epeli Kanaimawi, and a deacon to serve the growing congregation.

Forty-eight attended the first service, now to be held on a weekly basis. Over 2600 Plain Truths are mailed to Fiji from New Zealand each month; year-to-date indigenous income there is showing a +80% increase over 1978. While there Mr. Morton held a small ministerial conference which also included Mr. T. Ha'angana who flew from Tonga for the occasion.

--Compiled by Rod Matthews, International Office

### THE AMBASSADOR COLLEGE REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A new scholarship program will be offered to certain students coming to Ambassador College. It is called the Regional Scholarship Program. Each Regional Director (or Area Coordinator in the U.S.A. and Canada) can nominate the top applicants in his region/area for a one year full-tuition scholarship. Each Regional Director/Area Coordinator can make his choice based upon recommendations from the pastors of his region/area.

The person each pastor nominates should be the most outstanding prospective Ambassador College student in his area. We are interested in those students who excel not only in academics, but also have qualities of leadership and character, have a balanced personality and record of participation in various activities. The applicant would be expected to apply for admission through the Admissions Office and meet all named academic standards. Consider also the financial need of your applicant. The person you nominate to your Regional Director/Area Coordinator should have potential, if the opportunity should arise, to be used in the Work in the future.

If you have anyone in your area who meets these qualifications please send a letter to your Director/Coordinator stating the qualifications of your applicant. The top applicants will then be forwarded to the College.

By the way, the next edition of the Worldwide News will carry an article on this new scholarship program, so be aware that you may be approached about it.

Also, I'd like to bring to your attention the fact that all applicants to the College who have been involved in Y.O.U. are being considered by both the Financial Aids Office and the Y.O.U. office for several Y.O.U. one-year full-tuition scholarships which will be awarded in July. Although this year the candidates are being selected without having to apply, please let your youth know that they will be able to apply for this scholarship beginning with the 1980-81 school year. The qualifications are the same as for the Regional

Scholarship Program. In addition, we look at Y.O.U. involvement--offices held, number of times SEP attended, talent and athletic contest involvement, Y.O.U. National Conference attendees, etc.

In all of these programs, one of the most important considerations is the ministerial evaluation. Your input is often the deciding factor on scholarship awards, as it is on college acceptance. Please do not feel this paper work is a waste of time. We rely on it heavily.

Thank you for the work you are doing to prepare the youth for college. If you have any questions about scholarship programs please call me at (213) 577-5520.

--Ron Wroblewski, Financial Aids Office

#### PLAIN TRUTH PROMOTIONAL TESTS BEING CONDUCTED

Sunday, July 1st, we began a new venture. This is a series of promotional tests to increase the circulation of the Plain Truth. A new idea for promotion here in the U.S. is the use of the Sunday newspaper advertising inserts. We have designed an attractive full color brochure which is aimed at getting the Sunday morning bacon and eggs crowd to subscribe to the Plain Truth. We are running our first tests in the Sacramento Union and the San Diego Union. We have high hopes that it will prove to be as effective for us as it is with other commercial magazines. I'll let you know when the results come in.

--Roger Lippross, Publishing Services Director

#### JERUSALEM FEAST STILL HAS VACANCIES

About 100 vacancies remain open for the 1979 Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem. There have now been 250 persons taking reservations for the trip; initially only 300 reservations were open, however the list has been expanded to 350 because of increased interest.

Persons wanting information concerning the trip should contact their Feast adviser (persons changing plans for 1979 should notify the Feast Office about the changes).

Thanks for the tremendous response which has made this special Feast in Jerusalem possible.

--Festival Office

#### WORK BEGINS ON 1979 FEAST SPEAKING SCHEDULE

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong has initiated work on the Speaking Schedule for the 1979 Feast of Tabernacles, according to Sherwin McMichael, Director of the Festival Office.

Mr. McMichael says the preliminary work on the schedule includes which men will open and close the Feast site. He adds that Mr. Armstrong is "intimately involved" in the entire selection process of men speaking at each site across the United States.

--Festival Office

ON THE WORLD SCENE

FROM NOW ON, ONE STEP FROM ECONOMIC COLLAPSE: "OPEC makes it a virtual certainty that we'll have a recession." That's the blunt assessment of energy economist John Zamzow to the recent hike by OPEC oil producers in the price of crude. Prices rose this time an average of 18%. Worse yet, prices have gone up about 60% in the last six months, due largely to the cutoff, then limited restoration of Iranian oil, which led to a chaotic spiral in the cost of "spot" or non-contracted oil.

President Carter, in his gloomiest economic assessment to date now predicts that a recession is "much more likely than it was before" the June OPEC decision. The United States, he said, will probably have a "zero growth rate" for the year. Government experts who handed the President the gloomy news predict that by 1980 the 11-billion-dollar annual rise in the cost of imported oil will add two percentage points to the country's inflation rate, which now is running at a yearly pace of 14 percent. Experts also see a drop to two percentage points in the nation's growth rate and another 800,000 persons added to the jobless rolls by the end of the next year.

