

the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

VOLUME XXIV, NUMBER 10

OCTOBER, 1959



—Wide World Photo
STEEL WORKERS WALK OFF JOB AT STRIKE DEADLINE. Some of the hundreds of workers who walked off their jobs and milled around outside the gates of the McLouth Steel Corporation plant in Trenton, Michigan, are seen here. A long nationwide strike is beginning to make itself felt on the nation's economy. How will this giant strike effect the nation's economic stability and its world trade? Who is behind the steel strike? Read the startling exposé in this issue's lead article!

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VOL. XXIV

NO. 10

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By the Radio Church of God

NOTICE: Be sure to notify us immediately of any change in your address. Please inclose both old and new addresses. IMPORTANT!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

My life is being changed

"Dear Mr. Armstrong,

"I wish I could put words together and make them express my thoughts as clearly and wonderfully as you do. Then I could tell you how much you have helped me. How my life is being changed, slowly, but in such a wonderful way. I feel so much better physically since I am learning what to eat and how to prepare my food to get the most food value. I feel better mentally, and I am growing up emotionally. I have a totally different outlook on life, since I am learning the truth about salvation. Mr. Armstrong, truly God is using you, your family and your staff of helpers in a most wonderful way."

Lady from Dawson, Texas.

Marital happiness

"Dear Mr. Armstrong,

"I was so thrilled this morning to hear your sermon on the way to have a happy marriage. The Lord showed me the same message about three years

ago. After being married five years, our marriage was on a very shaky basis. My husband was nervous and very mixed up in his thinking. He had started smoking about a year before, and wouldn't go to church, or even pay an electric bill until they threatened to turn our lights off. He had no system for managing his pay check. In vain I desperately tried to figure out a budget and urge him to even try to follow it. We had no decent clothes nor even a washing machine. I got to the place where I cried sometimes for hours and days praying that God would help us somehow. Although he had never been unfaithful, I sometimes wondered if it wouldn't be best to leave him for the children's sake. Besides, I had only been 16 when we married, and he had spent most of our first 25 months on a destroyer in the Pacific. I felt perhaps I, who had been raised a Christian, was being punished for missing God's will in my life.

"One day, especially unhappy, I lay down to rest with my Bible. It opened to I Peter. I read in Chapter 2 where servants were to be in subjection not only to the good and kind masters, but also to the froward. When I came to Chapter 3, verse one, the words, 'Likewise ye wives be in subjection to your own husbands . . .', seemed to stand out with a special interest and meaning. I read the first six verses over and over. The Lord revealed in that hour the key to our marital happiness. I arose refreshed, with a song of hope and thanksgiving in my heart.

"I never mentioned another bill, usually not even bothering to open them. I just handed the envelopes to him with our other mail. I realized it was not my responsibility to worry any more. I concentrated on being a good wife, cheerful, happy with the words ringing in my ears and heart, 'That if any obey not the word they also may without the word be won by the conversation (conduct) of the wives; while they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear.' About two weeks later God took away his tobacco habit, and healed him of what could have been a very serious leg injury.

"We are now very happy. My hus-

band is truly the head of our home. He thinks for himself, often asking my advice but does not feel I am trying to run his business for we have grown together. He is systematic about paying our bills, and the Lord blessed us abundantly. He makes all our big decisions. I learned if I just get behind him in prayer, they always turn out for the best, even when I would not have agreed at the time.

"I feel the Lord has given me this message for other women and girls, and I have been spreading the good news ever since.

"Last month we had our sixth baby. They all look to Daddy for the last word. Daddy's word is law in our home, and even above that, the words of God.

"I will always be grateful for the first six verses in I Peter 3."

A housewife in Forest Grove, Oregon
Editor's comment: Some of our PLAIN TRUTH readers and radio listeners have disagreed with the Bible teaching about authority in the home. The above letter shows what blessings are received by obedience to this Bible command.

"Deceived once"

"Having listened to THE WORLD TOMORROW program for a little more than one year, we now feel this program and published literature speak God's truth as revealed in the Bible. Having been deceived once, we were hesitant about recognizing anyone as God's minister, but now, believing you to speak according to the Word of God, we want to help in giving this

(Please continue on page 28)

WHY THE PLAIN TRUTH HAS NO SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

So many ask: "How can you publish a magazine, without subscription price, and without advertising?"

The answer is simple. The GOSPEL must go to the whole world, and it must go FREE. It must not be sold like merchandise. "Freely ye have received," Jesus said to His disciples whom He was sending to proclaim the Gospel, "freely GIVE." Without money and without price, is God's way. We proclaim a FREE salvation. Therefore, we cannot put a PRICE upon THE PLAIN TRUTH.

We have been called of God to conduct this work. It is not our work, but God's. We have set out to conduct God's work God's way. We rely, in FAITH, upon God's promises to supply every need.

God's way is the way of LOVE—and that is the way of giving, not getting. God expects every true child of His to GIVE of tithes and offerings that His work may go FREE—that His true ministers may GIVE the precious Gospel to others. We simply TRUST GOD to lay it on the minds and hearts of His people to give of their tithes and offerings that we may be enabled to GIVE the good things of God's Word to the hundreds of thousands who hear the Message over the air, and the scores of thousands who read THE PLAIN TRUTH.

Many times our faith has been severely tried, but God has never failed us. We must not fail HIM!

Crime, Vice Signal COLLAPSE of America!

GREED, selfishness, lust for material possessions is hurtling our nation down the road to DESTRUCTION! The Steel Strike is only the beginning! Read what PROPHECY says about America's imminent future—and WHY!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

FIVE MAJOR vices brought about the collapse of the mighty Roman Empire!

And—shocking though it may seem—the SAME five specific causes for the fall of Rome are the *most outstanding characteristics of the life in America today!*

What *were* these five major reasons? You've probably never read of them, but if you HAD, you would have thought you were reading a description of modern America!

The foremost authority on Roman history, Edward Gibbon, lists five chief reasons for Rome's fall! They were (1) the breakup of homes; (2) rapid increase in taxes; (3) a mad, reckless craze for pleasure; (4) a buildup of gigantic armaments, when the real danger was the decadence of the people from within; (5) the decay of religion.

And, startling though it is, *America is festering with these identical vices today!* We lead the world in divorce, broken homes, and resultant juvenile delinquency! We have the most rapidly growing tax rate any nation has ever had. Your taxes have multiplied 1,500 times since 1933! If you paid ONE dollar in taxes in 1933, you pay \$1,500 today! There is no nation on earth so crazed by a search for satisfaction of the senses as ours! Multiple millions of dollars are spent yearly on movies, TV, vacationing, and other forms of entertainment! The boom in outdoor sporting goods sales is unparalleled.

Armaments? We have a program so overwhelmingly gigantic it's breathtaking! So many multiple millions of dollars are spent on atomic, hydrogen bombs, on the race to conquer space, on modern weapons, aircraft, shipping, and the more conventional needs of our

military services, that it staggers the imagination! *But*, while we frantically spend tax dollars to build this huge stockpile of weapons—to buy friends abroad (which is an utter impossibility) so as to create a "bulwark" for democracy, the REAL enemy is WITHIN! The *real enemy* of America is its own PEOPLE!

America is known around the world as the springboard of more brands of religion than you can imagine. Even as Paul said: "Having a FORM of godliness, but denying the POWER thereof" (II Tim. 3:5).

Yes, each one of the five vices which caused the collapse of Rome is not only present with us in this country, but has grown to such tremendous proportions it's almost unbelievable!

This nation is diseased! This nation is SICK!

It's about time you knew what is PROPHESED to happen to the United States! It's about time you heard the TRUTH!

The United States in Prophecy

This nation is mentioned literally *hundreds* of times in Biblical prophecy! Think of it! Fully one third of the Bible is prophetic, and nearly ALL of that third pertains to *this present age in which you live!*

If you have *not* yet read Mr. Armstrong's booklet *proving* the identity of our peoples in Bible prophecy, write immediately for your free copy of the booklet, "The United States and the British Commonwealth in Prophecy."

It's time you were *concerned* about the *revolution of lawlessness* taking place in this country—and around the world!

Hundreds of years ago, the Apostle

Paul, one of the greatest Christians who ever lived, prophesied, "This know also, that in the LAST DAYS *perilous* times shall come. For men shall be *lovers of their own selves*, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, *disobedient to parents*, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, *fierce, despisers* of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, *lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God . . .*" (II Tim. 3:1-4). The Word of God said men would become more and more CRIMINAL in their natures, *selfish, greedy, lustful, pleasure mad*, crazed with *vanity*, filled with hatred, envy, spite, contempt for law and authority. WAKE UP! Quit "kidding" yourself! YOU *KNOW* THESE THINGS ARE TRUE OF A BROAD MAJORITY OF OUR PEOPLE—NOT JUST A SELECT FEW!

It's about time you began to *look around you* and FEAR!

God said, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because thou hast *rejected* knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be NO priest to me, seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children!" (Hosea 4:6.) Perhaps the WORST punishment God could devise for a grasping, hate-filled, lawless generation is to FORGET them—to leave them to themselves, suffering the natural results of their own evils! God does not "beat around the bush" about it. He identifies this nation to which He is speaking—and describes *perfectly* our national crimes and sins!

Violence, Graft, Were Prophesied!

Just as ancient Rome built up huge armaments to protect her vast empire from *without*, when the REAL enemy

was *within*, so the United States is repeating the same mistake today.

This nation has been in the grips of a great steel strike. A flurry of stories flared in the press of labor union violence in various parts of the country, while Congress passed the Landrum-Griffin bill, aimed at cutting some of the powers of the big unions.

What is the actual record?

Time magazine, running a picture of glowering James Hoffa, boss of the Teamsters Union, ousted from AFL-CIO ranks, emblazoned across the front page of its issue for August 31st, "The Hoffa Record, 'It Speaks for Itself.'"

It certainly does!

Only through the press—making *known* to the public the real facts—can the vast scope of hooliganism, vice, violence and crime within our land be realized. Centuries ago Almighty God inspired the prophet Jeremiah to write of OUR PEOPLE, "Your iniquities have turned away these things [national wealth; abundance; rain in due season, instead of drought] and your sins have withholden good things from you. For among my people are found *wicked men*. They lay wait, as he that setteth snares. They set a trap, they catch *men*. As a cage is full of birds, so are their houses FULL OF DECEIT, therefore they are become *great*, and waxen *rich*. They are waxen fat, they shine: yea, they overpass the deeds of the wicked, they judge not the cause, the cause of the fatherless, yet they prosper, and the right of the needy do they not judge. Shall I not visit for these things? saith the Lord: shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?" (Jer. 5:25-29.)

What a DETAILED, EXPLICIT picture of powerful organizations today!

God said *through our own crime, violence, graft and lawlessness*, we would finally go the way of ancient Rome! "Make a chain, for the land is full of BLOODY CRIMES, and the city is FULL OF VIOLENCE! Therefore I will bring the *worst* of the heathen, and they shall possess their houses, I will also make the pomp of the strong to cease, and their holy places shall be defiled. *Destruction* cometh, and they shall *seek* peace, and there shall be none!" (Ezek. 7:23-25.)

What IS the "Record"?

Notice how *literally* these prophecies apply to our people today!

