

The PLAIN TRUTH

A magazine of *understanding*

VOL. XX, NUMBER 3

APRIL, 1955

What Is the Reward of the Saved—HEAVEN?

What assurance have we that our departed loved ones have gone to heaven? By WHAT AUTHORITY have we believed that we shall go to heaven, if we're saved?

by **Herbert W. Armstrong**

THIS MAY be a little shocking—but I want to ask you a candid question: Did you ever look into your Bible to see whether it really does say you will ever go to heaven, if you are saved? Did you ever look into your Bible to see what *it* reveals about what the saved shall inherit for eternity?

It's going to come as a surprise to most of you to realize that you never did. Of course, you've always *heard* that you'll go to heaven, if you're saved—you've just accepted it, probably—but did you ever stop to *PROVE* it—did you ever try to find it promised in *your Bible*? If you do, you'll probably be even *more* surprised!

God Makes a Promise

I want you to notice a statement in *your Bible*, as *little* understood as any passage in this wonderful Book which Bruce Barton said is the Book *NOBODY* understands! It's Galatians 3:16, and 29. This was written primarily for the *GEN-TILE*-born converts in Galatia:

"Now to *ABRAHAM* and his Seed were the *PROMISES* made; . . . and if *YE* be Christ's, then are *ye* Abraham's children, and *heirs* according to the *PROMISE*."

The Christian is not yet a possessor of his reward—he is an heir—and what he shall inherit, if saved, is the *PROMISE*

made to Abraham. Whatever shall be the reward of the *SAVED*—wherever we shall spend eternity if *SAVED*—is a definite, specific *PROMISE* of God—and that *PROMISE* was made to Abraham, called, in this same Book of Galatians written for *GEN-TILE* converts, the *FATHER* of the faithful. If one is converted, whether Jew or Gentile—regardless of race or color or sex—IF one is *CHRIST'S*, then he becomes one of Abraham's children, and an *HEIR* of the *PROMISE* made to Abraham. What he is to *inherit*, then, is whatever was *PROMISED* to Abraham.

If you'll look into your Bible to find out what God *PROMISED* to Abraham—to find out *WHAT* is the reward to those who are saved—to find out *WHY* we have to be *ABRAHAM'S* children to inherit this promise of salvation—*WHEN* and *HOW* we shall inherit the promise—*you're in for a shocking surprise!*

There is *NO MORE IMPORTANT QUESTION* IN YOUR LIFE—why, *this* matter concerns *YOUR ETERNITY*—and yet you probably never thought to really look into it, for yourself—*IN YOUR OWN BIBLE!* The statement we read from the Book of Galatians actually sums up the *WHOLE* of the Gospel—it is a condensed statement of the very *PURPOSE* and *PLAN* of God for mankind! Your hope of *LIFE ETERNAL*—of salvation—

depends altogether on what is stated in that greatly *misunderstood* passage!

Christ Confirmed the PROMISE

In order to *UNDERSTAND* this most important question in the world, notice what is written in Romans 15:8: "Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to *confirm* the *PROMISES* made unto the fathers."

In bringing a *new message*—the *GOSPEL*—Jesus came to *confirm* the *PROMISES* made to the *FATHERS*. But *WHO* were the *FATHERS*?—and *WHAT* are the *PROMISES* made to them?—heaven—purgatory—? *YOUR SALVATION* depends on the answer! You read in Acts 3:13, in the inspired words of Peter: "The God of *ABRAHAM*, and of *ISAAC*, and of *JACOB*, the God of *OUR FATHERS*, hath glorified His Son, Jesus." The *FATHERS*, then, were Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. If you are *CHRIST'S*—if you are a *CHRISTIAN*—you are an heir to inherit—*NOT* what *MEN* might devise in their imaginations—you are an heir *according to the promise!* If you're an *HEIR*, you are going to *inherit* something. If you're an heir *according to the promise*—you are going to inherit *whatever* was *PROMISED*—and not something else.

That PROMISE to Abraham is *important!* Whatever it is—that is what YOU shall inherit—if you are saved! You find the account of that PROMISE MADE TO ABRAHAM in the Book of Genesis.

It begins in the 12th chapter of Genesis—verse 1: "Now the Eternal had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a *land* I will show thee."

Abraham Enters the Picture

First, God called Abram—as his name was at first—out of the land of BABYLON where he lived—surely symbolic of the spiritual BABYLON in which WE live, today—just as, today, God calls you and me out of THIS world—THIS babylon! Abraham didn't quibble or argue. The verse says: "So Abram DEPARTED." He went to A CERTAIN LAND, where God led him—the land we call Palestine today! Abraham OBEYED God. "So Abram departed!" it is written! That's why HE was made the FATHER of the precious PROMISES on which YOUR eternal salvation rests! He OBEYED—immediately he DEPARTED! Yes, just as YOU must *obey*, if you, *with* Abraham, are to inherit that PROMISE!

Men today have NO CONCEPTION of what is really in store for the one who is really SAVED. The inheritance that awaits YOU—if you surrender to God—if you OBEY as Abraham obeyed—if you rely, not on YOUR faith, but the very FAITH OF CHRIST—if you are really BORN AGAIN—I say that inheritance surpasses anything you have ever conceived SO FAR, that you haven't the slightest conception of YOUR TRUE POTENTIAL DESTINY!

As we read I Corinthians 2:9—"Eye hath not seen, ear hath not heard, neither have entered into the heart of man the things which God prepared for those that love Him . . ." The inheritance which God has prepared for YOU cannot even be CONCEIVED by the natural mind of man—but God DOES reveal it to us, as you read in the 10th verse of this 2nd chapter of I Cor., "BY HIS SPIRIT!"

Now what *did* God promise ABRAHAM?

Genesis 12:6-7: "And Abram passed thru the land unto the place of Sichem, unto the plain of Moreh. And the Canaanite was then in the land. And the Eternal appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto *thy seed* will I give THIS LAND." So the promise was the inheritance of the LAND OF PALESTINE.

The PROMISED Land

Let's continue, Genesis 13:14-15: "And the Eternal said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and south-

ward, and eastward, and westward: for ALL THE LAND WHICH THOU SEEST, to thee will I GIVE IT, and to thy seed F O R E V E R ! The land where Abram was, is the land of Canaan, called PALESTINE today. That, then, is the PROMISED LAND—that's why it's called the PROMISED LAND!

But for how long?—FOREVER! The inheritance is to be ETERNAL inheritance, which of necessity involves and includes EVERLASTING LIFE!

If one inherits a piece of LAND, the deed must describe the exact BOUNDARIES of the property. Is such a description given, in THIS deed we may hope to inherit?

Genesis 15:18: "In the same day the Eternal made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given THIS LAND, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates." From the NILE river in Egypt, to the EU-PHRATES in the Near-East!

We've all seen enough WAR-MAPS to know where that is, and I'm sure we all know it isn't up in heaven somewhere, but RIGHT HERE ON THIS EARTH. If ye be CHRIST'S, then are ye ABRAHAM'S seed and heirs ACCORDING TO THE PROMISE—and the PROMISE—the promise of ETERNAL INHERITANCE—is the land of PALESTINE, from the Nile clear to the Euphrates, HERE ON THIS EARTH! God help us to put our trust in the SURE WORD OF GOD, *not* in the fables of men!

Incidentally, let me add, OTHER Scriptures show that the TERRITORY of Christ's Kingdom is to expand and spread until ultimately it shall include the WHOLE EARTH.

Obedience Before Inheritance

In making this promise to Abram, God conditioned it on OBEDIENCE. Abraham DID obey! First, he left his native land, his friends and relatives, his old ways of life—he forsook ALL, and followed where God led. AGAIN God conditioned the promises on obedience. Abram was commanded to sacrifice his only son Isaac. And again he did not stop to reason it out, or make excuse, or rebel—he OBEYED! God didn't take the son—He merely wanted Abram's WILLINGNESS to obey, in and thru FAITH.

But now notice, AFTER Abraham HAD obeyed—HAD been put to the test and found faithful—were there any further CONDITIONS to the promise?

Let's read Genesis 22:15-18: "And the angel of the Eternal called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, and said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for *because* thou HAST DONE this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine ONLY son, that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I WILL multiply thy seed as the stars of

the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; AND IN THY SEED SHALL ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH BE BLESSED; *B E C A U S E* THOU HAST OBEYED MY VOICE."

Now it was UNCONDITIONAL. Abraham already *had* performed HIS part of this COVENANT—this AGREEMENT. And so today WHOSOEVER WILL from EVERY nation may come and take of the waters of LIFE freely, because God has kept His promise, and the promised Seed, Christ, has come.

Yes, the PROMISE is now ABSOLUTELY SURE. Why? "BECAUSE," as we read further in Genesis 26:5, "Because ABRAHAM OBEYED my voice, and KEPT my charge, MY COMMANDMENTS, MY STATUTES, AND MY LAWS." Again let me say that SIN is the transgression of the LAW, the same fundamental eternal SPIRITUAL law that Adam transgressed when he SINNED, and the same laws and commandments Abraham obeyed and KEPT—long before the sacrifices and rituals of Moses—making possible all the blessings we have today, both material AND spiritual!

Now you remember that Isaac and Jacob also were included in "the FATHERS." And so we find now that these same PROMISES were made also to them.

Notice Genesis 26:1-3: "And the Eternal appeared unto ISAAC, and said, Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of: sojourn in *this* land and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give ALL THESE COUNTRIES, and I will perform the oath which I swear unto Abraham thy father; and I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed *all these countries*; AND IN THY SEED SHALL ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH BE BLESSED; *because* that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws."

And again the promise was made to JACOB, recorded in Genesis 35:9-12: "And God appeared unto JACOB . . . and said unto him, Thy name is JACOB: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but ISRAEL shall be thy name . . . I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation (today the United States) and a company of nations (today the British Commonwealth) shall be of thee, and KINGS shall come out of thy loins; and the LAND which I have given to Abraham and Isaac, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land."

Even the Gentile-born, THRU CHRIST, becomes not only Abraham's seed, but a spiritually adopted ISRAELITE AS WELL.

(Please continue on page 11)

The Astounding TRUTH about EASTER

Here are the amazing FACTS that have been hidden for centuries. Here are the shocking revelations of authentic history and the Bible!

BELIEVE it or not, Easter was being observed 4000 years ago! It was still being observed when the Christ-child was born—during His ministry—when He built His Church—*yet Christ did not institute it—Christ never observed it—the Apostles never observed it—the Church JESUS BUILT never observed it—the Apostle Paul commanded the Gentile-born Christians to cease observing it. More startling, CHRIST commands us, today, to cease observing it!*

HOW, then, did Easter—now revealed as an ancient pagan custom of IDOL WORSHIP—get into the Christianity of the Western world?

And DOES IT MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE?

Listen! *Your eternity* may depend on the answer! Here are the authentic facts of history. Here is God's word to *you—whether it makes any difference what YOU believe—or what YOU do about it!*

God has commissioned me: "Cry aloud, and spare not, lift up your voice like a trumpet; declare to my people their transgressions." Write for my two eye-opening booklets, "EASTER," and "RESURRECTION."

This article by Herman L. Hoeh reveals, for the first time, many additional facts of history—almost unbelievable, startling, yet TRUE, authentic *facts of history*. You can verify them at public libraries. YOU are soon—very soon—going to stand before the judgment bar of Christ! Don't say carelessly: "Well, here's the way *I* look at it"; or, "I don't think it makes any difference." God says it makes a difference. God says there is a way that *seems right* to a man—to YOU—but the end thereof are the ways of death! You will be judged by WHAT GOD SAYS—not by what you think! God says this whole world today is DECEIVED! Now read what history says—what GOD says!