Worst of all, the U.S. and the rest of the free world economies are going to be sitting on pins-and-needles for a long time. OPEC will probably raise prices again by year's end. The dollar is likely to start slumping in value, after a brief upward rise, leading to increased OPEC price demands, since their product is priced in U.S. currency.

Even though Saudi Arabia has promised to "turn on the tap" more, she no longer has the political leverage to reign in prices with threats to flood the market. The market, after Iran, is simply too tight. Even the pledge by the industrialized countries at the Tokyo economic summit to basically hold the line on future import levels to the 1979 figures is expected to do little.

The knife-edge situation is further complicated by complex political disputes. The Administration feels it can't lift sanctions against Rhodesia's Zimbabwe primarily out of fear that Nigeria would cut off oil sales to the U.S. And over the weekend, the mercurial Colonel Kaddafi warned he might cut off all oil exports for 2 to 4 years, just because he didn't like the manner in which the industrialized countries reacted to the OPEC decision (they were supposed to applaud an 18% hike?).

The world simply cannot afford another "Iran." Yet there are other "Irans" which could occur at a moment's notice.

Most troublesome of all, of course, are the unresolved issues in the Middle East, specifically the Palestinian problem. In the coming issue of Newsweek, summarized before publication by UPI, Saudi Arabia's oil minister says the price of a barrel of oil could increase to \$50 a barrel and an economic collapse worse than the Great Depression could strike the West if desperate Palestinians interrupt the flow of oil from the Middle East.

Sheik Ahmed Zaki Yamani said the United States must be prepared "to face the consequences"--a cutoff of Middle East oil--unless it acts to pressure Israel to allow a Palestinian homeland on the occupied West Bank of the Jordan River.

Yamani said the sudden loss of 3 million barrels of oil a day from Iran during the revolution that deposed Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi caused economic panic.

"And if something happens in the area that causes a further drop of 3 million barrels per day, as it may, the price will quickly shoot up to \$50 a barrel," Yamani said. "Most of the Western world's plants would then have to close and it would be worse than the 1929 depression."

He was asked what could cause another curtailment of Middle East oil, set at \$18 to \$23.50 a barrel at last week's OPEC oil ministers meeting in Geneva. "Look at what happened this week when the Israelis shot down five Syrian planes over Lebanon," Yamani said. "This sort of thing can escalate rapidly. The Israelis are looking for pretexts to avoid facing the inevitability of a Palestinian homeland and withdrawal from the West Bank. The Palestinians are growing ever more desperate, and I wouldn't be surprised if one day they sank one or two supertankers in the Strait of Hormuz, to force the world to do something about their plight and Israel's obstinacy.

"This would block the channel through which pass 19 to 20 million barrels daily. This would make the present crisis seem like child's play. Either the U.S. can compel Israel to implement U.N. Resolution #242 and withdraw to the pre-June 1967, borders--or can't. If it can't then you must be prepared to face the consequences."

Yamani said if the industrialized nations reduce consumption by 4 million barrels a day in 1980, the price of oil would drop. But he said a consuming nation's cartel would be futile. "Be realistic," he said. "Don't start on something you won't be able to finish."

Western military occupation of Middle East oil-producing lands is equally senseless, he said. "Sabotage /by Palestinians/ of a few key ports could half production for a couple of years," he said, "and then where would we all be? No, we must think positively. Be serious about cutting back, be serious about a Middle Eastern settlement and a new era will open up."

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau

# **MEMBER'S HOTLINE** WORLDWIDE EDITION

---

MR. ARMSTRONG VIDEOTAPES PERSONAL THANKS TO SOUTHLAND BRETHERN

(Editor's Note: The following is from a transcript of the videotaped message Mr. Armstrong prepared for the members of the Churches in Southern California. He expressed his deep appreciation of their support during the Church/state crisis and explains a bit further the why and wherefore of what the Church had to do.)

GREETINGS EVERYBODY back there in Pasadena! I've just finished recording my message for the opening on a Friday night of the coming Feast of Tabernacles, and the opening sermon on Sabbath morning which will be shown on the screen at all feast sites all over the world.

While I have the television crew here I thought that I might say a very few words to just you people there in and near Pasadena, and in the Southern California area.

I want to thank you millions and millions of times over. I don't have the words in my vocabulary to properly thank you for your loyalty and your willingness to get out and work when the State of California came down with their illegal and unconstitutional massive attack against the Church of the Living God.

You know government has always fought God and God's way. Way back at the time that God drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden, God said in effect, "You've rejected Me as your King and as your Lord and Ruler /so/ now go form your own governments, form your own kind of rulership." And so that's what man has done, and man has, ever since, been contrary to God.