A special investigating committee, called the "Senate's Select Committee on Improper Activities in the Labor or Management Field," headed by John McClellan, an Arkansas Democrat, brought to light some disturbing facts.

It was the conclusion of this committee—*after* investigating 124 Teamster officials, each of whom had a criminal past—that a background of crime was a "prerequisite" for "advancement within the Teamster firmament."

Swayed by *belligerent sentiment* and small, but regular, *wage* increases, the rank and file teamsters unanimously approved James Hoffa's election as boss of the union which literally holds the economy of this country in its grip—having the power to so seriously cripple the nation as to render it almost helpless! At the time of the trial of former Teamster's boss, Dave Beck, a political cartoon appeared, showing a big barrel labeled, "Teamster Funds." Deep in the barrel, with only his posterior showing above, was a figure labeled "Hoffa." Immediately behind "Hoffa" was a long line of voters, each carrying signs such as "We Want Hoffa," etc. This was the

incongruous picture which was shown by the FACTS! But IN SPITE of obvious linkings between Hoffa and various underworld thugs, the average union voter still wanted Hoffa!

The McClellan committee proved Hoffa has allied himself with criminals and hoodlums. Hoffa has helped one criminal get a parole from a prison term for armed robbery, then promptly hired him as a union organizer. The committee says that Hoffa, through Paul Dorfman (described as "a major figure in the Chicago underworld") got in touch with top Capone gang chieftains, such as Joseph Glimco and Paul "The Waiter" Ricca. Glimco has the surprising record of 36 arrests, including two on murder charges, but was nevertheless made a trustee of a Chicago Teamster local. The list of associates, organizers, presidents of locals and other officials looks like a police department rogues' gallery!

Just how powerful *are* the unions?

Powerful enough to THREATEN THE GOVERNMENT!

James B. Carey, president of the International Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, warned the 229 members of the House who voted for the Landrum-Griffin bill, strongly opposed by labor, that the unions would "do all in our power" to defeat those members voting for the bill in the elections of 1960. By either blacklisting certain persons, or supporting actively certain others, the union bosses can wield a tremendous voting club. Carey's threatening letter, published and sent to each House member voting for the bill said, "You have much to answer for."

A Startling Warning!

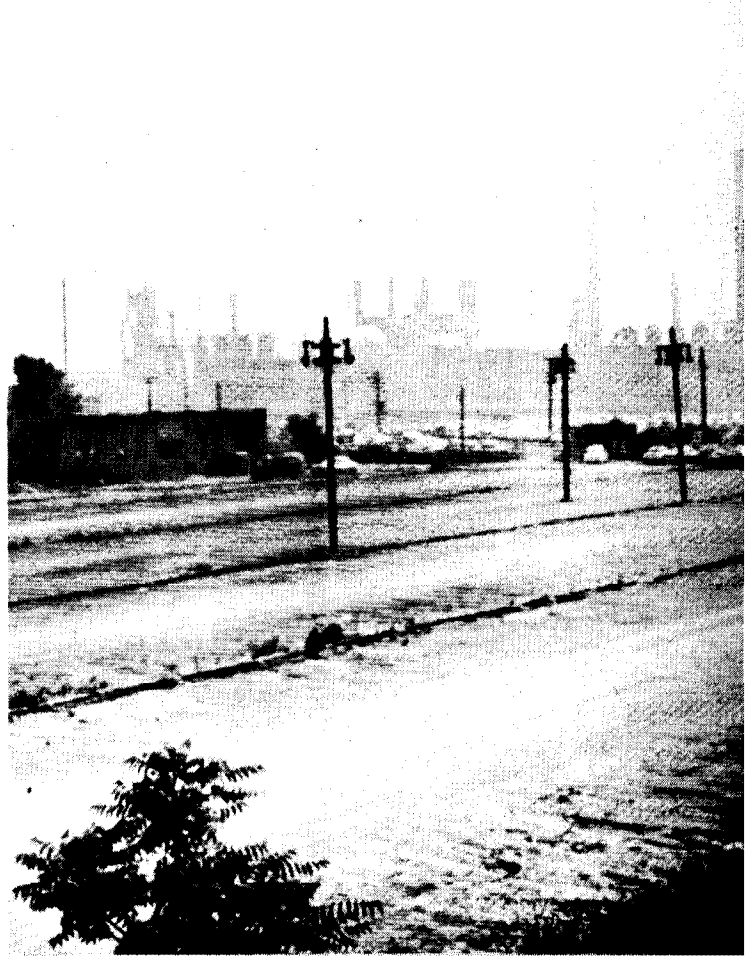
Seemingly unmindful of the security of the nation—the *future*, the average workingman thinks only of the SELF! Far more concerned about winning an extra day off for a birthday, a few cents an hour increase, added fringe benefits, hospitalization plans—LESS WORK AND MORE PAY—the average citizen seems unable to see *beyond* his personal greed. A startling prophecy is contained in Deuteronomy the 28th chapter! God set before His people either LIFE or DEATH. By being obedient to HIS laws, living in the *only* way that would bring happiness, abundance, and real JOY, He

Have you enrolled in our free 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 whole meaning of today's fast-moving SPACE AGE, of the PURPOSE being worked out here below, of PROPHECY, of SALVATION.

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. You will PROVE whether the Bible *is* the INSPIRED WORD OF GOD!

Just address your letter requesting the Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course to Box 111, Pasadena, California. Those in Europe should address our European office: B.C.M. Ambassador, London W.C. 1.



—Wide World Photos

Before and after the steel strike commenced! Republic Steel Corporation's Cleveland, Ohio, plant parking lot is shown at left as it looked the day before the strike. At the right is a view of the same lot on the first day of the nationwide steel strike. Both photos were taken from identical spot.

promised: "BLESSED shall you be in the city, and *blessed* shall you be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep. Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store. Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out!" (Deut. 28:3-6).

But WE HAVE NOT BEEN WILLING TO OBEY GOD!

We CALL ourselves Christian—but our HEARTS are wrong! We PROFESS Christ's name—but our nation is CORRUPT! We CLAIM to be the greatest "Christian" nation on earth but instead of leading the world in "Christianity," WE LEAD THE WORLD IN CRIME, IN DIVORCE, IN JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, IN LAWLESSNESS!

God thunders His warning to each

of us that "... it shall come to pass if thou wilt NOT hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes which I command thee this day, that all these CURSES shall come upon thee, and overtake thee: CURSED shalt thou be in the city, and *cursed* shalt thou be in the field . . . the Lord shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, UNTIL THOU BE DESTROYED, and until thou perish quickly; because of the wickedness of thy doings, whereby thou hast forsaken me" (Deut. 28: 15-20).

But God said certain SPECIFIC national troubles would overtake us.

He said we would have increasing DISEASE, MENTAL disorders, upsets in the weather, famine, drought, and ultimate ATTACK from a foreign enemy!

"The Lord shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust, from heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed! The Lord shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies. Thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them, and shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth" (Deut. 28:23-25).

God says this nation is going to be horribly punished for its national sins! And He says specifically HOW!

TRADE WAR!

Wars are fought with MONEY as much as with guns! *While America sleeps*, there is already being fought on the economic battlefields of the world the first major engagements of WORLD WAR III!

While the American laborer GOES ON STRIKE to satisfy the urge for PERSONAL

gain—looking only at the immediate luxuries of the present—the enemy on the battlefield of world trade moves in to take over the deserted fronts left by a "labor vs. management" civil war!

The *Los Angeles Times* reported, July 16th, 1959, that "Right at the time when the European Coal, Iron and Steel

Community appears to be in the throes of certain difficulties . . . there comes the American steel strike idling 500,000 workers and opening new possibilities to European and other steelmakers."

In past years, we have reported through the pages of *The PLAIN TRUTH* how a *united Europe* was PROPHESED

to arise—becoming a **SERIOUS THREAT TO THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN!**

Daily, the United States of Europe moves closer to reality!

Years ago, many scoffed, saying Germany would never rise again. While our
(Please continue on page 10)

RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

TO THE U.S. & CANADA

WABC—New York—770 on dial—9:30 a.m., Sun., E.S.T.; 11:30 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.

WNTA—Newark, N.J.—970 on dial—9:00 a.m. Sun.—7:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.—9:00 p.m. Sat.

WLS—Chicago—890 on dial—1:00 p.m. & 8:30 p.m. Sun.; 10:30 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.

WWVA—Wheeling, W. Va.—1170 on dial—10:30 a.m.; 11:15 p.m., Sun., E.S.T. 10:00 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.

WLAC—Nashville, Tenn.—1510 on dial—7:00 p.m., daily; 6:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat., E.S.T.—10:30 a.m. Sun.

WCKY—Cincinnati, Ohio—1530 on dial—5:30 a.m. E.S.T. daily.

CKLW—Windsor, Ontario—800 on dial—7:00 p.m. Sundays.

KLZ—Denver, Colo.—560 on dial—10:45 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sat.

XELO—800 on dial—every night, 8:00 p.m., M.S.T., 9:00 p.m. C.S.T.

XEG—1050 on dial—every night, 8:30 p.m. C.S.T.

WCAE—Pittsburgh, Pa.—1250 on dial—6:30 p.m. Sundays.

WPIT—Pittsburgh, Pa.—730 on dial—7:00 a.m., daily.

KOME—Tulsa, Okla.—1300 on dial—9:00 p.m., Sunday; 6:30 a.m., Mon. thru Sat.

WFAA—Dallas, Tex.—570 on dial—6:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat. 820 on dial—8:30 p.m. Sun. (Note frequency difference)

KGBX—Springfield, Mo.—1260 on dial—10:30 a.m. Sunday; 6:15 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.

WEW—St. Louis, Mo.—770 on dial—1:00 p.m., Sun.—12:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

WKYB—Paducah, Ky.—570 on dial—12:00 noon, Sun. thru Sat.

WKYR—Keyser, W. Va.—1270 on dial—5:30 a.m., daily.

KDYL—Salt Lake City, Utah—1320 on dial—8:30 p.m. daily.

KFYR—Bismarck, N. Dak.—550 on dial—7:30 p.m. every night.

HEARD ON PACIFIC COAST

KGO—San Francisco—810 on dial—9:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.—10:00 p.m. Sun.

KABC—Los Angeles—790 on dial—9:30 p.m., Sun.; 7:25 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.; 8:00 p.m., Sat.

KRKD—Los Angeles—1150 on dial—6:30 p.m., daily.

KBLA—Burbank—1490 on dial—7:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. daily.

XERB—1090 on dial—7:00 p.m. every night.

XEMO—San Diego, Cal.—860 on dial—7:30 a.m. daily.

KARM—Fresno—1430 on dial—6:30 p.m. daily.

KNBX—Seattle—1050 on dial—4:30 p.m., Sundays; 12:00 noon, Mon. thru Sat.

KWJJ—Portland—1080 on dial—10:00 p.m., Sundays; 9:00 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.

KUGN—Eugene—590 on dial—7:00 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

TO EUROPE AND NORTH AFRICA

RADIO LUXEMBOURG—208 metres. Mondays and Tuesdays: 23:30 Greenwich time.

RADIO MONTE CARLO—1466 kc.; 6035 kc. and 7140 kc.; 6:05 a.m. M.E.T. Sat. (in Russian) and Fri. (in English).

RADIO TANGIER INTERNATIONAL—1232 kc. & S. W. Saturdays 16:30 Greenwich time. Sundays 10:45 Greenwich time (in Spanish).