—Herbert W. Armstrong

by Herman L. Hoeh

EASTER was observed 4000 years ago among the pagans!—but you can't find one word in the entire Bible that Jesus or the apostles ever observed it!

Where did you ever find in your Bible that Peter and Paul held Easter sunrise services? that the early Christian women in apostolic days dressed up for an Easter parade? that Christians baked hot cross buns? that the children of Christians dyed Easter eggs and ate chocolate Easter rabbits in honor of Christ's resurrection?

You NEVER found these practices taught by the inspired apostolic Church, did you?—*yet these very customs WERE BEING CELEBRATED IN PAGAN LANDS long before apostolic days!*

Origin of Easter Sunday

In The PLAIN TRUTH one year ago we gave *proof from Scripture* that the resurrection of Jesus Christ did *not* occur on Sunday morning! If you did not read this amazing, factual PROOF, then write Mr. Armstrong immediately for the FREE booklet "The Resurrection was NOT on Sunday." You will receive the shock of your life if you have not un-

derstood this absolutely proved fact before.

Seven irrefutable historical facts demonstrate that the resurrection was not on Sunday and that the crucifixion was not on "Good Friday," that Jesus was actually dead three days and three nights as He said He would be!

Then when did the celebration of Easter Sunday enter the Church calendar?

Here is what Kurtz's *Church History* states about Easter: "The Saxon name Easter is derived from the old German festival of Ostara, the goddess of spring, which was *celebrated at the same season*" (Vol. I. p. 356).

"The English *Easter*, Anglo-Saxon *Oster*, German *Ostern*, is at all events connected with the *East* and sunrise . . ." says the Protestant historian Schaff, who continued to write that "the transfer of the celebration of Ostara . . . to the Christian Easter festival" took place years after the death of Paul. (From a footnote in Schaff's *History of the Church*, Vol. I, p. 373.)

Easter came from pagan sun worship, not from Jesus Christ or the apostles.

About 600 years before Christ, the

prophet Ezekiel saw, in vision, an Easter celebration! Notice it, in Ezekiel, chapter 8, verses 12-17: "Then He (God) brought me to the door of the gate of the Lord's house which was toward the north; and, behold, there sat the women weeping for Tammuz."

What GOD Says about Easter Sunrise Service

What Ezekiel saw here in vision is a prophecy for today!—for the House of Israel—Great Britain and America. And our professing Christian people are practicing this very ABOMINATION today as our ancestors did centuries before Christ.

Do you know *why* those women were weeping for Tammuz? Here is the answer:

Tammuz was the heathen messiah—the false Christ of the pagans who rose on Sunday morning. They observed Lent just as many churches observe it today, with *weeping* on "Good Friday" and *rejoicing* on Easter Sunday morning! God calls this an ABOMINATION!

"Among the Pagans this *Lent* seems to have been an indispensable preliminary to the *great annual festival* in

commemoration of the *death and resurrection of Tammuz*, which was celebrated by alternate *weeping and rejoicing*." (Hislop's *Two Babylons*, p. 105.)

But notice further: "Then said He unto me (God is speaking to Ezekiel): 'Hast thou seen this, O son of man? thou shalt again see yet *greater abominations* than these.' And He brought me into the inner court of the Lord's house, and behold, at the door of the temple of the Lord, between the porch and the altar, were about five and twenty men, *with their backs toward the temple of the Lord, AND THEIR FACES TOWARD THE EAST; AND THEY WORSHIPPED THE SUN TOWARD THE EAST.*"

Notice this terrible abomination which Ezekiel saw—the Easter sunrise service—pictured on the opposite page. This is what professing Christians are doing today—celebrating pagan customs on Easter Sunday supposedly in honor of Christ, who did not rise from the dead on Sunday at all!

Jesus Christ Forbids Easter Celebrations

Surely the people today are sincere—but so were the pagans!—*they didn't know better*. Observe what God says He will do to those who refuse to repent of this abomination: "Is it a light thing . . . that they commit the ABOMINATIONS which they commit here? . . . Therefore will I deal IN FURY: mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: and though they cry in mine ears with a loud voice"—of course they pray to God—"yet will I not hear them!" (Ezek. 8:15-18).

But what if Easter is an ancient pagan festival. Isn't it *still* all right, if we use it to honor CHRIST? That's the way people reason today. Let GOD answer that question:

Jesus Christ—the Word of God—spoke to Moses to warn the people not to follow these customs of the heathen. Here is what Jesus Christ said: "Take heed . . . that thou inquire not after their gods, saying: 'How used these nations to serve their gods? even so will I do likewise.' THOU SHALT NOT DO SO UNTO THE ETERNAL THY GOD; FOR EVERY ABOMINATION TO THE ETERNAL, which He hateth, have they done unto their gods" (Deut. 12:30-31).

Here is what *God says*—it doesn't matter what we think—but it DOES MATTER what God thinks. He calls these pagan Easter customs *abominations*. No wonder the apostles did not teach the early spirit-filled New Testament Church of God to observe these traditions of men!

Is it any wonder that Jeremiah was *inspired* to write: "Learn not the way of the heathen . . . for the customs of the people are vain"? (Jer. 10:2).

Jesus left us an example of what we ought to do—and that example is not Easter!

Catholics Testify to the Origin of Easter

Since Easter Sunday was derived by Protestants from the Catholic Church, it is to the Catholic Church that we must turn for testimony regarding the origin of Easter. Here is their testimony—and they should know—they introduced it!

The Catholic scholar Hefelee writes concerning Easter: "All the Churches of the West, the South, and the North, had *adopted* this practice"—celebrating Easter—"particularly Rome, the whole of Italy, Africa, Egypt, Spain, Gaul [France], Britain, Lybia, Achaia [Greece]; *it has even been adopted* in the dioceses of Asia, Pontus, and Cilicia." (From *History of the Councils*, pp. 306-307 of Vol. I.)

Notice that Easter celebrations were *adopted*—not from the Bible, but from the heathen, long after the death of Jesus Christ!

But from what sources did the scholar Hefelee obtain this information?

He obtained it from ancient church history written shortly after the time Easter was adopted! Here is what Socrates Scholasticus wrote in his *Ecclesiastical History* not long after Emperor Constantine, in the 4th century:

"Neither the apostles, therefore, nor the Gospels, have anywhere imposed . . . Easter . . . Wherefore, inasmuch as men love festivals, because they afford them cessation from labor: each individual in every place, according to his own pleasure, has by a prevalent custom celebrated [Easter] . . . The Saviour and his apostles have enjoined us by no law to keep this feast . . . just as many other customs have been established in individual localities according to usage, so also the feast of Easter CAME TO BE OBSERVED IN EACH PLACE ACCORDING TO THE INDIVIDUAL PECULIARITIES OF THE PEOPLES inasmuch as none of the apostles legislated on the matter. And that the observance originated not by legislation, BUT AS A CUSTOM the facts themselves indicate" (chapter 22).

So says the ancient Catholic historian in the 4th century.

He continues to show that the Lenten fasts prior to Easter, celebrated among the pagans, were also observed by differing customs among the professing Christians.

These divergent customs surrounding Easter originated through "ignorance," says Hefelee—ignorance of the Bible!

"And this diversity among the observers [of Lent and Easter] had not its origin in our time," wrote Irenaeus at the close of the second century, "but

long before in that of our predecessors, some of whom probably, being not very accurate in their observance of it, handed down to posterity the custom as it had, through simplicity or *private fancy*, been [*introduced among them*]. (*Ante-Nicene Fathers*, p. 568, Vol. I.)

Now let us understand exactly how Easter was introduced.

The First Historical Records

The early Church of God in New Testament times was taught that Jesus was in the grave three days and three nights—that He arose at the close of the third day *after* the crucifixion. The crucifixion occurred upon a Wednesday, April 25, 31 A.D. This historical date of the passover is demonstrated by seven irrefutable proofs which we published in *The PLAIN TRUTH* two years ago. Thursday, in 31 A.D., was an *annual sabbath*. This is demonstrated from the Bible in Mr. Armstrong's *FREE* booklet on the "Resurrection," already mentioned.

The practice of the New Testament Church of God was to observe an *annual* memorial of the death of Jesus Christ. This memorial was called the *passover*—commonly misnamed the "Lord's Supper." There is not sufficient space in this article to mention the many scriptures which clarify this little-understood practice of the apostles (I Cor. 5:7-8).

If you want the proof, write for the *FREE* booklet "*How often should we partake of the LORD'S SUPPER?*" which explains the New Testament practice in entirety.

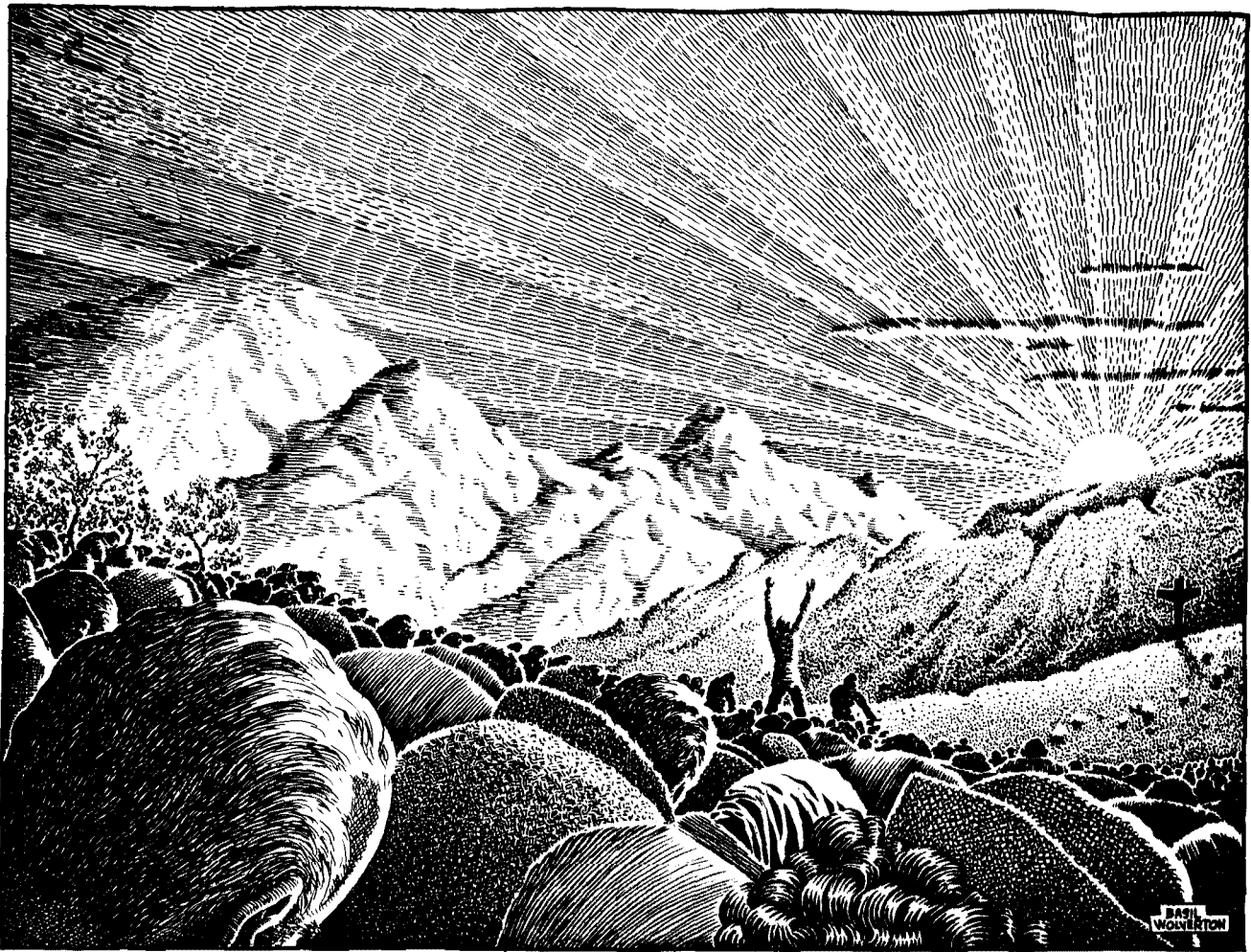
The *Passover* was observed annually, on the eve of Christ's death, on Nisan 14 of God's Sacred Calendar. You can find this information in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, or even in the "World Almanac" in your town Library. This New Testament practice was followed universally until shortly after the death of the apostle John.