Now some few have tried to misapply the scriptures relating to our personal conduct in regard to Caesar--in other words, in our relationship with the government. But they forget that we are to render unto God the things that are God's. I know Jesus said, "Render therefore unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's," but when it comes to rendering the whole Church of God and all of its assets over to the state, they are not Caesar's, they are God's! And we are not going to render what is God's over to Caesar. And we didn't, and thank you for standing back of us, brethren.

In our personal everyday life we are told in Romans and elsewhere in the Bible that we must be subject to the powers that be. I've explained that so many times. Here's a little example: if the government says that we must only drive 50 miles an hour, okay, only drive 50 miles an hour, not 55 or 60. That is for our everyday life and our private lives.

But what did Jesus do when the Pharisees came to Him? Remember the Pharisees were in government positions (or did you forget that?). The Roman Empire was ruling over Judea in the days of Christ and the Romans were pretty smart. They didn't send a lot of people from Rome over there to administer their lower and simpler form of government. They took the sect of the Pharisees to do that ruling. But remember that there were Roman armies there. There was a Roman governor, and he had military forces. Jesus healed one man who was a centurion; in other words, he was a Roman soldier over 100 Roman soldiers.

And so it was the government of Caesar that came lashing out at Christ. And what did He say? He said, "You blind leaders of the blind, you hypocrites," you are lower than any animal. A snake is about the lowest animal --it crawls on the ground. You are lower than that, said Jesus to these people. He didn't mince words, He talked right back!

Now some few have tried to misapply the scriptures relating to our personal conduct. But they forget that we are to render to God the things that are God's. Now in our personal everyday life, we must be subject to the powers that be and we have always taught that, brethren. Concerning what happened in Pasadena, nobody was attacking the State--all we did was defend and protect the property of God. No one made any attack against people of the State. We didn't try to harm them. We didn't try to club them, to stab them or to shoot them. We did nothing of the kind. We had no arms at any time.

Peter and Paul had to spend all night in prison for preaching the truth about Christ and preaching the gospel. This suit has come on us because I preach the gospel around the world. After Peter and Paul had spent the night in jail for preaching the truth about Christ, the next day the government told them, "Don't you dare ever again preach that word about Jesus Christ anymore. You shut up your mouths and quit preaching." What did Peter and Paul do? They said, "Well, we shall obey God rather than man."

When it comes to defending Christ and His property against the government, that's a different matter altogether. I hope that you all understand that, and that some of the enemies of the Church are not going to mislead you.

Well, we're having nice hot weather over here, I don't know what you're having in Pasadena. But usually whatever you have today we'll get over here tomorrow. It just takes about 24 hours for the same weather you have to get over here. But we are thankful for one thing, the smog seems to settle somewhere along the way. It doesn't get all the way here and we don't have to endure that. Our temperature has been up above a hundred a great deal lately, but it's a dry heat and we have air-conditioning, so when we come inside we're out of it.

Well, I'd like to be there with you; I will be as soon as I can again. Thank you again a million times from the bottom of my heart! Good-bye.

#### ATTORNEY GENERAL FORCED TO DISCLOSE CHURCH DOCUMENTS IN HIS POSSESSION

For some time now, the Church's attorneys had been attempting to get the Attorney General to admit that he has had adequate information and material upon which to make a determination that the Church, College and Foundation were above reproach. And, of course, conversely that there was no reason for his having brought the action against the Work of God in the first place.

Since the beginning of the year, the Attorney General has resisted in court all of our efforts to obtain a list of the various Church documents that have been in his possession. Finally, several weeks ago the Attorney General was ordered by the court to produce such a list! Consequently, Friday afternoon we did receive the court ordered list. The papers furnished by the Attorney General revealed that he has had in his possession some 818 different documents, some of which are 24 to 50 pages in length! Others, of course, amount only to a one-page letter or interoffice memorandum. But please note that there are more than eight hundred documents (not just pages).



It is obvious to any reasonably informed individual that no greater amount of information should be necessary for the Attorney General to glean than what has already found its way by stealth, and in some cases by outright theft, to the Attorney General. For example, the Attorney General has copies of the Work's certified financial statements going back more than 10 years. He also has copies of various tax returns and information returns filed by the Church, College or Foundation going back ten years or more. In addition, the Attorney General has copies of all of Mr. Jack Kessler's audit working papers which go into great detail for each of the years that Mr. Kessler /the Church's outside auditor/ and/or others have audited the Work. The documents include many, many highly confidential ecclesiastical materials as well as letters from Mr. Herbert Armstrong to other members of the ministry, and letters from members of the ministry to Mr. Armstrong.