TO SOUTH AFRICA

RADIO LOURENCO MARQUES, MOZAMBIQUE 10:00 p.m., Saturdays; 10:30 p.m., Mondays and Tuesdays.

RADIO ELIZABETHVILLE (Belgian Congo)—OQ2AD—7150 kc., 9:30 p.m. Fridays.

SIERRE LEONE BROADCASTING SERVICE—Sun. and Tues.

TO ASIA

RADIO GOA—60 metre band, 9:30 p.m. Mon.; 9:00 p.m. Fri.

RADIO BANGKOK—HSIJS—4878 kc. Monday thru Friday: 10:35-11:05 p.m.

RADIO TAIWAN (FORMOSA)—840 kc. 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays.

RADIO OKINAWA — KSBK — 880 kc. Sundays: 12:00 noon. (Time in Japanese to be announced.)

ALTO BROADCASTING SYSTEM — PHILIPPINE ISLANDS 9:00 p.m. Sundays—DZAQ, Manila—630 kc.; DZRI, Dagupan City—1040 kc.; DZRB, Naga City—1060 kc.; DXMC, Davao City—900 kc.

TO AUSTRALIA

2AY—Albury—Sun., 10:00 p.m.; Mon. to Fri., 10:30 p.m.

2CH—Sydney—Mon. to Fri., 9:00 p.m.; Sat., 10:15 p.m.

2GF—Grafton—Sun., 9:30 p.m.; Mon. to Fri., 11:30 a.m.

2GN—Goulburn—Sun., 10:00 p.m.; Mon. to Fri., 3:15 p.m.

3AW—Melbourne—Sun., 10:30 p.m.

3BO—Bendigo—Mon. to Fri., 10:30 p.m.; Thurs., 4:15 p.m.

4CA—Cairns—Sun. to Fri., 10:00 p.m.

4KQ—Brisbane—Sun., 10:30 p.m.

4TO—Townsville—Mon. to Sat., 10:15 p.m.

4WK—Warwick—Mon. to Sat., 9:00 a.m.

6BY—Bridgetown—Sun., 10:30 p.m.

6IX—Perth—Sun., 10:00 p.m.

6MD—Merredin—Sun., 10:30 p.m.

6WB—Katanning—Sun., 10:30 p.m.

7HT—Hobart—Wed., 10:25 p.m.

TO SOUTH AMERICA

RADIO AMERICA—Lima, Peru—6:00 p.m. Saturdays—1010 kc. 7:00 p.m., Sundays—HOC21, Panama City—1115 kc. HP5A, Panama City—11170 kc. HOK, Colon, Panama—640 kc. HP5K, Colon, Panama—6005 kc.

In Spanish

RADIO LA CRONICA—Lima, Peru—7:00-7:15 P.M. Sundays

RADIO COMUNEROS — Asuncion, Paraguay — 8:00-8:15 P.M., Sundays

RADIO SPORT — CXA19 — Montevideo, Uruguay — 4:00-4:15 P.M., Sundays

The Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong

We come now to astounding, miraculous answers to prayer and to the birth of Garner Ted Armstrong. This is the 21st installment.

THE LEAN years continued. And now, with the dawn of 1930, the entire world had entered an era of economic depression. The stock market crash had plunged America into economic chaos on October 29th. The United States followed 42 other nations, as the aftermath of World War I.

The Lesson of Fasting and Prayer

Never in my life have I faced a more serious problem than the situation that confronted us at the beginning of the year 1930. Not only were we confronted with another lean year *economically*—with our own personal financial condition at rock bottom—with the whole nation plunging on down, *down, DOWN*, into the depths of depression—but it seemed as if we were destitute of faith in God as well.

We were within six weeks of the birth of our fourth child. My wife, who had been so miraculously healed in 1927, was now in an alarming condition. She was anemic. Her blood was lacking in iron. Her strength appeared depleted. The doctor was definitely alarmed. He was afraid of complications at the time of delivery, due to her weakened condition. He insisted she go to the hospital where every emergency facility would be available in event of trouble.

But we had been in such financial depths that the hospital bill for our first son's birth had not been paid. The hospital would not admit my wife again until the previous bill was paid—or else we paid in advance.

I had prayed for Mrs. Armstrong's healing. But she had not been healed. I had prayed again. And *again!* But there had been no improvement, and time was running out. We were becoming desperate.

What was wrong? I had learned that

God does heal. We had experienced almost incredible miracles. My wife had been healed before. But *why not now?*

Obviously God had not changed—He is the *same* from eternity to eternity. He has *promised* to heal, and His Word is SURE! The fault could not be with God. I knew it had to be with me. But where? I "searched my heart." One condition to receiving miraculous healing is that we OBEY God.

"Whatever we ask, we receive of Him BECAUSE *we keep His commandments.*" (1 John 3:22).

But I had surrendered to obey God's commandments three years before. FAITH is the second condition. But I *believed*, as firmly as when God first healed my wife.

There was no more time to lose. I *had* to find the answer. I knew of only one way. *Fasting* and prayer! It was the last-ditch resort. I didn't know how one ought to fast and pray—I had never done it before. But when Jesus' disciples were unable to cast out a demon, Jesus said such a result came only by fasting and prayer. So I began to fast.

The fasting was begun on a Sabbath morning. That morning I ate no breakfast. Not knowing *how* one ought to go about fasting and prayer, I first prayed and asked God to show me the way—to open my understanding. Then, since God speaks to us through His written Word, I began to search the Bible for instruction about fasting. For one hour with the aid of a concordance I studied passages of Scripture on the subject of fasting and praying, much of this time on my knees.

Then for one hour I sat in thought and contemplation. I turned over in my mind the Scriptures I had read. I reflected on my own life in recent months. I tried to compare it with God's way, as revealed in the Scriptures. Then I

spent the next hour in talking to God—in prayer.

And so I decided to continue in this order—one hour in Scripture study, one in contemplation, and one in prayer. I did not once ask God to heal my wife—as yet. I had been doing that for weeks, without result. I was fasting and praying, not for the purpose of bringing pressure on God to force Him to obey my will and give what was asked—but to find out *what was wrong with me!* I realized we did not need to nag at God.

I read of Elijah's prayer, in presence of all the priests of Baal, when God answered and the fire came down from heaven. I timed that prayer. It was very short—only about 20 seconds. But the awe-inspiring answer came crashing from heaven instantly! Elijah did not need to talk God into it by a long prayer, or by repeated prayers. But I knew that Elijah at that moment was *close to God*—that he *had previously* been spending *hours* in long prayers to be *in contact* and close communion with His Maker! And he naturally *knew* His Maker would answer!

Gradually the truth began to pierce through the fog in my mind. Gradually, as this process of fasting and prayer continued all day, and into the afternoon of Sunday—as I became more and more hungry—but closer and closer to God, the realization came that I had been keeping my mind more and more fully on this clay project.

Finding the Trouble

This experience in fasting and prayer, and the overwhelming result, has been broadcast over the air, and probably related previously in *The PLAIN TRUTH*. But it is one of the outstanding experiences in my life and properly belongs in this present account, even though a rep-

etition for numerous readers.

This process of self-examination, in the order of one hour of Bible study, followed by an hour of reflection and contemplation, and then an hour of prayer, under the unpleasant weakness of fasting, continued until the middle of Sunday afternoon.

Suddenly I heard one of our daughters cry out: "Here comes Grandpa and Grandma!"

My father and mother were driving their Ford 2-door sedan up our driveway. At the moment I was lying on the bed in our bed-room, in an hour of thinking and reflecting. By this time I *KNEW* where the trouble had been. I realized fully that I had gotten so wrapped up in this clay project—the development of formulas—devising plans for marketing—and selling enough of it to beauty shops to keep us from starving, that I had unconsciously been drifting farther from the previously close relationship with God.

I had not stopped Bible study or prayer. I had not even realized that I had been diminishing it. But now I realized that I had actually become *closer* to this clay project than I was to God. It was fast becoming *first* in my mind, my interest, and my time. And God will not play second fiddle to *anything!*

I wonder, as I write, how many of my readers are more wrapped up, in their interest, and in their hearts, in some material business, project, or other interest, than they are in GOD! Probably *most* of you who are reading this need what God had brought me to do.

I realized now that God had mercifully, in His wisdom and His love for me and my family, refused to answer my prayers to *force* me to fast and pray and come to see where I was unconsciously drifting.

But in a flash, as I heard my father's car drive past the bedroom window, the realization came that the mission of the fasting was accomplished! No need to continue it, now! I must end it, and go out and greet my parents.

And so, in a brief prayer not much longer than Elijah's, but in deep earnestness and absolute faith, I now—for the first time during this fast—asked God to heal my wife and put iron in her blood and give her needed strength. Like

a flash it came to mind that we were completely out of food—out of wood for fuel to keep warm (in January)—so I asked Him to send us food and fuel. I asked Him to send money for the hospital bill for the delivery of the baby. Quickly I thought of my winter top-coat—it had a big hole at the rear of one hip, which was embarrassing and a handicap in my work—and asked God for a new coat.

Asking God for these five things had taken less than a minute. But by now my parents were alighting from the car, and I wanted to go out to meet them. Two Scriptures flashed to my mind:

"Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, *before ye ask Him!*" (Mat. 6:8).

"My God shall supply *all your need* according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).

So quickly I ended my prayer, saying, "Father in heaven, you know what I need, *before* I ask—and you have *promised* to supply every need—so I ask you to supply whatever else I need." Then I quickly thanked God for it, rose and ran to greet my parents.

... and the ASTOUNDING Answers Came!

Dad was just handing Mother a big covered roaster out of the car, and then gathering up an arm-load of wood. He had removed the back seat before leaving Salem, and piled into the entire rear part of the car a large supply of wood.

We soon had a fire going in the kitchen cook stove, and Mother reheated an entire big dinner she had brought in the roaster. Dad had managed to pile about a week's supply of wood into his car. So here, even as I was asking for it, was the answer to two of my prayer requests—the immediate fuel and food.

Arising Monday morning, my wife's cheeks were rosy red! When the doctor saw her, he exclaimed:

"What in the world has happened to *you!*" He could not understand how her anemia had so suddenly disappeared. She had her old zip and pep and strength. (Mrs. Armstrong always was an energetic person—her brothers had nicknamed her variously "SheBANG," and

"Cyclone" as a little girl.)

The very first mail delivery after my prayer request, on that Monday morning, brought a letter from one of my wife's uncles in Iowa containing, most unexpectedly, a settlement from her mother's will, in the exact amount of the hospital bill! My wife's mother had died when she was twelve.

You may be sure that Mrs. Armstrong and I were overwhelmed with gratitude. Our prayers that morning were all of thanksgiving to a God who is *REAL*, and near to every one of us—if we will be near to Him!

But Monday was another business day in down-town Portland, and it was necessary to make the rounds of some of the beauty parlors once again to sell more clay. Arriving in the lobby of an office building I would remove my top-coat, and carefully fold it so as to hide the big hole in the side, carry it on my arm, and then enter the shops or offices where I had to call.

About eleven that morning I found myself across the street from the building of the gas company, where my brother Russell was an information clerk. So I crossed over. We chatted for a couple of moments.