Here is what happened!

A calendar change occurred in 104 A.D., after which *new ideas* began to be introduced into the Church. The Christians who fled Jerusalem in 69 A.D. "continued to use the Jewish cycle"—*God's method of reckoning the passover* in the sacred calendar—"till the bishops of Jerusalem who were of the circumcision were succeeded by others who were not of the circumcision"—unconverted Gentiles—and ". . . they began to *invent* other cycles" (p. 1152 of Bingham's *Antiquities of the Christian Church*).

Yes, Easter began as the *invention* of men—who exchanged the God-given paschal festival for the pagan Easter Sunday.

This same author continues: "We see, at this time the Jewish calcula-



HERE is an Easter sunrise service. Ceremonies like this, in which people bow to the east, to the *rising sun*, were practiced among the pagans 2,000 years before Jesus Christ was born (Ezekiel 8:16).

Jesus Christ was *not* resurrected on Sun-day morning. A sunrise service comes from rank pagan IDOLATRY. God calls the sunrise service an ABOMINATION!—SUN-WORSHIP! It is a SIN to bow to the sun in worshipping the CREATOR.

Notice the cross—the pagans used the cross as a symbol of the *false* Messiah, Tammuz. They bowed to the cross—an *idolatrous* symbol. God FORBIDS these IDOLATROUS PRACTICES in His Worship.

It does make a difference to God! He labels EASTER exactly what it is—a PAGAN festival!

Your eternal destiny depends upon what God SAYS, not what *seems right* to you. It is time this nation *repented* of this ABOMINABLE IDOLATRY.

tion"—God's inspired method of determining the passover which the Jews had accurately preserved—"was generally *rejected by the . . . church*, and yet no certain one agreed upon in its room . . ."

This is how the passover—incorrectly called Lord's Supper or Eucharist—was gradually *rejected*.

The Lord's Supper on Saturday!

Remember that up to this point the churches of God universally understood that Jesus rose after three days—on Saturday evening shortly before sunset.

Many now began to do what *seemed* right to them. Not only did many begin to miscalculate the annual occurrence of the Passover, *but they began to observe the passover weekly on Saturday*, the Sabbath, believe it or not! Here is the proof:

For over 200 years this custom was a universal practice of the apostatizing

churches! The Catholic church historian, Socrates, wrote: "While therefore some in Asia Minor observed the day above-mentioned"—he means that some faithfully observed the passover on the 14th of Nisan as the apostles did—"others in the East kept THIS FEAST ON THE SABBATH INDEED . . ." By "sabbath" all early writers meant Saturday!

So universal was the custom of observing the "Lord's Supper" on Saturday that he continued to write: "For although *almost all churches throughout the world celebrate the sacred mysteries on the sabbath of every week*, yet the Christians of Alexandria and at Rome, on account of some ancient tradition, *have ceased to do this*." You may find this amazing testimony in Vol. 2 of the *Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers*, pp. 131-132, from the *Ecclesiastical History* of Socrates, book V, chapter 22.

Did you catch the *real significance* of this quotation?

The passover was transformed by false teachers from an annual memorial in memory of the *death* of Christ into a weekly memorial in honor of His *resurrection*, which occurred on Saturday. These weekly "passovers" were called the "sacred mysteries"! What did Paul say about the sacred mysteries?

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come"—the day of Christ's return—"except there come a falling away first"—an apostasy, a falling into error. "For the MYSTERY OF INIQUITY doth already work" (II Thess. 2:3, 7). The practices of the pagan *sacred mysteries* were already creeping into the local congregations of the Church of God in Paul's day. A part of those ancient mysteries was the festival of Easter!

But Easter did not enter suddenly. It entered slowly, under the pretext of being a Christian custom.

Though many faithful were still ob-

The PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding.

VOL. XX

No. 3

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
Publisher and Editor

Herman L. Hoeh
Executive Editor

Roderick C. Meredith
Associate Editor

Sent FREE to all who request it,
as the Lord provides. Address
all communications to the editor.

Copyright, April, 1955
By the Radio Church of God

servicing the practices of the original, true church, many congregations began to hold the "sacred mysteries" every Saturday to honor, as they thought, the resurrection of Jesus Christ. But how were the false teachers going to alter the knowledge that Jesus was three days and three nights in the tomb?

"Good Friday-Easter Sunday" Tradition

Let's notice! From the *Syriac Didascalia*, composed shortly before the time of Constantine, we have a record of what happened in those early days. False teachers began to interpret the three days and three nights in the following clever fashion:

They claimed Jesus suffered on the cross, supposedly on Friday, for about six hours. The daylight hours from nine in the morning to noon they counted as one day. The hours from noon to three o'clock—when the land was darkened—they reckoned as the first night. Then the time from three o'clock to sunset was reckoned as the second day. Friday night to Saturday morning became the second night; the daylight of Saturday, the third day; and Saturday night to Sunday morning, the third night!

A very clever argument—and it *deceived* a great many people! Those false ministers twisted the truth that Jesus was IN THE GRAVE three days and three nights.

For the first time the idea of a Sunday resurrection was injected into the churches. Now observe what happened.

Easter Sunday Begins at Rome

In commenting on those who did *not* observe the passover in accordance with the practice of the apostles, Irenaeus, a Catholic living toward the close of the second century wrote to bishop Victor of Rome, "We mean Anicetus, and Pius,

and Hyginus, and Telesphorus, and Xystus. They neither observed it"—the true passover on the 14th of Nisan—"nor did they permit those after them to do so."

Who were these men?—bishops of the church at Rome! Here is the first record, by a Catholic, of the fact that the Roman bishops no longer observed the passover on the correct God-given time, but on a Sunday!

It was bishop Xystus (his name is also spelled *Sixtus*) who was the *first* recorded individual to *prevent* the proper observance of the passover, and to celebrate the sacred mysteries annually on a Sunday. Irenaeus speaks further of him, declaring that his doctrine was in direct "opposition" to the practice of the remainder of the churches. Bishop Sixtus was living at the *beginning* of the *second century*, just after the apostle John died.

Here you have the astounding origin of Easter Sunday in the churches. Together with this practice, the "sacred

mysteries" were also observed every Sunday!

The Romans Divided

The introduction of this custom naturally *divided* the Christians at Rome. The Catholic historian, Abbé Duchesne, wrote: "There were many Christians of Asia in Rome at that time"—remember that the Church of God at Rome was founded by those who came from Asia Minor where Paul preached—"and the very early Popes, Xystus and Telesphorus, saw them every year keep their Pasch"—the true passover—"the same day as did the Jews. They maintained that was correct. It was allowed to pass . . . though the rest of Rome observed a different use" (Vol. I, p. 210, of *The Early History of the Church*).

I know these are startling facts, but they are true! It is time we knew about them!

Irenaeus wrote even more regarding the observance of Easter at Rome and elsewhere as follows: "But Polycarp

(Please continue on page 16)

RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

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

TO THE U.S. & CANADA

ABC NETWORK, TRANSCONTINENTAL—Every Sunday. Consult local newspaper radio schedules for time and station.

WLS — Chicago — 890 on dial — 10:00 P.M., Mon. thru Fri., 11:30 Sunday morning—8:30 Sunday night.

WLW—Cincinnati—700 on dial—Sundays, 10:30 P.M. Central time.

WWVA—Wheeling, W. Va.—1170 on dial—Sundays, 11:05 P.M. Eastern time. 10:15 P.M., Mon. thru Fri.

WRVA—Richmond, Va.—1140 on dial—Sundays, 11:05 P.M. Eastern time.

WCCO — Minneapolis, Minn. — 830 on dial—Sun. 11:00 P.M.

KOA—Denver, Colo.—850 on dial—Sun. 11:00 P.M.

KDKA—Pittsburgh, Penn.—1020 on dial—Sundays, 1:15 P.M.

XELO—800 on dial, every night, 9:00 P.M. Central Standard time. (8:00 P.M. Mountain Standard time.)

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

XEG—1050 on dial, every night, 8:30 P.M. Central Standard time.

HEARD ON PACIFIC COAST

XERB—50,000 watts—1090 on dial —7:00 P.M. S.T. every night.

KGER—Los Angeles—1390 k.c.—12:30 P.M., Mon. thru Fri., 12 noon Saturday, 2 P.M. Sun.

KBLA—Burbank—1490 k.c.—7:30 A.M. daily. 9:30 A.M. Sunday.

KXL—Portland—10,000 watts. 750 on dial—2:30 P.M., Sundays.

KPDQ — Portland—800 on dial — 8:30 A.M. daily.

KVI—Seattle-Tacoma—570, first on dial—10:30 P.M. every night.

OTHER MIDDLE WEST STATIONS

KCMO—Kansas City—810 on dial—11:30 A.M. Sundays.

KRMG—Tulsa—740 on dial—9:30 A.M. Sundays.

KXOK—St. Louis—630 on dial—6:25 P.M. Sundays.

WIL—St. Louis—1430 on dial—9:30 A.M. Sundays.

TO ALL OF EUROPE

RADIO LUXEMBOURG—23:30 Mondays, Greenwich time

TO ASIA & AFRICA

RADIO CEYLON

Tuesday: 10:15-10:45 P.M. India-Pakistan Beam and Ceylon Beam.
Wednesday: 11:30-12:00 noon African Beam. 5:15-5:45 P.M. S.E. Asia Beam.

WHAT'S WRONG with Modern Education

. . . and how it is being corrected at AMBASSADOR COLLEGE. Every high school student—every parent—ought to know these facts!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

YES, something's WRONG with the modern educational set-up! And wrong education is the basic cause of all the world's troubles today.

Ask one hundred college students these questions—ask a hundred college graduates:

"Have you been taught, in college, whether you were put on this earth for a PURPOSE—and *what* that purpose is?"

"Have you learned, at college, *how to live*—or only how to earn a living? How much time has been devoted to revealing to you the KNOWLEDGE of how to be happy—how to discern the TRUE values from the false—how to know the invisible spiritual LAWS that regulate real happiness, peace of mind?"

"WHY are most marriages unhappy, and HOW can yours be HAPPY?"

"Did you learn, at college, WHAT you are—WHY you are—WHERE you are going, not only in this life, but after it?"

"How much of the KNOWLEDGE OF GOD was known and imparted to you?"