Hence, I believe it is important for all of you to realize that not only has the Attorney General been a receiver of stolen property, as we have stated on more than one occasion, but has in essence lied repeatedly to the public as well as to the courts when he has said that he needs an audit. The Attorney General never was entitled to an audit under any law, as he well knows. But more important, he was never entitled to trespass upon the property of the Church and/or the College in his effort to seize control of Church property and Church records, to convert the property to his own purposes and to allow his handpicked receiver--the ex-judge Steven S. Weisman--and any henchmen that he would appoint, to rip off the Work of the living God at a cost of over \$350,000 for the short time the Receiver was here. The Attorney General is now, by the way, "hanging on by his teeth," as they say, or "by his fingernails," desperately trying to convince someone that he had a right to proceed in the manner that he did even if he cannot prove, as he cannot, of course, that any of the outrageous allegations of his lawsuit were true.

In the meantime, it appears that the California Supreme Court in San Francisco has been hearing our appeals for help. Firday afternoon I received a "stay" and my petition for a hearing before the California Supreme Court was granted on a matter involving my personal suit against Hillel Chodos and Lawrence Tapper for defamation in their public statements about me made to the media. In the matter that was taken to the California Supreme Court, I had argued that I should not be legally compelled to cause the Church or the College to produce for Tapper's and Chodos' benefit copies of television tapes of any remark that I might have made about them. (Actually, the video tapes are so favorable to my lawsuit that I would probably want to show them as evidence myself!) As you can readily see, my action against both of them is as an individual and there should be no burden--no burden of any kind--imposed upon the Church or the College merely for their convenience.

--Stanley R. Rader

#### CHURCH DEMANDS FURTHER INVESTIGATION OF PACTH AND CHODOS

As our readers may recall, the NEWS SUMMARY of May 25 reported the white-washing of Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Jerry Pacht and attorney Hillel Chodos by the California Commission on Judicial Performance. The Church has taken great exception to the commission's press release of May 22 which exonerated these men--both of whom also happen to be members of the commission. (Chodos and Pacht were allegedly disqualified from participation in the commission's decision.) As you may also recall, that press release was very misleading!

On June 25th, Church attorney Allan Browne wrote a letter to the Executive Officer of the Commission on Judicial Performance. In the letter he clearly

outlined the Church's objections to the commission's woefully inadequate investigation of Pacht and Chodos. Two days later the following news release was issued to the media by the Church, accompanied by a copy of Browne's letter.

The Commission on Judicial Performance is continuing its "investigation" of the California Supreme Court, and attorneys for the Worldwide Church of God have demanded that the Commission on Judicial Performance conduct a full investigation, which has been demanded before, of the unethical and unlawful activities of Judge Jerry Pacht of the Los Angeles Superior Court and Hillel Chodos--both members of the Commission on Judicial Performance now investigating the California Supreme Court.

Attorneys for the Church and church officials have insisted that both Jerry Pacht and Hillel Chodos be removed from the Commission on Judicial Performance pending a full investigation. The request comes because there are presently pending before the California Supreme Court, three separate petitions in the instant case involving the State of California and the Worldwide Church of God. Furthermore, additional petitions are expected to be filed as the litigation continues.

The Commission on Judicial Performance said that after going to "special lengths" and examining "all the facts" of the Church's original complaint, they found that "standard practice was followed." "If anything is clear," said Mr. Browne, "it is that standard practice was not followed. Standard, and indeed, required, practice obligates a party to file his action /law-suit/ before seeking any legal relief whatsoever..." (Superior Court Rule 7, Section 1 cited). As our readers know, the dissidents' attorneys, headed by Chodos, conversed with Judge Pacht before ever appearing in court. Far from being "standard practice" therefore, such conduct was highly irregular and improper.

"In addition," continued Mr. Brown, "both the United States and California Supreme Courts have clearly and unequivocally held that orders affecting First Amendment rights cannot be granted ex parte without notice" (cases cited). Since no notice was given to the Church of the pending action, nor was there any attempt to notify the Church so it could defend itself at that time (actually, no one wanted to give the Church a chance to state the truth in court to answer the dissidents' false allegations), Judge Pacht could not properly have even considered the application for placing an ex parte receivership over the Worldwide Church of God!

No evidence was presented to Judge Pacht--only hearsay and false allegations. Mr. Browne further stated that it was absolutely clear the judge must have placed heavy emphasis not only on the oral argument, but also upon the presence of fellow Commission member Mr. Chodos, a retired judge whom he knew, and a deputy attorney general who came into court under the cloak of credibility and authority of that office. But it appears to Church attorneys that he placed the most emphasis on the fact that Chodos and Weisman were his long-time influential friends.

Mr. Browne concluded by asking the Commission to reopen the investigation of Judge Pacht and attorney Chodos in order to give Church attorneys a chance to present to the Commission their concerns about Pacht's conduct in the case. The Church should have been given this chance to be heard but had not been even contacted in the so-called "thorough investigation"!