"Herb," exclaimed Russell suddenly, eyeing the hole in my coat, "you've got to have a new overcoat. Meier & Frank are having a big sale on overcoats. Today is January 20th. I have a charge account at Meier & Frank's, and anything charged beginning today is not billed until the March 1st statement, and I will have until March 10th to pay and keep my credit good. You go over now, and select an overcoat, and I'll meet you over there at noon and have it charged."

"Oh, no, Russ," I remonstrated, "I couldn't let you do that."

But suddenly, as I continued to protest, it seemed as if a still, small voice within said to me: "Didn't you ask God to give you a new overcoat? Are you willing to receive it *the way* God gives it, or not?"

It is human nature to rebel against God's *way*. We want to do things in a different *way* than God commands. We want to live a different *way* than God's law. I broke off the remonstrance immediately.

"O.K., Russ," I smiled humbly, and gratefully. "I'll go select a coat—and thanks a million!"—as my eyes began to water.

It was humiliating to me to take this coat from my brother. I felt he could not afford it. But I realized it was God's answer, coming *the way* God had chosen to answer my prayer. He was still humbling me. But this was good for me, and actually, giving the coat was good for my brother. It just did not seem so, *humanly*.

On Tuesday or Wednesday of that week my older brother, Dwight, drove over to our house in his Ford.

"I got to thinking, Herb," said Dwight. "You may have to rush Loma to the hospital at any unexpected hour of day or night. I've brought my car over for you. I'm going to leave it until you go to the hospital. And in the meantime, just use it as if it were your own."

I think it was on Thursday afternoon that Mrs. Armstrong and I were sitting in our living room reviewing what had happened, and thanking God. It was about three o'clock.

"You know, I never should have thought of needing a car for a sudden emergency trip to the hospital," I said. "But I asked God to send whatever else we needed, besides what I asked for specifically—and He sent it."

"There is only one thing more that I can think of," mused my wife. "I never thought of this before, but I do not have a robe or slippers to wear in the hospital. If I had those, every need would be complete."

We dismissed it from our minds.

But that evening, my sister's husband drove her over to our house. She seemed highly embarrassed, and a little flustered.

"Loma," she said, "I don't understand this at all—and you may think I'm crazy. But this afternoon, about three o'clock, something strange came over me—an insistent urge to go to my bedroom and pray. And while I was praying something put it in my mind—just like a voice saying: 'Take your robe and slippers to Loma! Take your robe and slippers to Loma!' I didn't understand it! I never had any experience like that before. You may think I'm



Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong's second son, Garner Ted, at age 7 months.

crazy, but I simply *had* to bring these to you."

We then explained how God had answered my prayer, and how, at that precise time that afternoon we had been in conversation about that very remaining need—the robe and slippers.

Truly, God does move in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform!

Garner Ted Is Born

It was just a little over two weeks later that the loan of Dwight's car was justified, and I rushed my wife to the hospital.

On the 9th day of February, a Sunday, a future servant and minister of God

whose voice was later to be heard around the world, in every continent on earth, was born.

My wife named him Garner Ted. The name Garner had been a family name in her family and her mother's family for generations. Her maternal grandmother was a Garner before marriage. Several men in the family had been given the name Garner as a first name. Mrs. Armstrong had known a man in college in Iowa by the name of Ted whom she admired. The name seemed, she said, "so short and simple and direct."

He was our fourth child.

For eleven years of married life I had

been denied a son. After Mrs. Armstrong's first miraculous healing, in 1927, I knew that, despite warnings from three doctors, we could have another child without fear of fatal consequences. God had blessed us with our first son, Richard David, on October 13th. That day was the happiest day of my life. I was filled to overflowing with gratitude for a SON after all those years—a gift from God.

But now, a year and four months later, God blessed us with a second son. And Ted, too, was born as a result of an almost incredible miracle of healing only three weeks before his birth! But God had need of these two sons.

We dedicated them, of course, to God from birth—for Him to use as He had need. And it is a source of everlasting gratitude to Mrs. Armstrong and me that God *did* use these two sons He gave us, mightily—and although God saw fit to take Dick, He still uses Ted with constantly increasing power in the most powerful broadcast on earth—now using more than 8,000,000 watts of radio power weekly!

The next installment will include a year of health lectures and my first evangelistic campaign.

Crime, Vice Signal COLLAPSE

(Continued from page 6)

bombers leveled Germany's industry, Mr. Armstrong was preaching to his listeners that Germany WOULD COME BACK! He said the Bible prophecies LABELED GERMANY as our most dangerous threat! Few believed it.

BUT LOOK AT GERMANY TODAY!

As the United States sinks into the vortex of greed, selfishness, graft and crime, surrendering its world markets because of STRIKES at home, GERMANY and JAPAN, the *defeated* nations of World War II, stage an awe-inspiring industrial comeback unmatched in the history of the world!

The *Times* has reported: "With our production curtailed and chances for speedy settlement uncertain and indefinite, the general expectation is for more European exports of steel to the United

States . . . even more than that . . . Germany, France, Belgium, Japan . . . are already INVADING WORLD MARKETS hitherto considered safe for our steel producers" [emphasis mine].

The facts are clear! The *Times* continued ". . . foreign steelmakers are scoring phenomenal successes, West Germany producing more than 29 million tons. . . ."

THIS IS TRADE WAR!

And it was prophesied!

"The Lord shall bring a nation against thee from far, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flieth, a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand. A nation of fierce countenance, which shall not regard the person of the old, nor shew favour to the young . . . and he shall BESIEGE thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down . . ." (Deut. 28:49-52).

What kind of a siege? In modern military times, the old-fashioned, outdated methods of besieging a country or a city are completely obsolete—EXCEPT THROUGH TRADE! Today, we have bombers flying at better than 1500 miles an hour! With guided missiles, jet planes, hydrogen bombs, atomic submarines, it is nothing short of amusing to conceive of a *siege* through MILITARY means.

BUT, it is strikingly clear when applied to world trade!

A nation exists on its economy. It must produce commodities, exploit its raw materials, and *sell* to other nations. In turn, it must *buy* from other nations certain "necessary" raw materials, commodities, etc., not produced within its own borders. NO nation on earth is "self-sufficient." To BECOME "self-sufficient," that is, to have a completely stabilized, healthy economy, being able to produce every manufactured commodity within the nation from that nation's own raw materials, in its own factories, by its own laborers, and *sell* that commodity to its own people, IS THE ULTIMATE, PERFECT STATE A NATION COULD HOPE TO ACHIEVE!

Today nations must TRADE with one another in order to survive.

World Scene Is Shifting

In past years, the British Empire and the United States have been all but unchallenged in the field of foreign

trade. They have marketed their products successfully in *many* nations, exporting enough goods to have a *very* healthy import-export balance, maintaining a high standard of living.

But something drastic has been happening! With Marshall Plan dollars pouring into Europe, the revival of German, Italian and French industry—with the resurgence of the Japanese cartels, now America and Britain find themselves SERIOUSLY CHALLENGED in foreign trade.

Past articles in The PLAIN TRUTH have shown the picture of the TREMENDOUS burst of energy shown by the giants of German industry! The former Prime Minister of Britain, Sir Anthony Eden, said the Volkswagen was about to accomplish what Hitler's submarines *failed* to do! And so it is around the world! The "success" story of German, European and Japanese industry is shocking!

America and Britain are NO LONGER the secure, healthy economies they once were! And it's BECAUSE OF OUR PERSONAL GREED!

More concerned about the gadgetry our dollars can buy, bigger tail fins on autos, double ovens, longer vacations—we fail to see the BIG picture! Our average wages now stand at \$3.22 per hour, and we're STRIKING to push them up!

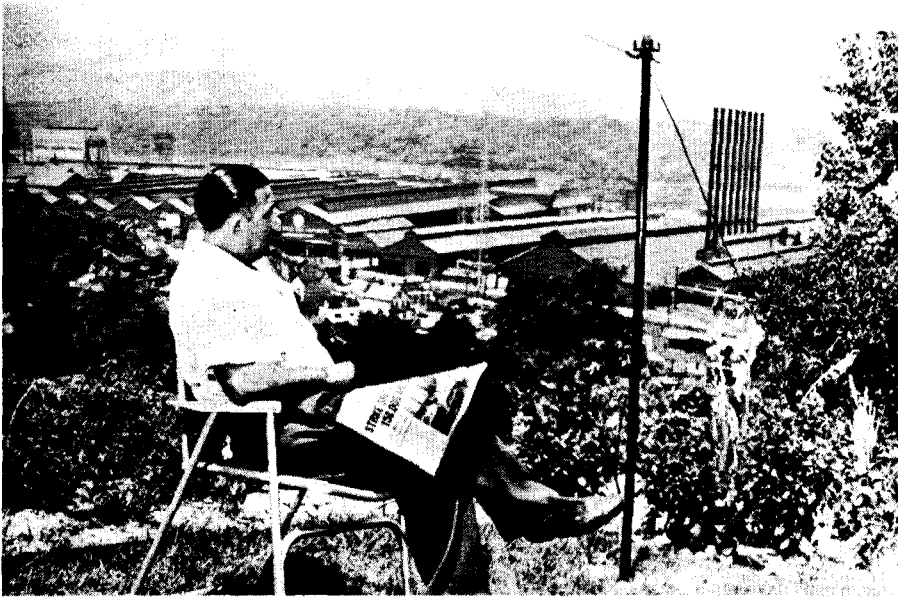
The average GERMAN wage is about \$1.00 per hour. In Japan it's even much lower.

Here's what it means!

The Japanese steel makers can BUY SCRAP on our west coast, ship it to Japan, process it through their mills and produce saleable commodities, ship those products BACK to the west coast—AND UNDERSELL IDENTICAL AMERICAN PRODUCTS BY AS MUCH AS 50%!

Because the Japanese can PRODUCE these goods so much more cheaply, they can SELL them more cheaply—and undercut the American markets.

The GERMANS can buy raw materials at the port of Houston, for instance. They ship the raw materials to Germany, produce certain commodities, export those commodities to Houston, and SELL THEM FOR LESS MONEY THAN LOCAL FACTORIES NEAR HOUSTON can sell them!



—Wide World Photo

Striking steelworker surveys idle plant at Homestead Works of the U.S. Steel Corporation. Lack of weekly income will soon be felt not only by steelworkers but by entire communities dependent on steel production.

YES, it's startling! And GOD SAID IT WOULD HAPPEN!

"Lo, I will bring a nation upon you from far, O house of Israel, saith the Lord. It is a *mighty* nation, it is an *ancient* nation, a nation whose language thou knowest not, neither understandest what they say . . . and they shall eat up thine harvest, and thy bread [devour your national produce—wreck your national economy]. . . . they shall eat up thy flocks and thine herds, they shall eat up thy vines and thy fig trees, they shall impoverish thy fenced cities, wherein thou trustedst, with the sword" (Jer. 5:15-17).

Lust, Greed, Hooliganism, Crime Threaten Our National Existence

With *greedy* men, lusting for personal gain, prestige and power, *unmindful* of the NATIONAL PERIL they are causing, having control of great organizations of such power they can *cripple* the nation, we are going DOWN AND OUT!

While the average worker concerns himself with the added gadgets he can buy with his few cents an hour increase, the economy of the whole nation is being SUNK abroad.

This GREED evidenced by our people is *only ONE* of the major reasons why we're going to be horribly punished—but IT IS A MAJOR REASON!