The IMPORTANT Knowledge

The answers to these questions constitute the most *important* knowledge that can be taught. They sum up the FOUNDATION of all true education. Yet this fundamental knowledge of life is not even possessed by the teaching staff of most colleges.

The trend in modern education has been a dangerous drift into materialism and collectivism. Colleges and universities have grown so large that regimented assembly-line processes have replaced individualized instruction. The student has lost his identity. Development of personality and initiative is largely sacrificed.

This is the mass production machine age. The industrial world today demands highly specialized technological, scientific, and professional training along purely materialistic lines. Emphasis is upon vocational training for financial rewards in preferred fields. The development of the *man himself*, his character, right sense of values, knowledge of the real PURPOSE of life, and the

spiritual laws that govern it, is neglected.

Modern education commits the crime of developing the machine, but failing to develop the MAN.

A New, Different College

The vision of a new and different college of higher learning, with its emphasis on these basic TRUTHS, flashed to my mind like a revelation straight from God, early in 1946. Circumstances positively providential made possible the founding of Ambassador College in beautiful, cultural Pasadena, California, in the fall of 1947.

Ambassador College is, truly, a miracle!

I said providential circumstances opened the way. That's true. But those opportune circumstances were accompanied by overwhelming obstacles, and nightmarish tests of faith! For this substantial, magnificent institution had to be started without any capital—with nothing but implicit faith, sheer determination, the realization it was God's will, and enough providential circumstances to make it possible in spite of every discouraging set-back.

When I look back, now, over those first two and a half turbulent and seemingly impossible years, the present active and teeming campus is nothing short of a miracle—it's God's doing!

Yet God works thru His human servants, and the experiences He leads us thru are not without the ordeal of suffering. This fine college was not born without birth-pangs—a frightful price was paid.

But just as a mother forgets her ordeal when she looks into the sweet face of her new-born baby, so today, as I look into the happy faces of these young men and girls hurrying from one class to another, or from their jobs on the campus to a class-room, or on one of their recreational or social activities—as I observe the well-mannered, cultural atmosphere, or hear the scintillating, thought-provoking discussion—as I gaze in gratitude over this magnificently landscaped campus with its substantial

buildings—its tone and character—as I think of the great accomplishments in God's work as a result of the ministry of Ambassador-trained men—it seems that results already justify the price paid thousands of times over!

What Ambassador College Is

Ambassador College is a co-educational liberal arts college with its Graduate School of Theology.

It offers undergraduate courses for both men and girls, with required major in Bible and Theology (other majors optional), leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts. It offers graduate courses (open only to students holding the A.B. degree from Ambassador College) leading to the degrees of Master of Arts in Theology, and Bachelor of Divinity.

Ambassador holds the distinction of being one of America's smallest colleges in student enrollment, at the same time maintaining an exceedingly high ratio of competent faculty personnel, with academic standards maintained at highest levels, and superior facilities within its field.

The College Catalog

The college catalog for the 1955-56 school year is ready for distribution. It contains complete information about the college—the college calendar for the coming school year, with dates of all major events; two full page maps showing location of the college; its faculty and vital information about each professor and instructor; the history and purpose of the college, its policies, description of its location, of the campus and buildings; its facilities; campus life; special advantages; employment opportunities; tuition, room and board; applications; the degrees offered and requirements; full curriculum information, courses offered—84 pages giving you complete information, with pictures showing the campus, buildings, and various activities.

A copy of the catalog will be mailed upon request. All prospective students

(Please continue on page 9)

What's Behind the Movies?

What is behind the many religious movies being produced? Why should Hollywood devote so many films to ancient Rome, and the beginnings of Christianity?

by Garner Ted Armstrong

THERE is a vast, diabolical plan of subtle *deception* being carried out in most western nations today! YOU, TOO may be deceived!

Most people want to be "led" and told what to do. Knowing this fact only too well, the god of THIS world, this *age*, who is Satan, the great DECEIVER (II Cor. 11:14-15), uses as his cunning implements and tools of deception the most effective means known to mankind in making people swallow wholeheartedly clever LIES and subtle half-truths!

Implements of Deception

The school systems of this nation have been concerned with finding the most highly effective means for teaching methods. Once someone said, "One picture is worth 10,000 words!" and how true that statement is! Pictures can describe at a *glance* what it would take an eloquent speaker perhaps many minutes or even an hour or more to relate. And pictures make the meaning far more *vivid*, far more REALISTIC!

And so, by connecting pictures and words, modern educators have found the effectiveness of the picture is increased many fold. Thus, we have in our classrooms of today AUDIO-VISION education. Pictures that talk! Yes, men have utilized the motion picture for use in the classroom, because they have proven it is the implement which will leave a lasting impression on the student more than any other means known to man! But—should it be used *WRONGLY*—the lasting impression is still left—the effectiveness is not reduced, but the great DAMAGE it may do through indelibly stamping on the unsuspecting mind FALSE information is staggering.

You've heard the expression, "Seeing is believing!" haven't you? Yes—the facts may not be *true*—but they can be *seen*—and so they're usually believed!

There are differing *types* of motion pictures. The classroom film with its instruction on steel making, or automobile production, is a documentary film, usually with accompanying narrative, describing certain mechanical procedures. The popular commercial films being shown in the theatres are entirely different!

The viewer is actually projected into a different era, or taken vicariously to a

different geographical location. He is sharing certain EXPERIENCES for the moment. Rather than view mechanical procedures of production, he may LIVE the life portrayed!

Why movie-goers?

When you see a motion picture, you're watching it for your entertainment. You certainly don't go to a movie constantly alert for contrary-to-fact situations, do you? Of course not! You're simply getting away from your daily routine—forgetting the worries of your daily life for a moment.

It is into THIS realm of "entertainment" for blissfully unsuspecting people that a monstrous power of deception and satanic influence has crept!

Guided emotions

As you relax comfortably in your seat, your emotions are carefully piqued, guided and shaped. Your interest is drawn irresistibly through the opening scenes of the film. Then, you are swept through apprehension, doubt, fear, panic, sympathy, terror and joy, as the actors and actresses vividly portray pseudo-situations designed to keep you entranced with the story.

But you are not aware of this!

You are enjoying the sensation of being swept through various degrees of hate, jealousy, anger, deceit, tenderness and love. You have been able to closely identify *yourself* with the actor or the actress, and have projected yourself mentally *into the scenes being enacted!* Thus, you feel as if you are really *LIVING* the life being portrayed. The doubtful authenticity of the scene may never enter your mind—you may never question the MOTIVE behind the film.

Religious films

Recently, motion picture producers have been filming more and more pictures with religious themes. Many pictures have been produced depicting the period around and just after the life of Christ. Pictures dealing with ancient Rome have been especially numerous. Millions of people have viewed them—AND MILLIONS OF PEOPLE HAVE BEEN DECEIVED!

When you view a motion picture concerning religious themes, do you *compare* the action with the real TRUTH on

the subject? When you see an actor portraying the Apostle Paul on the screen, does it seem a little *strange* to you that this "Paul" should appear with long hair? Yes—this *same* Paul who wrote to the Church at Corinth under the inspiration of God "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, *if a man have long hair*, it is a SHAME unto him?" (I Cor. 11:14)

Do you think for one moment that this Apostle of Jesus Christ told his congregations it was a SHAME for a man to wear long hair—and he himself wore long hair? Let's realize the TRUTH! Have you not carelessly *assumed* that the Apostle Paul *must* have worn long hair—since you have seen motion pictures perhaps, or statues, or other pictures of a so-called "Paul" with long hair?

Haven't you always seen pictures of a so-called "Christ" since you were a little child—in which He has LONG HAIR? Certainly you have! But "If they speak NOT according to THIS WORD (the Bible) it is because there is NO LIGHT in them." (Isa. 8:20)

Neither the Apostles nor Jesus Christ wore long hair! Your Bible plainly says so!

Many other deceptions

This is only ONE example!

People blindly accept what they vicariously have *lived*, as if in reality itself. A gullible public, never doubting the integrity of the human beings who wrote, devised, directed and acted out a picture—NOT necessarily designed at preserving or presenting FACT—but aimed at ENTERTAINING people—unconcernedly swallows whole every false doctrine, every untruth and shady half-truth that is shoved at them through this powerful medium of expression. Do *you?*

In a recently second-run technicolor film called "Quo Vadis," the Apostle Peter is pictured as performing a marriage between a pagan man and a Christian woman! THE SAME APOSTLE PETER who warned against *twisting and perverting* the writings of Paul (II Pet. 3:16) whose inspired words COMMAND Christians NOT TO YOKE THEMSELVES TOGETHER IN MARRIAGE WITH UNBELIEVERS! (II Cor. 6:14.)

The same Hollywood production entitled "Quo Vadis" presented the Apostle Paul as sprinkling individuals in bap-

tism. Through modern usage, the original Greek word "baptizo" has been *perverted* to include the "sprinkling" rites performed in many modern churches. The *real meaning* of the word "baptizo" is TO IMMERSE—to COVER WITH WATER—to literally BURY into water!

A Pseudo-Baptism

Few people today really UNDERSTAND the living, vital *truth* about the subject of baptism! If you're not yet *completely familiar* with this little-understood subject, write in immediately and request your free copy of the attractive booklet "All About Water Baptism."

On the Day of Pentecost, immediately after the inspired preaching of Peter, the Jewish people, when asking "what shall we do?" were told to REPENT—and BE BAPTISED—TO BE IMMERSED!—for the remission of sins! Read it in Acts 2:38.

NOWHERE in your Bible can you find a command to be SPRINKLED in the name of Jesus Christ! NOWHERE in your Bible can you find an EXAMPLE of the Apostles *sprinkling or pouring* water over those who were repentant and wanted to be baptised!

And yet—in this film depicting the *fictitious* events supposedly occurring after the death and resurrection of Christ—the Apostle Paul is shown to be SPRINKLING when he really said: "I NOW BAPTISE (IMMERSE—BURY IN WATER!) YOU. . ."

Have you SUPPOSED that whatever you have actually SEEN on a screen MUST HAVE BEEN TRUE? It usually is truth *mixed with error!*

The numerous deceptions that have been introduced into men's minds through the motion picture industry would be entirely too many to mention here. And yet—there are literally *hundreds* of teachings portrayed in "religious" pictures WHICH CANNOT BE FOUND IN YOUR BIBLE!

What's behind it?

Do you believe Jesus Christ? Christ said very plainly it would be the MANY who would be deceived. "And MANY false prophets shall arise, and shall deceive MANY!" (Matt. 24:11) Notice, Jesus did not say just a FEW people would be deceived by false doctrine and false Gospels!

Perhaps you have not realized what it means to be DECEIVED! A deceived person does not DELIBERATELY believe in untruths! A person who has been deceived is HONEST—he sincerely BELIEVES he is right! Yes, mankind does what is RIGHT in his own eyes, but the end result of *that way* is DEATH! (Prov. 14:12) Are you sure *you* are not one of the MANY—of the overwhelming MAJORITY of the people who are DECEIVED today?

There is only ONE great source of truth to which you may go to find this all-important answer. That is *your Bible!* Christ said: "Thy word is truth!" (John 17:17) And God plainly admonishes us to PROVE all things! (I Thess. 5:21) The only way you can be absolutely SURE of the truth is by doing as the Bereans did—SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES to see what the real TRUTH is! (Acts 17:11)

You cannot trust your own understanding to discern the *difference* between truth and error! You must compare the things portrayed, whether in movies, the printed or spoken word, with the ONLY yardstick of measurement you can completely RELY on—the word of God.