Today, many people still believe Jimmy Hoffa to be perhaps one of the greatest labor leaders of all time! IN SPITE of the documented, carefully proven facts that he companies with thieves, extortionists, thugs, robbers and known underworld characters, IN SPITE of the FACTS of his misappropriations of union funds, Jimmy Hoffa plans to head a gigantic union involving all land, sea and air transport in our entire nation!

How could this be accomplished? WHY would the airlines want to join? WHY would the major shipping lanes want to join?

Here's how *some SMALL businesses* are "urged" to "join!" Herman Kierdorf, recently out of prison on parole, which Hoffa helped him receive, was hired as a Teamster "organizer." His ex-convict nephew Frank was then given a job as a Teamster business agent. His dealings included SETTING FIRE TO A FLINT, MICHIGAN DRY-CLEANING ESTABLISHMENT! Kierdorf, trapped by the flames he had wantonly set, was fatally burned, thus receiving stern justice as a result of his vicious arson!

When the McClellan Committee asked Hoffa to name some of the thugs he had supposedly been "cleaning out" of his union—he had the unabashed, bland-faced affrontery to list arsonist, and now dead, Frank Kierdorf!

So long as a "union picker" tag is placed on VIOLENCE, the police apparently look the other way. In San Francisco recently, in the midst of a teamster's strike, some "uncooperative" drivers, driving their privately owned trucks, trying to make a living, were pulled out of their vehicles. One driver reported four carloads of roving goon squads tried to run him down. The threat of bashed heads, wrecked trucks, lost cargoes are "pretty good persuaders" for the uncooperative, reported a recent Pasadena newspaper.

It's time to WAKE UP!

Your newspapers, news magazines, news broadcasts are revealing a wave of hoodlumism and gangsterism sweeping this country—much of it in the name of UNIONISM—which makes the infamous Al Capone look like a small-time petty thief by comparison!

Yes, there is a REASON why America is going the way of Rome!

The reason is our moral degeneracy, our CRIME-ridden nation, our personal selfishness and greed!

Just as the famous historian Edward Gibbon saw clearly the reasons for the total collapse of the mighty Roman Empire as being INTERNAL CORRUPTION, so does *your Bible* say THIS nation is CORRUPT!

God says of us, "Will you STEAL, MURDER, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye know not, and come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, 'We are DELIVERED TO DO ALL THESE ABOMINATIONS?'" (Jer. 7:9-10).

God says YOU can escape the terrible retribution coming on our people, IF you really want to. "Except ye REPENT, ye shall all likewise *perish!*" (Luke 13:3) said Jesus. "WATCH ye therefore, 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).

God has commissioned His WATCHMEN! *Only* in the pages of The PLAIN TRUTH will you find the REAL MEANING of today's world news! Keep watching!

You can't afford to miss a single issue!

What Is a REAL Christian?

Here, continued from the last issue, is the frank, straightforward answer—from your Bible!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

Part II

IT'S SHOCKING—but it's TRUE! MOST professing "Christians" today are not really PRACTICING Christianity! Instead, hundreds of thousands are believing and practicing the same old *pagan* customs which Christ and the Apostles vigorously *condemned* — and all the while *calling* it "Christianity!"

In the last issue, you saw *proved*, CONCLUSIVELY, that MOST "Christians" today don't believe or follow even the *clearest*, *simplest*, most often quoted words of Christ—but rather *believe and practice the diametric opposite!*

Your Bible said this present generation would be almost totally DECEIVED! Christ said, "Take heed that no man *deceive* you, for MANY shall come *in my name* [coming as IF they were the servants of Christ] SAYING I am Christ, and shall deceive MANY! (Mat. 24:4-5).

Christ said only a very FEW—the very elect of God, who were being kept *from* the clever deceptions of Satan—would not be deceived. "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders, inasmuch that, IF it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect" (Mat. 24:24).

SATAN has deceived the world — and God has warned *repeatedly* through the New Testament that this would be so—in this age, NOW! In Revelation the twelfth chapter, the devil is described as a great dragon "which deceiveth the whole world!"

Either this world is *deceived*, or your Bible is not true!

But the Bible IS true—and this world is in the grips of a tremendous deception! A deceived person doesn't KNOW he's deceived! He's *sincere!* But he's sincerely WRONG!

And so it is that scores, hundreds and thousands of SINCERE, well-meaning people—believing themselves to be in a "saved" condition, believing they are

"Christian" are actually in tacit disagreement with REAL Christianity!

The Sermon on the Mount

No simpler teachings, no clearer meanings can be found in the Bible than in the much-loved and often-quoted teachings of Jesus Christ in the "sermon" on the Mount, found in Matthew's 5th, 6th and 7th chapters. In the last issue, we began with the very *first* of the "beatitudes" and began seeing the MANY direct OPPOSITES in these CLEAR teachings of Jesus from the commonly accepted "brands" of "Christianity" today.

Christ said the meek would inherit the EARTH, not heaven, as is supposed by millions. He pictured Himself as the young nobleman, who went into a far country to get for himself a kingdom and RETURN. He said the saints would rule on EARTH. His feet are to stand on the Mount of Olives—*on this earth*, at His return. Here, then was one of the very BASIC DOCTRINES of the vast majority of all professing "Christians" of today — which Christ refutes by very PLAIN statements, even in the sermon on the Mount!

But let's continue!

Do You HUNGER for Righteousness?

Jesus said, in the next of the "beatitudes," "Blessed are they which do HUNGER AND THIRST for righteousness, for they shall be filled" (Mat. 5:6). Just what IS righteousness? It is to be RIGHT rather than wrong. It is to follow the RIGHT way, rather than the wrong way, which *seems* "right" to a man.

But more than that—what is the *Bible definition* of "righteousness?"

It's this! "ALL THY COMMANDMENTS ARE RIGHTEOUSNESS!" (Ps. 119:172.)

The perfect, Holy, Ten Commandments of God are RIGHTEOUSNESS!

In this same fifth chapter of Matthew, Christ said, "Think NOT that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets, I am NOT come to destroy, but to fulfil"

(verse 17). And yet, haven't you always heard the exact opposite? Haven't you always heard Jesus came to DO AWAY with the LAW?

WHY have you heard this? The Bible doesn't say so—rather, it says the EXACT OPPOSITE! Notice it! "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these *least* commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the *least* in the kingdom of heaven, but whosoever shall DO AND TEACH them, the same shall be called GREAT in the kingdom of heaven" (verse 19).

Christ was talking about the LAW of God—and in the same breath, in the same thought, He explained He was talking about the WAY TO BE RIGHTEOUS! "For I say unto you, that *except YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS [DOING AND TEACHING GOD'S LAWS]* shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven" (verse 20).

Christ said, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that *doeth the will* of my Father which is in heaven" (Mat. 7:21).

Jesus inspired Paul to write, "Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing, but [on the other hand, that which is important] THE KEEPING OF THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD!" (I Cor. 7:19.) This does *not* say some supposed "new commandment" of Jesus Christ. There is no way around it. There is no "spiritualizing" this plain statement away.

Later, we read in I Corinthians 13 that without God's LOVE we are NOTHING! Unless we have real LOVE in our hearts, *we are not Christians!* And it is LOVE that will LEAD US TO KEEP GOD'S TEN COMMANDMENTS—ALL OF THEM! "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor, therefore LOVE IS the *fulfilling of the law!*" (Rom. 13:10.)

God inspired John to confirm this fact further, when he wrote, "For THIS IS [HERE IS THE BIBLE DEFINITION OF

LOVE] the love of God, that we KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, and His commandments are not grievous" (I John 5:3).

To *hunger and thirst* for righteousness is to *yearn*, to *strive*, to STRUGGLE FERVENTLY TO BE OBEDIENT TO GOD! To KEEP His laws, which are given in LOVE, for our GOOD.

Those who are truly hungering and thirsting for righteousness will be *studying* constantly for new light, being willing to *change* when they see they've been wrong, *admitting* their wrong beliefs, their mistakes, their sins. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God" (II Tim. 2:15), wrote Paul to Timothy. "Prove ALL THINGS" (I Thes. 5:21) Paul said to the Thessalonians.

Do modern Christians really KNOW their Bibles? Are MOST professing Christians YOU KNOW studying diligently, *searching* the scriptures daily, as the Bereans did (Acts 17:11) *hungering and thirsting* for God's righteousness? Are MOST professing Christians you know *praying, fasting, getting closer* to God *daily* by a constant contact with His word? "Thy word is TRUTH" (John 17:17) said Jesus. But most "modern" Christians DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT HIS WORD SAYS!

You would be *amazed* to realize a vast percentage of professing Christians can't even name the first four Gospels. They don't KNOW the Bible—they aren't *studying* the Bible—because they don't really HUNGER AND THIRST for it!

Do you? If you really *are* "hungering and thirsting" for righteousness, you'll be doing as the ones Jesus described in Matthew's 13th chapter. You'll be like the merchant who *sold all* to gain the one pearl of *great* price. You'll be like the man who found the treasure in the field, and sold everything to buy that one field!

ARE you like that? Most professing Christians today are not. If you *want* to really begin to UNDERSTAND your Bible better, to really see it made *gripping*, INTERESTING—then write for the Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course. It's free of tuition—no charge whatever. You can have it FREE, if you really *hunger* for it!

Yes—here is *another* great opposite! Instead of hungering and thirsting for

God's word, most professing Christians hunger and thirst for *physical* things, for satisfaction of the physical senses. Instead of understanding the *truth* about God's law—that His perfect law is the WAY to righteousness, most believe His Holy law has been done away. Instead of believing the straightforward statement of Christ that He DID NOT come to destroy the law, most believe the exact opposite, that HE DID come to destroy it!

How utterly DIFFERENT is the real *truth* of your Bible!

"Blessed Are the Merciful . . ."

Surely you know what it means to be *merciful*. But WHEN do you ever really SHOW MERCY? It's one thing to agree tacitly with scripture, and another thing to put it into practice!

James said, "But be ye *doers* of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves" (Jas. 1:22). He also wrote, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all!" (Jas. 2:10.)

God says HIS mercies endure *forever!* But when do YOU ever have an opportunity to *show mercy?*

It is *merciful* to *give* instead of get! It is merciful to *say nothing at all* about someone, if you can't say something *good* about them. It is merciful to forgive a debt or obligation, rather than take a brother into court over it. It is *merciful* to treat all others as you want them to treat *you!*

Are *most* Christians merciful today? Is it showing MERCY to an enemy to send a bullet plunging into his vitals? Is it showing MERCY to envy, to hate, to kill?

¡UN ANUNCIO IMPORTANTE!

¿Ha recibido usted su copia de la conmovedora obra del Sr. Armstrong intitulado Todo Acerca del Bautismo?

Tendremos mucho gusto en enviarle gratuitamente su ejemplar al recibir su carta. Diríjase usted a:

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P.O. Box 910
Pasadena, California

Christ meant what He said! "BLESSED are the merciful, for they shall OBTAIN mercy" (Mat. 5:7). He shows further what He means when He gives an outline for prayer in the "Lord's prayer." "And forgive us our debts AS [AND ONLY AS—IN THE SAME MEASURE AS] we forgive our debtors" (Mat. 6:12).

"Blessed Are the Pure in Heart . . ."