The errors often APPEAR as truth! Satan does not manifest himself as a "Devil" with horns and pitchfork! "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan HIMSELF is transformed into an angel of light!" (II Cor. 11:13,14) The LIES of Satan will *appear* to the human mind as TRUTH! Satan KNOWS that most people "take religion for granted." The great DECEIVER is well aware that people like to just ASSUME! *And he uses that knowledge to very great advantage!*

Have you ever gone home from a religious movie and *checked up* on the things you saw? Have you ever *wondered* about the so-called "Christians" who spill blood promiscuously, manifest every degree of human hatred, envy, jealousy, anger and greed? Have you ever WONDERED about the diabolical attempt to subtly discredit everything from the divine MIRACLES of Christ to the establishment of the Church of God on the Day of Pentecost? PROVE ALL THINGS! Says the Almighty God! Perhaps Hollywood does not even ATTEMPT to pass off certain movies as being necessarily true—and yet, thousands of people *unconsciously* accept and believe untruths and perversions of the truth just through this powerful influence!

Vigilant awareness

How can you avoid being deceived? First, you can never immediately recognize error without having a knowledge of the truth! You should STUDY your Bible! You should be AWAKE to the conditions of this present age—and you should realize the great *significance* of today's increased tempo in religious propaganda!

The Apostle Paul *realized* that the false doctrines and clever deceptions would be mounting into a great final crescendo of LIES that would cause the MULTITUDES—the GREAT MAJORITY to be deceived!

Paul warned against allowing our-

selves to be deceived! He said the end of this age, of *this present system* would not come until there first would be a GREAT FALLING AWAY! (II Thess. 2:3) And Paul knew that the evil beginnings of this GREAT DECEPTION were being plunged deeply into the heart of humanity *even in his day!* (II Thess. 2:7)

Do you just ASSUME? Do you "take for granted" many of the things you believe? BE SOBER! BE VIGILANT! Because your adversary the Devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour! (I Pet. 5:8)

Satan uses as his tools of deception the most powerful methods known to mankind! Motion pictures! Let's quit *assuming*—let's quit blindly allowing ourselves to be *influenced!* PROVE ALL THINGS!

EDUCATION

(Continued from page 7)

should write for the catalog immediately.

Importance of This Location

Pasadena, we believe, is the most desirable location in America for a liberal arts college. Here is found every advantage for college training—the marvelous climate and sunshine, outdoor recreation, world-famous astronomical observatories, great libraries, noted museums and art galleries, near-by mountains and winter sports, beaches—advantages to be found nowhere else.

Pasadena is a cultural community of beautiful streets and fine homes. Pasadena has less crime than any city near its size in America. There are no slums. Over 70% of its residents own their own homes. There are no night clubs, but a profusion of gardens, nurseries, homes with spacious and beautiful lawns.

The Pasadena annual Flower Show attracts visitors from all over the nation, and in this year's show, just held in early March, Ambassador College won several first-prize blue ribbons, and a few seconds and thirds, for exhibits from its own campus, as it did also last year.

The per capita disease rate is much lower in Pasadena. Its people are so different from those of Hollywood the contrast is striking. Yet Hollywood is only 20 minutes from our campus by freeway, and the Los Angeles city center 15 minutes. Pasadena, we believe, is the most pleasant and enjoyable place in all America to live, year around, with every advantage to the student.

The college occupies some 5½ acres of magnificently landscaped grounds in Pasadena's nationally famous section of fine homes and large estates. The cam-

pus, in its quiet seclusion, with its wide variety of majestic and stately trees, its profusion of flowers and shrubs, its lovely contoured carpets of green lawn, is in walking distance of the city center, city library, Civic Auditorium and post office. The substantial buildings and elaborate landscaping of our college

were designed by nationally famous architects.

The Most Important Advantage

However, the most important consideration is not the beauty and character of the physical plant. It is the CHARACTER of the COLLEGE ITSELF—the con-

cept on which it is built—the character and attitude of its students, its faculty, and the entire staff which combines to create here perhaps the most unique community in all the world today.

Our people here are REAL PEOPLE. There is no trace of religious sanctimoniousness—no "put on" pseudo "spir-

ABC NETWORK SCHEDULE

About 100 radio stations of this major network are now carrying "The WORLD TOMORROW" program. Here is latest revised schedule. Keep this handy for reference.

EASTERN

WFBR	Baltimore, Md.	1300 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WKBW	Buffalo, N.Y.	1520 kcs.	8:00- 8:30 pm
WABC	New York, N.Y.	770 kcs.	11:00-11:30 am
WVET	Rochester, N.Y.	1280 kcs.	1:30- 2:00 pm
WERC	Erie, Penn.	1260 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WHGB	Harrisburg, Penn.	1400 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WLAN	Lancaster, Penn.	1390 kcs.	7:00- 7:30 pm
WCAE	Pittsburgh, Penn.	1250 kcs.	4:00- 4:30 pm
WEAN	Providence, R.I.	790 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WRNL	Richmond, Va.	910 kcs.	7:30- 8:00 pm
WMEV	Marion, Va.	1010 kcs.	4:30- 5:00 pm
WMAL	Washington, D.C.	630 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WKNA	Charleston, W. Va.	950 kcs.	3:00- 3:30 pm

NEW ENGLAND

WELI	New Haven, Conn.	960 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WORC	Worcester, Mass.	1310 kcs.	2:00- 2:30 pm
WABI	Bangor, Me.	910 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WTSV	Claremont, N.H.	1230 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WLNH	Laconia, N.H.	1350 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WTSL	Lebanon, N.H.	1400 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WMUR	Manchester, N.H.	610 kcs.	10:30-11:00 pm
WTSA	Brattleboro, Vt.	1450 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm

SOUTH ATLANTIC

WMJF	Daytona Beach, Fla.	1450 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WGGG	Gainesville, Fla.	1230 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WPDQ	Jacksonville, Fla.	600 kcs.	7:00- 7:30 pm
WQAM	Miami, Fla.	560 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WWPG	Palm Beach, Fla.	1340 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WTNT	Tallahassee, Fla.	1450 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WSUN	Tampa, Fla.	620 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WGST	Atlanta, Ga.	920 kcs.	7:00- 7:30 pm
WGAC	Augusta, Ga.	580 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WGIG	Brunswick, Ga.	1440 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WAYS	Charlotte, N.C.	610 kcs.	7:00- 7:30 pm
WNAO	Raleigh, N.C.	850 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm

MIDDLE WEST

WJBC	Bloomington, Ill.	1230 kcs.	11:30-12:00 noon
WLS	Chicago, Ill.	890 kcs.	11:30-12:00 noon
WIRL	Peoria, Ill.	1290 kcs.	11:30-12:00 noon
WJPS	Evansville, Ind.	1330 kcs.	11:30-12:00 noon
WGL	Ft. Wayne, Ind.	1250 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
KSO	Des Moines, Ia.	1460 kcs.	11:30-12:00 noon
KSCJ	Sioux City, Ia.	1360 kcs.	11:30-12:00 noon
KXEL	Waterloo, Ia.	1540 kcs.	11:30-12:00 noon
WREN	Topeka, Kans.	1250 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WBCM	Bay City, Mich.	1440 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
WXYZ	Detroit, Mich.	1270 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
KATE	Albert Lea, Minn.	1450 kcs.	2:00- 2:30 pm
KDMA	Montevideo, Minn.	1450 kcs.	11:30-12:00 noon
KCMO	Kansas City, Mo.	810 kcs.	11:30-12:00 noon

KWTO	Springfield, Mo.	560 kcs.	9:30-10:00 pm
KFOR	Lincoln, Neb.	1240 kcs.	2:00- 2:30 pm
KOIL	Omaha, Neb.	1290 kcs.	10:30-11:00 am
KSID	Sidney, Neb.	1340 kcs.	10:00-10:30 am
KFGO	Fargo, N.D.	790 kcs.	6:30- 7:00 pm
KSDN	Aberdeen, S.D.	930 kcs.	1:00- 1:30 pm
KSOO	Sioux Falls, S.D.	1140 kcs.	12:00-12:30 pm
WKTY	LaCrosse, Wis.	580 kcs.	11:30-12:00 noon
WCAN	Milwaukee, Wis.	1250 kcs.	11:30-12:00 noon

SOUTH

WSGN	Birmingham, Ala.	610 kcs.	12:30- 1:00 pm
KLRA	Little Rock, Ark.	1010 kcs.	2:00- 2:30 pm
WKLO	Louisville, Ky.	1080 kcs.	2:00- 2:30 pm
KRMG	Tulsa, Okla.	740 kcs.	9:30-10:00 am
WMPS	Memphis, Tenn.	680 kcs.	6:30- 7:00 pm

MOUNTAIN

KCNA	Tucson, Ariz.	580 kcs.	10:00-10:30 am
KVOD	Denver, Colo.	630 kcs.	10:00-10:30 am
KGHF	Pueblo, Colo.	1350 kcs.	10:00-10:30 am
KGEM	Boise, Idaho	1140 kcs.	10:00-10:30 am
KBAR	Burley, Idaho	1230 kcs.	10:00-10:30 am
KTRC	Santa Fe, N.M.	1400 kcs.	10:30-11:00 am
KVOC	Casper, Wyo.	1230 kcs.	10:00-10:30 am
KFBC	Cheyenne, Wyo.	1240 kcs.	10:00-10:30 am
KODI	Cody, Wyo.	1400 kcs.	10:00-10:30 am
KASL	Newcastle, Wyo.	1240 kcs.	10:00-10:30 am
KRAL	Rawlins, Wyo.	1240 kcs.	10:00-10:30 am
KGOS	Torrington, Wyo.	1490 kcs.	10:00-10:30 am

PACIFIC COAST

KPMC	Bakersfield, Calif.	1560 kcs.	10:00-10:30 am
KROP	Brawley, Calif.	1300 kcs.	9:30-10:00 am
KARM	Fresno, Calif.	1430 kcs.	4:00- 4:30 pm
KREO	Indio, Calif.	1400 kcs.	11:00-11:30 am
KABC	Los Angeles, Calif.	790 kcs.	9:00- 9:30 am
KTIP	Porterville, Calif.	1450 kcs.	9:00- 9:30 am
KITO	San Bernardino, Calif.	1290 kcs.	12:00-12:30 pm
KCBQ	San Diego, Calif.	1170 kcs.	12:00-12:30 pm
KGO	San Francisco, Calif.	810 kcs.	9:00- 9:30 am
KASH	Eugene, Ore.	1600 kcs.	9:00- 9:30 am
KFLW	Klamath Falls, Ore.	1450 kcs.	9:00- 9:30 am
KWRC	Pendleton, Ore.	1240 kcs.	9:00- 9:30 am
KJUN	Redmond, Ore.	1240 kcs.	9:00- 9:30 am
KVOS	Bellingham, Wash.	790 kcs.	9:00- 9:30 am
KPKW	Pasco, Wash.	1340 kcs.	4:00- 4:30 pm
KGA	Spokane, Wash.	1510 kcs.	9:30-10:00 am

ALASKA AND HAWAII

KENI	Anchorage	550 kcs.	11:00-11:30 am
KFAR	Fairbanks	660 kcs.	9:30-10:00 am
KJNO	Juneau	630 kcs.	11:00-11:30 am
KABI	Ketchikan	580 kcs.	11:00-11:30 am
KULA	Honolulu	690 kcs.	2:30- 3:00 pm

ity." They are just common intelligent people, wholesome, sincere, hard-working, hard-studying, hard-playing—dedicated to finding, and *living*, the WAY OF THE TRUE VALUES. There's a certain "Ambassador spirit," which new students quickly imbibe—the spirit of the busy, abundant, happy life, with its vision, understanding, initiative, application, sense of true values, ambition for accomplishment!