But there aren't many of those around today! Paul wrote, "Unto the pure *all things* are pure, but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure, but even their mind and conscience is defiled" (Titus 1:15).

Nowhere, it seems, is there MORE debate, envy, ridicule, argument, deceit, hypocrisy and disagreement than among some who make a profession of religion. More *wars* have been fought in the name of RELIGION than for any other reason. More people have been BUTCHERED, *hanged, burned, wantonly slaughtered* in the name of *religion* than for any other reason.

Jeremiah reveals that "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked, who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9). An individual with the natural, physical, *carnal* mind has a *defiled* mind. He sees EVIL motives rather than good ones, he sees *wrong* implications behind every action, he sees *suggestive* or *shabby* meanings behind others' words. Paul said, "Because the carnal mind is *enmity* against God, for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Rom. 8:7). The carnal mind is a resentful, *defiant* mind—a mind which is *hostile* to God and His perfect laws, and a mind with defiled conscience!

It's about time we began to WAKE UP and quit "kidding" ourselves we're converted when many who sincerely BELIEVE they're "Christians" have never even BEGUN on the road to *real Christianity!*

Paul wrote, "Charity . . . doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, IS NOT EASILY PROVOKED, THINKETH NO EVIL . . ." (I Cor. 13:4-5). Yet it seems there are no more easily provoked people than those in various religious fields. A paradox? Or another *exact opposite* between the plain teachings of your Lord and Saviour and the common practices and habits of most

professing "Christians" today?

"Blessed Are the Peacemakers"

Western fans are familiar with the famous six-shooter produced by Colt in the "wild West" days, called the "peacemaker." Presumably, the name was taken from the Bible.

And herein is the philosophy of a "Christian" world. The way to peace, it believes, is through WAR! If you go to WAR, you will have PEACE!

But THINK for a moment. The world has always known war. The world recently fought "the War to END all wars." But is WAR ENDED? Has man's way been PRACTICAL? Has man's way WORKED? Are ALL WARS OVER?

Think! Man has irrevocably marched, step-by-step, along the route he has chosen to stand on the brink of COSMO-CIDE! Man *now* stands, in his superior, "enlightened" state, on the verge of WORLD SUICIDE!

Answer honestly! Has man been able to solve his problems through WAR?

Jokingly, some westerners in the United States began to call a *gun* the "peacemaker." BUT HAVE GUNS BROUGHT PEACE?

Jesus said, "LOVE your enemies, bless them that curse you, DO GOOD to them that hate you, and PRAY for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you!" (Mat. 5:44.)

Do most "Christian" people BELIEVE this scripture? CERTAINLY!

BUT DO THEY PRACTICE IT?

Isn't it about time we quit "kidding" ourselves? YOU KNOW the professing "Christians" of today do not practice these things! When a REAL Christian gives this teaching of Christ as a REASON for His belief that he should not kill, others who are CHURCH MEMBERS will RIDICULE him. It seems RIDICULOUS to most "Christians" today to really FOLLOW the teachings of Christ. And yet, they still appropriate His name!

"What Is a Real Christian?"

During World War II, German mothers and fathers flocked to their churches and cathedrals to pray for their boys at the front. In England, France, or here in the United States, other parents went to *their* churches to pray for *their* boys at the *same* front.

In many cases the boys at the front, though of different races and speaking different languages, were of the SAME RELIGION! If in the same community—they would have gone to the SAME CHURCH! "Christians" everywhere use the same book. They use, preach from, write about, and read—once in a while—the Bible! And regardless of in which land you find it, or in which language, the Bible says the same thing! Jesus said, LOVE your enemies! How many "Christians" BELIEVE THEY SHOULD LOVE THEIR ENEMIES? Let's stop "kidding" ourselves! You don't show LOVE to someone by sending a bullet ripping, tearing, gouging its way through his vitals, leaving him to die retching out his life's blood! You don't show "love" to your enemy by VAPORIZING him!

Yes, Jesus said, "BLESSED are the PEACEMAKERS!" And he DIDN'T mean blessed are those who take up GUNS and then DECEIVE themselves they're making PEACE!

Listen! If GUNS MAKE PEACE—WHERE, YES WHERE, OH WHERE ON THE FACE OF THIS EARTH TODAY IS THE PEACE THEY HAVE BROUGHT US?

Yes—we call ourselves "Christian" but it would EMBARRASS US TO TEARS TO PROFESS OPENLY TO REALLY FOLLOW, TO LIVE BY, THE WORDS OF THE ONE WHOSE NAME WE APPROPRIATE!

Yes, BLESSED are the *real* PEACEMAKERS, for they shall be called the children of God! God is producing CHILDREN! John wrote, "Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God. Therefore the WORLD [the society, the age, the people around us] knoweth us not, because it knew Him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that, when He shall appear [NOT immediately at our death] we shall be LIKE HIM for we shall see Him as He is!" (1 John 3:1-2.)

To be BORN of God is to become LIKE God, to become a member of the GOD-FAMILY!

Paul wrote, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are *not worthy* to be COMPARED with the GLORY which shall be revealed in us" (Rom. 8:18). Jesus is called the FIRST-

BORN of MANY BRETHREN! (1 Cor. 15:20, 23; Col. 1:15, 18; Rom. 8:29.)

Those who *make peace* are promised inheritance of the very *family of God!*

Are YOU Being Persecuted?

Jesus said, "Blessed are they which are *persecuted* FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Mat. 5:10).

Remember, He said, "In the world, ye SHALL have tribulation . . ." and also prayed to His Father, saying, "I have given them thy word, and the world hath *hated* them, because they are NOT OF the world, even as I am not of the world" (John 17:14). Christ told His disciples to SEPARATE themselves from the society around them—to come out of the world, and to do, believe and practice DIFFERENT things!

Notice the *strong* language about this in God's word!

"You adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God!" (James 4:4.)

John commands TRUE Christians, "Love NOT the world, neither the things that are IN the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof, but he that DOETH THE WILL OF GOD [which will is expressed in HIS WORD] abideth for ever!" (1 John 2:15-17.)

Do most "Christians" today really COME OUT of the world, separating themselves from its customs, its habits and ways? Do most really become so strikingly DIFFERENT that their former business associates, their relatives, neighbors and friends are actually STARTLED by the great CHANGE in their lives?

Paul says, "I beseech you . . . that ye present your bodies a *living sacrifice* . . . and BE NOT CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Rom. 12:1-2).

God thunders His warning through
(Please continue on page 32)

"The World Tomorrow"

—What Will It Be Like?

God's GOVERNMENT is coming to this earth SOON! What will it be like? What is the REAL future for which you should be preparing?

by Roderick C. Meredith

A RECENT survey of teenagers revealed "that 90 per cent think that nuclear energy will eventually destroy man. Two years ago, only 25 per cent thought so!"

Even normally optimistic young people have actually come to BELIEVE that *world suicide* is almost a matter of certainty! And millions of all ages live in a state of repressed FEAR and *anxiety*.

Our entire society is SICK!

A recent press release from England states: "The British are concerned over the large number of suicides in English universities, especially the older institutions, Cambridge and Oxford." It goes on to give statistics proving that FIVE TIMES as many suicides occur among Oxford students as among the general population!

Something is *drastically WRONG!*

Even in our most highly respected institutions of higher learning, increasing numbers choose DEATH *rather than continue living in this society!*

What can be done? What is the real SOLUTION to this large and growing problem of *mental torment, fear and self-annihilation?*

The WAY to Peace and Joy

Last month, in the article entitled "God's MESSAGE to this Generation," it was thoroughly proved that the real *message* of Jesus Christ was concerned with WORLD GOVERNMENT.

Jesus proclaimed the soon-coming *kingdom of God*—the RULE of God—and showed how we must prepare for it. He revealed that it is to be a world-ruling government set up *on this earth* and that we must *overcome* and learn to OBEY God now if we are to be a part of it.

The most tremendous event in earth's history is recorded in Revelation 11:15

in your Bible. Here, the last of the seven trumpets of Revelation is sounded and voices in heaven are saying, "The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall REIGN for ever and ever."

The living Christ is soon going to TAKE OVER the governments of this war-torn world! At first, the nations of this earth may resist His perfect government. But this time He is coming in all the POWER of God to *enforce* peace on this earth, "And he shall rule them with a rod of iron" (Rev. 19:15). Christ is coming as *supreme* RULER over all the other governors and kings of this earth who will be subservient to Him. "And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS" (verse 16).

In a prophecy about Christ written hundreds of years before His human birth, God foretold what His job would eventually be. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, and The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice, from henceforth even forever" (Isaiah 9:6-7).

Notice that here Christ is called the "Prince of peace." That is because He alone has the power to really bring PEACE! God also says: "Of the *increase* of his *government* and *peace* there shall be no end." Under Christ—as world RULER—the people will again multiply and replenish the earth after the terrible destruction which precedes His

coming; and the *laws* and *WAYS* of His government will spread around this earth. As the people gradually learn to *obey* the Ten Commandments and all the laws of God, there will also be an actual "increase" in PEACE on this earth. *Peace*, and *happiness*, and *JOY* will continue to *increase* between nations and individuals as they learn more and more to obey God's ways and perfect laws which are the *only way to peace*.

Organization of God's Kingdom

The *form* and *organization* of God's government on this earth is already prophesied in your Bible!

As we found in Revelation 11:15, Christ will be King over all the nations of this earth. He is to occupy a definite throne upon this earth when He returns. Before His human birth, an angel prophesied: "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end" (Luke 1:32-33).

Christ will rule more directly over the nations of Israel because His headquarters will be at Jerusalem, Palestine. Notice the scripture says specifically that He will rule over the "house of Jacob." The house of Israel, or Jacob, was called as God's chosen people to be a light to the rest of the world. They were *chosen*, not as favorites—but with a *job* to perform which they have utterly FAILED to accomplish. During the coming thousand year reign of Christ, however, Israel will be reunited with the house of Judah and together they will be the chief nations of the earth, under Christ, to help set the example and carry out His government to all the earth.

In Ezekiel 37:15-28, God shows that

He is going to reunite Israel and Judah. Speaking of these two nations, He says: "And I will make them *one nation* in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and *one king* shall be a king to them all: and they shall no more be two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all" (verse 22).

Under Christ as King of kings, David will be the direct king over the reunited house of Israel. "And David my servant shall be *king* over them; and they shall all have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my *judgments* and observe my *statutes* and do them" (verse 24).

Under Christ's and David's rule, notice that Israel will again learn the WAY to peace—they will learn to *do* and OBEY God's *statutes* and *judgments*!

Rulers Under David

Under David, each of the twelve tribes of Israel will have its own individual governor—one of the *twelve apostles*. Jesus Himself designated them for this office before He died: "Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations. And I *appoint* unto you a KINGDOM, as my Father hath appointed unto me; that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on *thrones* judging the twelve tribes of Israel" (Luke 22:28-30).

Perhaps the apostle Paul—the apostle to the *Gentiles* (Gal. 2:8)—will be given a position of rule over the Gentile nations in the millennium. In fact, he may be given a very high position similar to that of David since—compared to the other apostles—he labored "more abundantly than they all" (I Cor. 15:10).

Those Christians who *grow* in grace and in knowledge now in this life will be given positions of rule under Christ during the millennium. "And he that *overcometh*, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron" (Rev. 2:26-27). Again, in Rev. 5:10, we find that Christ has: "Made us unto our God *kings* and *priests*: and we shall REIGN *on the earth*."

Jesus gave the parable of the pounds to show Christians that in this life we

must OVERCOME our human nature, make *good use* of our time and talents according to God's laws, and prepare for a position of RULE and *responsibility* in the soon-coming government of God on this earth. Notice Jesus' statement to the man who overcame most and gained ten pounds: "Well, thou good servant: because thou hath been faithful in a very little, have thou AUTHORITY *over ten cities*" (Luke 19:17). To the man who was zealous enough to gain five pounds, Jesus said: "Be thou also *over five cities*" (verse 19).

True Christians are called to serve, under Christ, in *ruling this world*! Why isn't THAT message being preached in all the churches today?

The Real Purpose of the Christian Life

Even the well-known secular historian, Edward Gibbon, states in his famous 15th chapter of *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* that the early Christians believed in God's coming *world government*: "The ancient and popular doctrine of the MILLENNIUM was intimately connected with the second coming of Christ. As the works of creation had been finished in six days, their duration in their present state, according to a tradition attributed to the prophet Elijah, was fixed as six thousand years. By the same analogy it was inferred that this long period of labor and contention which was now almost elapsed would be succeeded by a joyful Sabbath of a *thousand years*; and that Christ, with a triumphant band of the saints and the elect that escaped death; or who had been miraculously revived, would *reign upon earth* until the time appointed for the last and general resurrection."

Yes, the early Christians *understood* the purpose of God and the reason that He is calling some out of this present society into His church—to prepare for "THE WORLD TOMORROW."

True Christians should learn to *obey* and *live by* God's laws and ways now so that they will be able to TEACH and TRAIN others to live the way of PEACE during the soon-coming millennium when the kingdom or *government of God* will hold sway over this earth!

Here is a specific example of how

God's government will rule the nation Israel, which will be under that government during the millennium: God the Father will continue to be the overall *supreme* GOVERNOR and *ruler* of the universe. Under Him is Jesus Christ, who will come to rule this earth within a few short years as King of kings.

Under Christ, the prophet David will be resurrected from the dead, made *immortal* and placed in complete charge over the entire reunited house of Israel. Under David, each of the twelve apostles of Jesus will be king over one of the twelve tribes of Israel.

In each tribe, under one of them, will be some of the saints who have overcome and learned to submit to and carry out God's government here and now. As seen from the parable of the pounds, some will be *governors* over territories including several cities. Some may occupy an office similar to that of mayor under these governors.

Other Spirit-born saints will have other jobs to do. No matter what the particular office, the attitude should be that of David: "I had rather be a *door-keeper* in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness" (Psalm 84:10).

Under the kingdom or *government of God*, composed of Christ and the Spirit-born saints, will be those human leaders who will help guide the physical peoples of Israel, now brought back again to Palestine from their captivity, which is prophesied in many places to befall them in this end time. They shall all be taught and instructed in God's *laws* which alone bring PEACE.

"And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up unto the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of *his ways*, and we will walk in *his paths*: for out of Zion shall go forth the LAW, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (Isaiah 2:3).

Even though they are taught God's laws, many people will at first have to be FORCED to obey them! "And he shall judge among the nations, and shall *rebuke* many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither

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Do We Have The COMPLETE BIBLE?

The Bible is composed of 66 inspired books. But the Catholic version and some Protestant Bibles have 7 additional books, called "the Apocrypha." Did God inspire these added books? Are there so-called "lost books" of the Bible?

by Herman L. Hoeh

THREE times Jesus absolutely promised: "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but MY words shall NOT pass away" (Mat. 24:35 and Mark 13:31 and Luke 21:33).

Did Jesus keep this three-fold promise? Has the COMPLETE Bible been preserved for us today? Or has Jesus failed?

Peter was inspired to declare: "The word of the Lord *endures forever*" (I Peter 1:25).

Here are DIVINE, unbreakable promises! The God who cannot fail has promised that His Word should not perish. But how do we know *which books* compose His Word?

Who constitutes the FINAL AUTHORITY for determining which books are the inspired Word of God—and for preserving these books? Has God left it to each individual to determine for himself which books he thinks are the "Inspired Word of God"?

Or has He left it to some one church denomination?

The Catholic Claim

Roman Catholics claim in their literature that the Bible is a "a Catholic book." They insist that *they alone* have authority to determine which books belong in both the Old and New Testaments—that *they alone* have been used in preserving it.

They openly acknowledge that it is solely by *their* authority that the Apocrypha—seven additional books and portions of two others—have been added to the Old Testament in Catholic Bibles and have appeared in some Protestant editions.

Is the Roman Catholic Church Jesus' instrument for determining which books are inspired and which are not? Did God give them the authority to make this

binding decision on the Christian world?

Are these additional books *really* inspired? Did Jesus and the apostles ever recognize them—quote from them? Did they ever *approve* them?

In Catholic Bibles, and in the Smith-Goodspeed translation, you will find these seven books entitled: "Tobit," "Judith," "Wisdom of Solomon," "Ecclesiasticus," "Baruch," "I Maccabees" and "II Maccabees." Besides these seven books, 107 additional verses are placed at the end of the book of Esther. Inserted in the middle of the third chapter of the book of Daniel is a "Song of the Three Holy Children," and at the end of the book of Daniel is a 13th chapter called "Susana and the Elders" and the 14th chapter called "Bel and the Dragon"!

In early editions of the Catholic Bible even other apocryphal books make their appearance.

Is the Bible incomplete without these additions? Or are these unjustified human additions placed there by men who have no divine authority?

Why called "Apocrypha?"

Why are these additional books called "Apocryphal"? What does the word *apocrypha* mean? It comes from a Greek word meaning "hidden," "secret in origin." These books, in other words, had a *hidden* beginning, a *secret origin*—not openly given to the community at first. They were *mystery* books!

But these seven additional books and chapters are actually *only a few* out of many hundreds of fabulous books which are commonly called "apocryphal writings." There were dozens of ancient, spurious apocryphal or spurious "gospels," "acts," "epistles," "apocalypses." They include such titles as "Gospel according to the Egyptians"—"Gospel of

the birth of Mary"—"The Acts of Peter"—"The Apocalypse of the Virgin"!

Between 200 B.C. and 100 A.D. numerous apocryphal works appeared also among the Essene Jews, such as "The Assumption of Moses"—"The Ascension of Isaiah"—"Third and Fourth Ezra"—"The Testament of the Twelve Patriarchs"—"The Testament of Abraham"—and *two deliberate frauds*, "The Book of Enoch" and "The Book of Jasher."

Many of these works are so fantastic—so plainly a fraud—that they have never been accepted by either Jews, Catholics, or Protestants. Most are spurious, purposely written in the names of famous men in order to foist some *mysterious*, secret doctrine on the church. Notice that the seven additional books found in Catholic versions and in some Protestant versions are attributed to Solomon, Baruch, and Jeremiah—that additional chapters are attributed to Esther and Daniel, to Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego. Were these additions really composed by these individuals? OR ARE THEY FRAUDS—SPURIOUS?

Spurious Writings Prophesied

Paul warned the Thessalonians: ". . . be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, NOR BY LETTER AS FROM US. . . . Let no man deceive you by any means. . . ." (II Thes. 2:2-3). Notice it! Within months after Paul had visited Thessalonica false teachers were attempting to deceive the Christians by writing spurious letters in the name of the Apostle Paul! Is it any wonder that the whole world at that time became flooded with spurious, apocryphal, pseudo-biblical works?

Now turn to Jeremiah 23 and see what was also prophesied to happen in

the Old Testament times. Begin with verse 32: "Behold, I am against them that prophesy *false* dreams, saith the Lord, and who tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, . . . yet I sent them not, nor commanded them: therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the Lord."

And notice verses 25 and 26: "I have heard what the prophets said, that prophecy lies in my name, saying I have dreamed, I have dreamed. How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? Yea, they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart."

Understand it! There were prophesied to be torrents of false visions and dreams, and false prophecy to deceive the people! Though these spurious writings came "in the name of the Lord" they were not FROM the Lord. Most have passed away, have become lost. But a few still remain.

Amid this torrent of false, fraudulent writing, *to whom had God given His authority to decide FOR ALL TIME which were the inspired books of the Bible and to preserve them?* Was it left up to the individual?—Or to some one church denomination?

"To the Jew"

Notice Paul's inspired answer from Romans 3:1-2, "What advantage then hath the Jew? Or what profit is there of circumcision? Much every way: Chiefly because that UNTO THEM were *committed* the oracles of God.

To whom had the oracles—God's inspired Word, the Bible—been committed in the Old Testament times? Was it to the Roman Catholic Church? Or was it left up to individuals? No! *It was committed to the Jews. It was trusted to their care!*

Now consider Acts 7:37-38, "This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall you hear. This is he [Moses] that was in the *church* in the wilderness with the angel [or messenger—the Lord Jesus Christ] which spake to him [Moses] in Mount Sinai, and with our fathers, who received THE LIVELY ORACLES TO GIVE UNTO US." The Old Testament oracles were given to the Church in the wilderness—the

Old Testament Church. It was not left up to the individual.

Though it was committed to the Church in Old Testament times, it was to be given—*preserved*—for us, their descendants! Peter was inspired to write: "To the prophets it was revealed, but not to themselves, *but unto us they did minister* the things, which are not reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you. . . ." (I Peter 1:12). God inspired His prophets to bear His message to the Old Testament Church. God placed His government in that Church. That Church became responsible—divinely appointed—to preserve His word—*for all time!*

Here is Jesus' own testimony as to who was in authority in that Church: "Then spake Jesus unto the multitude, and to His disciples, saying, *The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: All therefore whatsoever* they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not" (Mat. 23:1-3). God instituted His government in His Church—the Old Testament Church—through Moses. In Jesus' day *the Scribes and Pharisees* were sitting in Moses' seat, possessing his authority.

And what was the duty of the Scribes? To preserve the Word of God, to transcribe it and reproduce it from generation to generation. The Pharisees were responsible for the constant *oral reading* of the Scriptures in the synagogues.

The hearts of these leaders may not have been right—many were hypocrites—but *Jesus said they were in authority.* They were used of God, despite themselves, to preserve His Word which condemned them!

Jesus again absolutely recognized their authority when He said in Matthew 5:18, "For verily I say unto you, TILL heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle *shall in NO wise pass from the law*, till all be fulfilled." He restated it in Luke 16:17, "And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail." The Jews preserved *every letter* of God's Word. Not one was missing said Jesus. And if not a single letter was missing, then certainly not a single book was missing!

But *where* was the center of authority in the Jewish world? Were the Jewish

scribes in Egypt, or Babylon, or Rome the final authority? Where was headquarters to whom the Old Testament Church looked?

Jerusalem Was Headquarters

Every Church has its headquarters. In the Old Testament Church God authorized His government to be carried out from headquarters: "If there arise a matter too hard for the injudgment . . . being matters of *controversy* within thy gates [this could include controversy over which books were the inspired books of the Bible] then shalt thou arise, and get thee up *unto the place which the Lord thy God shall choose*; and thou shalt come unto the priests, the Levites, and unto the judge that shall be in those days, and inquire; and they shall shew thee the sentence of judgment: and thou shalt do according to the sentence, which they of that place which the Lord shall choose shall shew thee; and thou shalt observe to do *all that they inform thee*" (Deuteronomy 17:8-10).