Ambassador is a liberal arts co-educational college—yes, but above all it is a CHARACTER BUILDING INSTITUTION!

Most of its students are working their own way through. The college provides a most unusual opportunity for many deserving students, in the way of employment on the campus. This makes it possible for students to sandwich as little as one or two hours of work at a time in between classes. The rate of compensation is high, but employed students are expected to give their best in diligent and honest effort. There is, of course, no guarantee of this employment to every student, and it is contingent upon the ability of the college and the character of individual employee performance.

All prospective students should write immediately for catalog.

Reward of Saved

(Continued from page 2)

The PROMISES were made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and THEIR CHILDREN. Their children are ISRAELITES, not GENTILES. There is a mistaken idea, today, that Christianity is a GENTILE religion. But Jesus said plainly, "Salvation is of the Jews." Or, as the Apostle PAUL wrote: "To the Jew first—and also to the Gentile." The SCEPTRE promise, thru which Christ and salvation were promised, went to the House of Judah, whose people were called JEWS. The BIBLE reveals that the COVENANTS, and the PROMISES pertained only to ISRAEL. So we read in Romans 9:4: "Who were ISRAELITES; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God AND THE PROMISES."

Christians Are Heirs to the Promise

Then how are ALL nations to be blessed thru these promises? To the Gentile-born Galatians Paul said, "If YE be Christ's, then are YE Abraham's children, and heirs according to the promise." Now let me ask you, What HOPE has any GENTILE, without becoming by spiritual adoption thru Christ, an ISRAELITE? Absolutely NONE! To the Gentile-born Ephesians Paul wrote, as recorded in Ephesians 2:11-12:

"Wherefore remember that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh,"—now doesn't that plainly say they are no longer considered Gentiles? Paul says "Ye being Gentiles IN TIME PAST . . . that at THAT time, ye were WITHOUT Christ, being ALIENS from the Commonwealth of Israel, and STRANGERS from the COVENANTS OF PROMISE."

THIS doesn't sound like Christianity is a GENTILE religion. THIS doesn't sound like the NEW Covenant is a GENTILE covenant! While these Ephesians were Gentiles—before they became Israelites thru Christ—they were STRANGERS from the COVENANTS OF PROMISE, HAVING NO HOPE, and without GOD in the world!"

But notice: the 13th and 14th verses: "But now, IN CHRIST JESUS ye who sometimes were FAR OFF, are made nigh BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST." And now verse 19: "Now therefore ye are NO MORE strangers and foreigners, but FELLOW-CITIZENS with the saints, and of the household of GOD!" Oh, WHAT a glorious MATCHLESS privilege to be taken into the very HOUSEHOLD of GOD—to be able to call the Eternal Creator our FATHER! For the UNconverted, Adam is the human father, and Satan the spiritual father. But, thru CHRIST, ABRAHAM becomes our fleshly father—and God becomes our spiritual Father.

For we read in Galatians 3:7: "Know ye therefore that they which are of FAITH, the same are the children of Abraham." That's why Abraham is called the "father of the faithful"—whether Jew or Gentile!

Again, in Romans 8:14: "All who are led by the Spirit of God are the SONS OF GOD." Yes, *begotten* sons, now—to become actual BORN sons at the time of the resurrection, when we shall INHERIT the KINGDOM OF GOD! The Kingdom of God is the FAMILY of God—the GOD FAMILY! It's a glorious FAMILY relationship! This glorified inheritance surpasses anything you have ever conceived!

NO Man Has Ascended to Heaven—Except Christ

Jesus Christ did not say WE should go up to heaven, to be with Him *there*. Instead, He said, "No MAN hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down FROM heaven—even the Son of man"—that is, HIMSELF! He went again to heaven, from where He had come. But He said, "Where I go you cannot come!" That's in YOUR BIBLE!

Also He said, "I go" (to heaven) and "I will come again"—yes, come again BACK TO EARTH—and when He comes—when He is again HERE—He will, as He said, "receive you unto myself—that WHERE I AM"—here on earth—"there ye may be also!"

And in Matt. 25, beginning verse 31,

we read that WHEN Jesus will have returned to this earth, as KING of kings, RULER of all nations on earth, *then* He will say to the SAVED: "Come, ye blessed, INHERIT THE KINGDOM, prepared for you." The Kingdom of God is the very divine FAMILY of God. It will RULE ALL nations, here on EARTH! To enter into—to INHERIT—the divine Kingdom of God is a destiny of such terrible GLORY that your mind cannot possibly grasp it, now! And our inheritance, as divine members of the very GOD FAMILY, shall be THIS EARTH, for an EVERLASTING possession.

What's wrong with this earth? Absolutely nothing but SIN—rebellion against GOD and God's eternal SPIRITUAL LAWS that govern PEACE, and HAPPINESS, and JOY! Happiness and joy—a GLORIFIED condition such as YOU may inherit—is not a matter of geographical location! It is a SPIRITUAL CONDITION! There will be NO SIN in that happy WORLD TOMORROW! No liars—no murderers—no thieves or robbers. Think of it—there'll be NO SATAN, no locks on doors—no jails, no hospitals—no poor-houses! No strife, no war—no sickness or disease—no poverty, nor hunger, nor want!

When Do We Inherit the Promises?

NOW let me ask, WHEN shall we inherit these promises? HOW shall we inherit them? Has Abraham, himself, already gone to his reward—has Abraham already inherited the promises?

First, notice the inspired words of the first Christian martyr, Stephen, full of faith and the Holy Spirit—Stephen who *paid with his life* for these inspired words of Scripture. You'll need them in Acts 7:2-5:

"And he said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken; the God of glory appeared unto our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Charran, and said unto him, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and come into THE LAND which I shall show thee. Then came he out of the land of the Chaldeans, and . . . removed him into THIS LAND, *wherein ye now dwell* (PALESTINE) and he gave him NONE INHERITANCE in it, no, not so much as to set foot on: . . ."

God gave Abraham *none inheritance* in that land—"yet He promised that he would give it to him for a possession, and to his seed after him, when as yet he had no child."

Abraham NEVER RECEIVED the promised inheritance—tho God's promise was made UNCONDITIONAL because Abraham *had obeyed* God! But let's go further. Notice, now, Hebrews 11:8-10, 13:

"By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should *after* receive for an INHERIT-

ANCE, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the LAND OF PROMISE, *as in a strange country*"—notice carefully—Abraham merely *sojourned* in the land—which he was AFTER to receive for an INHERITANCE—"dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose Builder and Maker is GOD . . . These all DIED in faith, NOT HAVING RECEIVED THE PROMISES, but having *seen* them afar off."

Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—the FATHERS to whom the promises were made, all DIED, in faith, NOT having *received* the promises! My friends, do you grasp what that inspired Scripture of God SAYS? In plain language it says they DIED, but did NOT receive their REWARD—the very FATHERS to whom the promises were made did *not* "go to their reward at death!" THUS SAITH THE LORD!

Now further the Scriptures tell us that Abraham IS DEAD. When the New Testament was written, many hundreds of years after his death, Abraham was still DEAD, as recorded in John 8:52, 53. There you read plain words: "Abraham IS DEAD." Abraham has not received the promised inheritance, *even to this day!*

All thru the New Testament you read that Christians who become his children thru Christ are not now, in this age, inheritors—they are now HEIRS. An HEIR is one who has not yet come into his INHERITANCE.

Now WHY has Abraham, even to this day, as yet NOT INHERITED the promise? WHY? Listen! Since "eternal inheritance" of THE EARTH constitutes the BETTER PROMISES of the NEW Testament, and since the MESSAGE which Christ delivered in CONFIRMING these promises was the GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD, it follows that the LAND of THIS EARTH—the land of the PROMISE Jesus came to CONFIRM—is the TERRITORY occupied and governed by the KINGDOM OF GOD!

We Inherit Kingdom of God

But that Kingdom, Jesus said, is not of this world—THIS AGE! In His great prophecy of WORLD NEWS TODAY—of the world wars, and 20th century world upheaval NOW, Jesus said, Luke 21:31: "When ye see these things come to pass, *know ye* that the Kingdom of God is NIGH AT HAND." The Kingdom of God is to RULE THE WORLD. It is not yet established—but today it is NIGH AT HAND—and it's LATER THAN YOU THINK! In Luke 19 Jesus gave the parable of the "pounds," BECAUSE they thought the Kingdom of God should IMMEDIATELY APPEAR. He represented Himself as the young nobleman going

to the far country—heaven—to receive the right to RULE the kingdom, showing it would be set up and take over the RULE over ALL NATIONS, at the second coming of Christ!

But there's still another reason—yes, another reason why WE can be only HEIRS at this present time. I Cor. 15:50: "Now this I say, brethren, that *flesh and blood* cannot INHERIT the Kingdom of God. No HUMAN can *inherit* the Kingdom. The Kingdom of God is NOT A HUMAN KINGDOM—there are NO HUMANS IN IT—it is a DIVINE kingdom—the GOD Kingdom!

Jesus explained it to Nicodemus. John 3:3-8: "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be BORN AGAIN, he cannot SEE the Kingdom of God." Nicodemus couldn't understand that. Not many, today, can understand it! Jesus continued that except a man be born of THE SPIRIT, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God. "That which is born of the flesh," continued Jesus, "is flesh." Yes, WE were all born of the flesh—therefore Jesus said we ARE flesh—yes, flesh and blood—and flesh and blood CANNOT INHERIT—cannot ENTER INTO the Kingdom of God. "That which is born of the Spirit," said Jesus, "is Spirit." WHEN we are born of the SPIRIT, then we shall BE SPIRIT—so said Jesus. Did Jesus know what He was talking about—or do some of *us* think we know better, today?

Now to Paul's statement again in I Cor. 15:50-53:

"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God; neither doth corruption (flesh is corruptible, subject to aging and decay) inherit incorruption (spirit things and spirit beings are immortal, never changing, never aging, ALWAYS and eternally NEW). Behold, I show you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be *changed*"—now notice CAREFULLY: "we shall all be CHANGED." The word CONVERTED means CHANGED—changed from one SUBSTANCE to another—from one COMPOSITION to another.

"In a moment," Paul continues, "in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall SOUND, and the DEAD"—not the LIVING in heaven, but the DEAD—"shall be RAISED"—not COME DOWN from heaven, but "shall be RAISED incorruptible, and WE (the generation then LIVING) shall be CHANGED. For this corruptible must put on INCORRUPTION, and this MORTAL must PUT ON IMMORTALITY!"

Resurrection from the Dead

NOW we begin to see why Abraham, and his children thru Christ, have not, as YET, come into the promised reward!

But to go further. We cannot come into this ETERNAL inheritance until we have come into ETERNAL LIFE. And what is our ONLY HOPE of inheriting eternal life? The *Resurrection!* Perhaps this will prove a surprise. Let me read it to you from inspired Scripture:

I Cor. 15:12-18: "Now if Christ be preached that He ROSE from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?" "For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: and IF Christ be not raised, your faith is vain, ye are yet in your sins. Then (unless there is to be a RESURRECTION from the DEAD) they also which are asleep in Christ are PERISHED!" Strong Scripture, that!

The dead IN CHRIST are PERISHED—not alive enjoying the promised inheritance ALREADY somewhere, but PERISHED—utterly PERISHED—UNLESS there is to be a RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD! How DIFFERENT from the modern fables to which a deceived people has been turned today!

So, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are DEAD. And, unless there is to be a RESURRECTION—a RISING UP *from* the grave—they are PERISHED. Abraham knew of Christ, and Jesus said Abraham rejoiced to see His day, and Abraham saw it, and was glad. And speaking of Abraham and the resurrection, Jesus said, recorded in Matt. 22:31-32: "But as *touching the RESURRECTION*" (notice, Jesus is using this illustration to PROVE the RESURRECTION—He is speaking of the RESURRECTION from the DEAD)—"as touching the resurrection of *the dead*, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living."

I've heard this text twisted around and perverted to try to prove that Abraham is not dead, has already gone to and come into his promised reward, and will NEVER be resurrected, just the diametrical OPPOSITE of what Jesus used it to prove. "AS TOUCHING THE RESURRECTION," the resurrection of the DEAD—Jesus said, God is the God of the living. Oh, let us be HONEST with God's precious and sacred Word. Abraham *died*. God says so in the Bible. And he *died* many centuries before Christ.

We Receive the Reward When Jesus Returns

WHEN shall Abraham and his children thru Christ come INTO the promised reward? WHEN shall be the Resurrection? For we read in I Cor. 15:50-53 that *at that same time* the LIVING Christians are to be CHANGED from mortality to IMMORTALITY. And Paul said it

(Please continue on page 14)

Who Will Rule the World

by Richard D. Armstrong

THE SEEDS of World War III have been sown. A war fought with germs, bringing unspeakable diseases, gases that drive men out of their minds, fusion bombs that can destroy any European country in ONE explosion!

And, think of it! Rockets that speed from continent to continent in less than an hour, carrying any of these weapons to any destination on earth.

These weapons were designed by the exquisitely perverse minds of the men of science — *science* which mankind seems to regard with awe and respect. Whenever the voice of "science" speaks, men listen in awe. Science in most cases denies God and His government over their lives and this earth. Scientists attempt to *replace* GOD!

Then we have our *human* governments. The United States has a republican form; Great Britain has a limited monarchy; Russia has a union of soviet socialist republics and Germany has a "democracy." *All* of these nations have some form of man's government. *All* of these nations have the secrets of the Hydrogen bomb. *All* of these nations deny the law of God as supreme in their land.

None of these nations is *capable* of bringing peace to this earth.

No Supreme Authority

What has happened to man's noble effort for peace—the United Nations? Any sound mind knows that no government can rule unless that government has **AUTHORITY**. The moment the authority of any government is made cheap and worthless that government becomes as nothing. It is empty, void and useless, a mockery of truth.

The United Nations has *no such authority*. The secretary of this "world ruling body" recently succumbed to the call of Red China and paid them a visit to **BEG, WHINE** and **PLEAD** for the freedom of American airmen who are held in direct violation of the armistice signed at Korea. An armistice signed with the United Nations . . . already broken and not backed up with **FORCE**, therefore *meaningless*.

Our rulers tell us that wars are too terrible to fight any more. We can wipe humanity off the face of the earth with the next one. Therefore our rulers would have us believe that no power will dare start a war.

World War II was fought against the Germans because they were taking

over Europe to rule the commerce of the world as they saw fit. Millions died. Germany now dominates Europe. She produces more and sells almost as much abroad as the other nations in Europe excluding Great Britain. Soon Germany will be outselling them all!

World War II was fought to end war. Then came Korea. Then came Indo-China. And now comes Formosa.

World War II left the leadership of the free world in the hands of the United States. The U. S. government tried to buy honor by paying ransom for imprisoned nationals behind the Iron Curtain. We have no honor. Britain began to sell her honor by trading with Red China. Britain is mocked by Mau-Maus and Chinese as though she were a bragging bag of wind.

World War II was fought to save "Asia from the Asiatics" as the Japanese dreamed. Asia is now in the hands of the Asiatics! The Americans and British are without honor, face, and respect throughout most of Asia.

Now Britain has all but lost the Suez and new trouble in Central American countries means danger for the Panama Canal and the United States. Our nations are *heading for a fall!*

The German generals that advise Chiang Kai-Shek's forces say that the fall of Dien Bien Phu in Indo-China means the eventual fall of Singapore. Don't laugh. The British at Singapore laughed once before. They should know by now that it's not impossible.

Why Communism Succeeds in Asia

The Communist problem that surrounds the world is a problem of **LOCAL PEOPLE** rising up in rebellion *against colonial powers*. Colonialism is **D-E-A-D!** What does it mean?

Here is a significant fact that this entire world is overlooking, something that our rulers and statesmen seem to have *forgotten*. Part of everything that is happening here on this earth today is a part of *God's PLAN* and is foretold in your Bible.

There is an **ALMIGHTY GOD IN HEAVEN**, the **CREATOR** of this world, who oversees and **RULES** the affairs of men. God did **NOT** create the world and then go off and leave it. He is not a God who is not cognizant of what's happening here below. Rather, as Prime Minister Churchill has said, all of these events are a part of the "Divine purpose being worked out here below."

You read in the Bible that God determines the course of human events

to fit His own plan (Acts 17:26). God is allowing Communism to overrun Asia—but He is **PREVENTING** Russia from commencing World War III. Russia is *not* yet ready.

The 6000-Year Plan

For six thousand years God has permitted man to go his own way—to do as he chooses. Man has not yet learned he never can be happy by rejecting the **RULE** of GOD.

Here is what the Almighty God says about the plans of nations in Psalm 33: 10-18: "The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to *nought*; He maketh the *devices* of the people of none effect. . . . No King is saved by the multitude of an host: a mighty man is **NOT** delivered by much strength. An horse is a vain thing for safety; neither shall he deliver any by his great strength. Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that **FEAR HIM**, upon them that hope in **HIS MERCY**."

Then cavalry and the devices of men are *vain* things for victory. The Eternal is the one who determines the outcome of wars, and sets the boundaries of the nations though humanity is *unaware of this fact!*

Yes, men have *forgotten* there is a God in Heaven. We have forgotten how to trust in God for our safety. Rather, our nations have been putting their trust in such things as **HYDROGEN BOMBS** and the "stamina of our people."

God has been left out of our government, our schools, our businesses—and out of most of our churches. The threat of Communism is merely the first warning that World War III is on the way if we don't *wake up!*

Men have thought of God as weak, impotent, unable to save the nation that trusts Him. Therefore we join in conferences with international gangster nations to bring about a truce! But, thank God, the Almighty Creator in Heaven is **NOT** weak and impotent. He is going to step in soon and save mankind from annihilation *after we are punished in World War III!*

We have reached the point now where it will take *divine intervention* to save us. That is just what is going to happen.

We are beginning to be punished for rejecting God and His ways, for forgetting Him and trying to trust in ourselves.

There is a great deal of suffering that is yet to come to this earth to teach man that he can't get along without God.

All of these chastisements are a part of the divine plan that is found in the Bible. Mankind yet has lessons to learn!

The Little-Known Purpose of Life

Man was put here on this earth for a greater reason than just to live for the moment and see how pleasurable he can pass time by selfishly getting and grabbing everything he can. Nations steal and rob from one another—they covet each other's territory. But war has not brought peace and happiness.

God has had to intervene in the affairs of men before this time, and every time it was to save man from himself!

Now, man's allotted time is almost up! Jesus Christ is coming to this earth again to RULE the nations with a rod of iron and to rebuke strong nations afar off (Isaiah 2:4). He is also coming to save our people out of a captivity—which they must go into for having rejected God—for worshiping Him with their lips while they *deny Him with their deeds*. In short, for leaving God out of their lives, for rejecting His rule and forgetting to trust in God!

What You Can Do!

You as an individual can live your life with God. You can do as He has expressed in His Word, by submitting yourself to Him willingly, by coming under His protection. Yours is the promise of His protection when this great time of trouble comes. But you must watch and "pray always that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man" (Luke 21:36). You need to be watching in order to discern the times and know when the end is drawing near.

You can know these signs and know when the end of this age is coming by reading your Bible and realizing that it is the Word of Almighty God, the Creator. That it is His direct message to YOU showing His LOVE to YOU, through the PERFECT LAW OF LIBERTY.

No one can ever understand the prophecies of the Bible, or even understand who God is, and what God is, until he realizes that he must submit himself to God's authority and humbly ask God to show him the right way of life no matter what ideas he may have had.

Until you have come to this frame of mind, and received the HOLY SPIRIT of God, you cannot really understand the Bible and know why you were born and what the purpose of life is!

It is time we wake up and realize that *God overrules human affairs*, can save us out of trouble—whether personal or national—and that our strength lies in Him, not in hydrogen bombs, or our armies, or the stamina of our people.

Reward of Saved

(Continued from page 12)

would be at THE LAST TRUMP—remember?

All right, let's turn now to I Thes. 4:16-17: "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the TRUMP OF GOD, and the dead IN CHRIST (not out of Christ) shall RISE, first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to MEET the Lord in the air: and so shall we EVER *be with* the Lord." And so the Resurrection shall occur at the SECOND COMING OF CHRIST—when HE COMES AS THE KING OF KINGS and the LORD of lords to REIGN and to RULE all nations of earth for the first time. When He comes to set up His KINGDOM, THEN, Abraham and his children in Christ who have died shall be RESURRECTED to IMMORTALITY, to INHERIT THE KINGDOM, a world-ruling GOVERNMENT headed and ruled by CHRIST, occupying the VERY LAND PROMISED to ABRAHAM—the LAND OF PALESTINE, from the NILE to the EUPHRATES RIVERS—and THIS KINGDOM composed of IMMORTALS, which flesh and blood cannot enter, shall rule over all the OTHER nations of the earth—the OTHER nations made up of flesh and blood mortals!

Now this text does not say, as so many suppose, that Christ is coming part way from heaven to MEET THE SAINTS as the SAINTS are starting off for HEAVEN. No, Jesus said "If I go, I WILL COME AGAIN." . . . that's in the wonderful 14th chapter of John.

What a glorious PROMISE! Jesus promised He would COME AGAIN to earth. And further, WHEN He has returned to EARTH, that He would, as He said, "receive you unto myself"—why, of course, right here on this earth! The saints, both dead and alive, resurrected and changed to IMMORTALITY, shall rise to MEET HIM, as He is RETURNING TO THIS EARTH. They MEET in the CLOUDS, and airplanes fly higher than that every

day! And, in Zech. 14:4 we read that in THAT SAME DAY Christ's feet shall rest on the MOUNT OF OLIVES, in Palestine, the promised land—and those who MEET Him as He comes shall EVER be WITH HIM, where He is. Yes, that's different from the fables of this day, but that's the PLAIN TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD!

The Reward Is NOT Heaven

And Jesus said: "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit THE EARTH." That's part of the Sermon on the Mount—and certainly every Christian must BELIEVE the sermon on the Mount! Then we must BELIEVE, if we are Christians, that what the saved inherit is THE EARTH—and not heaven! Jesus plainly said, "NO man has ascended up to heaven" (John 3:13).

David was a man after God's own heart. DAVID has the promise of being in the Kingdom of God, ruling over ISRAEL under Christ, when Christ shall rule ALL nations. But on that day of Pentecost when the New Testament Church began, the inspired PETER said: "David is not ascended into the heavens" (Acts 2:34).

The wisest man who ever lived was inspired to write, as part of the divine WORD OF GOD, "The righteous shall never be removed, but the wicked shall not inhabit the earth" (Prov. 10:30).

I think most of you have read those Scriptures. That's the "THUS SAITH THE LORD" on the question. There is absolutely NO Scripture in all the Holy Bible that promises HEAVEN as the reward the saved shall inherit. And yet, have not most people just sort of blinded their minds to these positive, plain STATEMENTS from God Almighty, and carelessly taken for granted, without question, the idea of going to heaven?

Notice WHEN the Kingdom shall be inherited—WHEN the HEIRS of the promises to Abraham shall come finally into their reward, and receive the actual INHERITANCE. It is recorded in Matthew 25:31-34:

"When the Son of man shall come in His GLORY, and all the holy angels with Him, THEN shall He sit upon the THRONE of His glory: and THEN shall the King say unto them on His right hand, COME, ye blessed of my Father, INHERIT the KINGDOM PREPARED for you from the foundation of the world." Yes, the KINGDOM of God is the PLACE PREPARED. Jesus said He went to PREPARE A PLACE for us. He also said He went to GET FOR HIMSELF A KINGDOM, AND TO RETURN. And WHEN He returns, as KING of kings, and that KINGDOM IS ESTABLISHED, we find it is the PLACE PREPARED, and THEN it is that the joyful call goes out, "COME! ye blessed of my Father, INHERIT the KINGDOM PREPARED for you."

COMING!

Future articles will continue this vital theme.

Is there a burning HELL? What does your BIBLE really say?

What did Jesus actually SAY about Lazarus and the Rich Man? You'll be surprised!

All the vague, misunderstood texts on this subject will be made PLAIN in future articles.

What You Should Know about the CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

HERE is important information concerning the Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course.

This is a totally new, *different* kind of Bible study course, designed to lead you, by the study of *your own Bible*, to UNDERSTAND the meaning of today's world-chaos, of the PURPOSE being worked out here below, of PROPHECY, of SALVATION, of this entire Treasure-House of knowledge, which is GOD'S WORD—the TRUTH.

What *do* present terrifying world conditions mean? WHERE are we headed? HOW will mankind be saved from extinction by hydrogen and cobalt bombs and other frightful weapons? WHY did God put man here on earth? Were *you*, as an individual, put here for a PURPOSE—and *what* is that purpose? WHAT is man—WHY is man? What is THE WAY to world peace—THE WAY to *freedom* from fear and worry, poverty, sickness, unhappiness? WHAT is the reward—the FUTURE of the saved? Does GOD actually exist—can it be proved? What IS God—what is God *like*? Is God a Person, a Trinity, or merely PRINCIPLE, or ESSENCE? If God is Personal and intelligent, what does He look like—how BIG is He—and how do we KNOW?

What about such doctrinal questions as heaven, hell, salvation, law and grace, the Great Tribulation, the Rapture—the Virgin Birth, the Resurrection, the Second Coming, the Millennium? Where are the dead—and are they now conscious? What about the immortality of the soul—what is meant by "body, soul, and spirit?"

Never a Course Like This Before

All these, and many more questions—the most VITAL, most IMPORTANT questions of YOUR LIFE—are thoroughly gone into, and you are directed to the clear, plain, simple answers, *in your BIBLE!* You will learn HOW to study the Bible—WHY so few UNDERSTAND it. Can we PROVE whether the Bible really is the INSPIRED WORD OF GOD?

This Course is NOT denominational. It is offered *free*, without tuition to

those who earnestly desire to understand the Bible, and will devote at least a half hour, every day, to its study. The only equipment you will need is your own Bible, a good dictionary, paper and pen—alho, if you are able and wish to provide one or more additional translations, a good concordance, or other Bible "helps," you may, but this is not absolutely necessary.

You do NOT send us the answers to each lesson, but about every three or four months we will send you a questionnaire or test covering several lessons to see if you have kept up with your lessons and are still interested in continuing the Course.

The value of this Correspondence Course lies in the KNOWLEDGE and UNDERSTANDING you will receive in your mind and heart.

The BIBLE is a very big Book, when you undertake to really KNOW it, and thoroughly UNDERSTAND it. And if you pursue this study earnestly and thoroughly, you will not have completely mastered it all, or come to complete knowledge in any *short* period.

The Bible Is a Life-Long Study

The length of this course is not as yet determined. We desire to make it comprehensive and thorough, but the length it runs will depend on the interest and perseverance of its enrolled students. Many thousands are already enrolled—additional thousands are starting the course every month. The study of the Bible is, and ought to be, a life-long study—not a six months, one year, or four-year limited course. If ENOUGH of our enrolled students show an interest and desire to continue on, *the Course probably will continue indefinitely*. As long as God's people continue HUNGRY for the spiritual food, we, God's servants, will continue to feed them.

This is a stirring, vitally interesting Course. It is not dry or dull. It *sparkles* with INTEREST. But, to benefit by it, you will have to really put your HEART into it, and NOT LESS than thirty minutes a day of your time. It will have to be-

come the principle and number one INTEREST in your mind, continuously, day by day. There has never been any Course like this, and if you will *set yourself* to be really devoted to it, you will be richly rewarded by constantly coming into surprising, thrilling, JOYFUL new truths.

If, with this information, you wish to start out on this interesting study, then write us IMMEDIATELY. We will send you the lessons regularly. We shall continue to check with you every three or four months to see what progress you are making, and whether you wish to continue.

NO Tuition

As mentioned above, there is no tuition, and you will not be asked for contributions, unless, of your own accord and without any obligation or solicitation, you should desire to have a part with our thousands of voluntary Co-Workers, whose tithes and free-will offerings make this entire work possible. We are not controlled or subsidized, sponsored or endowed or financed by ANY denomination or organization of any kind—there are no selfish ends to gain—only a desire to serve and SHARE God's precious TRUTHS, in a self-sacrificing ministry of LOVE.

Many of our Co-Workers belong to no denomination. Many belong to various denominations. But ALL, without having any voice to dictate what is preached or taught—which is dictated by CHRIST ALONE—do sacrifice to share in Christ's GREAT COMMISSION. This is merely a frank and straightforward explanation of how this work is financed—GOD'S WAY—and is not a request or solicitation.

We sincerely hope you will want to receive this first lesson and then enroll and enter with enthusiasm and joyful ZEAL in pursuing regularly and permanently the thrilling STUDY of YOUR BIBLE.

Enclose your name and address, and state that you want to enroll NOW in the Correspondence Course.

Truth About EASTER

(Continued from page 6)

also was not only instructed by the apostles, and conversed with many who had seen Christ, but was also, by apostles in Asia, appointed bishop of the Church of Smyrna . . . He it was who, coming to Rome in the time of Anicetus"—bishop of Rome around 154 A.D.—"caused many to turn away from the . . . heretics to the *Church of God*, proclaiming that he had received this one and sole truth from the apostles . . ." While at Rome, Polycarp discussed the matter of Easter with the Roman bishop.

Irenaeus continued: "For neither could Anicetus persuade Polycarp not to observe it"—the passover—"because he had always observed it with John the disciple of our Lord, and the rest of the apostles, with whom he associated; and neither did Polycarp persuade Anicetus to observe it, who said that he was bound to follow the customs of the presbyters before him" (Quoted from Eusebius' *Ecclesiastical History*, book V, chap. 24, in the *Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers*, Vol. 1).

Notice that bishop Anicetus had no scriptural grounds—he determined to follow the "customs" of men!—Easter Sunday!

A Fake Vision from God

Shortly after Polycarp left, there appeared an amazing letter—said by many scholars to have been a deliberate forgery. This letter states: "Pope Pius, who lived about 147, had made a decree, That the annual solemnity of the *Pasch* [*Pasch* is the Greek word for *Passover*] should be kept only on the Lord's day"—Sunday—"and in confirmation of this he pretended, that Hermes, his brother, who was then an eminent teacher among them, had received instruction from an angel, who commanded that all men should keep the *Pasch* on the Lord's day." (From pp. 1148-1149 of Bingham's *Antiquities* of the Christian Church.)

Of this same hoax we read in *Apostolical Fathers*, by Donaldson, p. 324,

"One of the letters forged in the name of Pius, where one Hermas is mentioned as the author; and it is stated that in his book a commandment was given through an angel to observe the Passover on a Sunday."

If this letter was a deliberate forgery, it was invented after Polycarp's time in an effort to lend weight to the custom of Anicetus, bishop of Rome, who maintained the Sunday observance of the eucharist or passover. If it were not a forgery, then Pius himself was the author of this deceptive letter. (Pius died just prior to the visit of Polycarp to Rome.)

But the Easter controversy did not end here!

Within 35 years it broke out vehemently between Polycrates of Asia Minor and Victor of Rome, who attempted to "cut off whole churches of God, who observed the tradition of an ancient custom"—the true passover.

Here is a part of the forthright answer given by Polycrates to Victor, vindicating the truth of God:

"As for us, then, we scrupulously observe the exact day, neither adding nor taking away. For in Asia great luminaries have gone to their rest, who shall rise again in the day of the coming of the Lord . . . I speak of Philip, one of the twelve apostles . . . John, moreover, who reclined on the Lord's bosom . . . Then there is Polycarp . . . THESE ALL KEPT THE PASSOVER ON THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF THE MONTH, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GOSPEL, WITHOUT EVER DEVIATING FROM IT, BUT KEEPING TO THE RULE OF FAITH."

This remarkable letter is preserved in Vol. 8 of the *Ante-Nicene Fathers*, pp. 773-774.

Polycrates came from that area in which Paul spent most of his time—in Asia Minor, near Ephesus. This is also where John spent his last days. Here we have many Christians still remaining true to the faith!

Here is proof that both the apostles to the circumcision and Paul, the special apostle to the Gentiles, taught the ob-

servance of the passover on the 14th of the first month of God's sacred calendar. Chrysostom, who wrote several centuries after the apostles admitted that "formerly it [the passover] prevailed also at Antioch" from where Paul began many of his apostolic journeys.

Now, what happened to stamp out the true observance of the passover from the popular churches?

Constantine—the Man of Power

Constantine then convoked the first general council of the Christian-professing world. The Council of Nicaea decided, under his authority, that Easter *must* be celebrated on Sunday and that the passover must be forbidden!

Without regard to these decisions, many continued faithful. For this reason Constantine issued an edict declaring: "We have directed, accordingly, that you be deprived of all houses in which you are accustomed to hold your assemblies . . . public or private." (From the *Life of Constantine*, book III.)

Easter Still Observed on Different Sundays

Though everyone was now forced to observe Easter or flee the confines of the Roman Empire, the churches were still divided over the exact Sunday for Easter. Here is how confusing matters became:

"But notwithstanding any endeavours that could be used then, or afterwards, there remained great differences in the church about it for many ages. For the churches of *Great Britain and Ireland* did not accord with the Roman church in keeping Easter on the same Sunday, till about the year 800. Nor was the Roman way fully received in France, till it was settled there by the authority of Charles the Great . . ." (p. 1151).

I know these are startling facts—but they ought to make you wake up to the TRUTH! It is high time we learned exactly what has happened to the gospel of Jesus Christ and to the practices of the New Testament Church of God these past 1900 years!

The PLAIN TRUTH

Printed in the U.S.A.

Box 111—Pasadena, California

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

(Sec. 34.65 (e), P.L.&R.)

U. S. POSTAGE

PAID

Permit No. 703

Pasadena, California