Headquarters was the place that God chose. Where was it? Turn to Psalm 78:67-68: "Moreover he [the Lord] refused the tabernacle of Joseph, and chose not the tribe of Ephraim: but *chose the tribe of Judah*, the Mount Zion which he loved."

Though God gave His revelation to the entire Old Testament Church—to all the tribes of Israel—yet He chose out of all those tribes the one tribe of Judah—the Jews! That is why Paul said in Romans 3 that it was *to the Jews*—the House of Judah—not to the other tribes—the House of Israel—that the revelation of God had been committed.

But where was headquarters for the tribe of Judah? Verse 68 of Psalm 78 declares: "Mount Zion"—*where Jerusalem is*. At the time the nation Israel split off from the tribe of Judah we read in I Kings 11:13, "Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to thy son [Solomon's son] for David my servant's sake, and for JERUSALEM'S sake *which I have chosen.*"

We now have the right Church—the Old Testament Church; the right tribe—Judah, the Jews; the right place—Jerusalem; the right leaders—the Scribes and Pharisees. Here is where we must look for the authority which determines what

books belong to the "Old Testament." Here was the only place on earth where God governed the preservation of His Word—the Old Testament. Were the Apocrypha among the Scriptures preserved by those scribes at Jerusalem?

Which Books Preserved?

Jesus recognized the authority of the Scribes and Pharisees. In fact, *Jesus*, before He came to earth, *had chosen the Scribes and Pharisees* to sit in Moses' seat and to act as the preservers of His Word. Jesus is the "LORD" of the Old Testament whose government the Scribes and Pharisees were commanded to carry out. Notice now *which Scriptures* Jesus recognized as having the official approval of His Church. Turn to Luke 24:44-45:

"And He [Jesus] said unto them [the disciples], these are the words which I spake unto you while I was yet with you that all things must be fulfilled, which are written IN THE LAW OF MOSES, AND IN THE PROPHETS, AND IN THE PSALMS, concerning Me. Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand *the Scriptures*." The Scriptures, according to this testimony of Jesus were properly divided by the Jews into "the law, the prophets, and the psalms." This three-fold division the Jews have preserved unaltered to this very day. The "law" is composed of the first five books of the Bible, Genesis to Deuteronomy. The "prophets" are composed of Joshua, Judges, I and II Samuel, I and II Kings [the former prophets]; and Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and the 12 minor prophets [the latter prophets]. And the third major division of the Hebrew Old Testament—called the "Psalms" because the book of Psalms composes the first part of this division—have the Psalms, Proverbs, Job, then the five small books—Song of Solomon, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, and Esther—followed by Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah, and—as a final summary to all the Old Testament—I and II Chronicles!

Notice that these books preserved by the Jews are exactly the same as you can find in the King James Version and other versions today [the change in order of books of the Old Testament has been as a result of recent influence of the Latin Vulgate on English translators]. *The Apocrypha were never a*

part of the inspired books of the Bible which compose our Old Testament!

Here then is absolute proof that Jesus recognized the authority of exactly the *same number of books we have in our Old Testament today*. There are only 39 inspired books which compose the Old Testament! We have the Old Testament COMPLETE today.

The seven additional books of the Apocrypha are therefore proved spurious. They were never a part of the Old Testament which the true Church of that day preserved. The Apocryphal writings—most of which are frauds—are absolutely uninspired. Some, such as I and II Maccabees, are relatively accurate history though even they contradict each other in points.

In Jesus' day, these 39 separate books of the Old Testament were often gathered together on 22 different scrolls, as we read from Josephus: "For we (the Jews) have not an innumerable multitude of books among us, disagreeing and contradicting one another, but only 22 books, which contain the records of all the past times; which are justly believed to be divine." (Flavius Josephus, *Against Apion*, Book I, Section VIII.)

Apocrypha Never Quoted in Scripture

Some falsely claim that the Apostles quoted from the Apocrypha, or that they cited the Apocrypha as authority. This claim is not true! The Apocrypha were falsely added by the Roman Catholic Church to the inspired books of the Old Testament 700 years after the three divisions of the Old Testament were authoritatively completed. Think of it! They were not falsely inserted by the Roman Catholic Church until 400

years after the birth of Jesus Christ!

Here is what the Catholic pamphlet "The Bible is a Catholic Book" frankly admits on page 21: "From the day when the Catholic Church first published the official list of the inspired books of both Old and New Testaments, in 397 A.D., there never has been any interruption in the teaching of the Church concerning their inspired source." The claim of the Catholic Church that it had authority to determine which books belong in the Old Testament is 700 years too late! But what of the Catholic claim that the Apostles quote from a Greek translation of the Old Testament in which the Apocrypha were?

Here is Paul's own answer:

Paul believed "... Those things which the *prophets* and Moses did say should come" (Acts 26:22). He accepted "all things which are written in the law and the *prophets*"—the Old Testament! (Acts 24:14). Paul did not say he believed in the law, the prophets, *and the Apocrypha*.

The Apocrypha were written between the time of Ezra and the inspired prophets and the time of Christ — a time during which God had ceased to send His prophets. Universal testimony admitted by all is that the last of the Old Testament prophets was Malachi who lived in Nehemiah's day.

The Apocrypha have no divine authority behind them. They did not come from God. In numerous places they blatantly *contradict* the inspired Word of God. They introduce pagan fable and superstition.

The Apocrypha originated secretly among the Essene Jews who had adopted many of the customs of the pagans around them.

Let us notice in the censored Catholic Bible, published by the Douay Bible House in New York, the preface by Schuemaker. This daring preface—which rejects both the testimony of history and the Bible—states: "The Greek-speaking Jews in the Dispersion, especially in Egypt, recognized Books as sacred which the Jews in Palestine in the course of time suspected and, in post-Christian times rejected as not being of divine character. Protestants follow the tradition of the Palestinian Jews (the so-called Jewish Canon) and discarded a

UND JETZT INS DEUTSCHE ÜBERSETZT!

„Die Kindergeschichte der Bibel“
„WOZU sind wir geboren?“
„WARUM müssen die Menschen
leiden?“

„Was ist der SINN des Lebens?“

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number of Books which the Hellenistic Jews in the Dispersion (in their so-called Septuagint Canon) accept it as sacred. Catholics follow the tradition of the Hellenistic Jews . . ."

This claim of the preface of the Catholic Bible is utterly without historical foundation. Let's understand the facts of history!

The FACTS of History!

First, the Jews in the Dispersion, those living in Gentile lands and not in Palestine, had no authority to decide for themselves which books belonged in the Bible!

Second, the Jewish communities always looked to Jerusalem for any final decision on the Canon (the books which constitute the rule of standard by which we are to live—*Canon* means "rule.")

Third, the Jews in the Dispersion accepted no other Canon than the books which had been accepted by the Jews in Palestine! The Jewish philosopher Philo, who lived in Alexandria, Egypt, "makes no quotations from the Apocrypha, and he gives not the slightest ground for the supposition that the Jews of Alexandria of his time were disposed to accept any of the books of the Apocrypha in their Canon of 'Holy Scripture'" (from H. E. Ryle, *Philo in Holy Scripture*, page xxxiii). Protestant and Catholic theologians recognize this fact, but often are not willing to admit it because they want to justify their use of books which have no divine authority! Again, "If there were a controversy between the *Diaspora* and Palestine concerning the Canon, one would expect some hint of it in Philo; and there is none," declares E. Earle Ellis, in his book *Paul's Use of the Old Testament*, page 34.

The Catholic assumption takes for granted that the inspired New Testament apostles quoted only from a Greek translation called the "Septuagint," they further assume that this translation contained the Apocrypha. This Greek translation of the Old Testament began around 275 B.C. at the suggestion of Ptolemy of Egypt, who wanted the Jewish Scriptures translated into Greek for his library at Alexandria. This translation was begun by "72 scholars"—hence the Greek word "Septuagint"—who came from Palestine. Only the first five books

of the Bible—the book of Moses—were originally translated by these scholars. "When and by whom the other books were added is quite unknown," says Frederic G. Kenyon in *The Text of the Greek Bible*. Some books are translated almost word for word; others, like Job and Daniel, quite freely . . . In the Greek translation of Jeremiah *some 2,700 words are missing* and the arrangement of the material is somewhat different . . ." (from the *Text of the Old Testament* by Ernst Würthwein, page 37).

Josephus tells us that the Hebrew text from which most of the books of the Septuagint Version were translated "have been transcribed *more carelessly* than they ought to have been, because they had not had hitherto royal care taken about them" (from *Antiquities of the Jews*, Book XII, chapter ii).

Here again is proof that *it was in Palestine* that the Old Testament was properly preserved and not in Egypt. Now notice what Professor Kenyon further says about the Septuagint Version and its various corruptions: "Thus in Job the Septuagint is shorter than the Hebrew text by about one-sixth, and there are large variations in Joshua, I Samuel, I Kings, Proverbs, Esther and Jeremiah, and lesser ones in other books" (page 29 of *Text of the Greek Bible*).

Septuagint Originally Without Apocrypha

The Septuagint Version actually has no authority. Some of it may have been well translated, especially the law, but much of it was utterly corrupt. But that isn't all! *The Septuagint Translation of the whole Old Testament was already complete* before most of the Apocryphal books—which the Roman Catholic Churches later added—were even composed! (See Edersheim in *The Life and Time of Jesus the Messiah*, page 26.) The Catholic Bishop Cyril, of Jerusalem, born about 315 A.D., mentioned that as late as his date *it was recognized that the Septuagint did not have the Apocrypha in it!* He wrote: "Read the divine Scriptures—namely, the 22 books of the Old Testament which the 72 interpreters translated . . ."—the Septuagint Version. Notice that there were no 22 plus seven added books! There were *only* the 22 scrolls which were translated (the 39

books of the Old Testament today remember were then often unofficially written on 22 scrolls).

Even if the Apostles had quoted from the Septuagint Version, there would therefore be no proof that the Apocrypha would be thus recognized! The addition of Apocryphal books to *both* the Old and New Testaments did not begin until about 80 A.D. at Rome. Numerous spurious books were gradually introduced into the inspired Canon. *No two copies of the earliest Catholic Bibles agree as to which apocryphal books were to be added.* It was not until 397 A.D., at the Council of Carthage, that Augustine, the Canaanite Bishop from Hippo in North Africa, led the council of Carthage to generally approve seven Apocryphal books. Even in 363 A.D. at the Council of Laodicea the Greek Church rejected the Apocryphal books as a whole. And the Roman Catholic scholar Jerome, who translated the Latin Vulgate Version, rejected the Apocrypha and *made his translation from the Hebrew Old Testament* directly. Any Catholic scholar will admit this fact. It was not until the Council of Trent, which was under the immediate control of the Pope, that the Apocrypha were declared equal with the other books of the Bible. At the Council of Trent on April 8, 1546, those who rejected the Apocrypha were declared to be "*anathema* of Christ!" Here was the *authority of apostate men* determining what others must believe. This was not the authority of God!

Septuagint Not Standard Greek Old Testament

There is ample proof that in New Testament quotations the Apostles did not use the Septuagint to quote from as the standard Greek translation of the Old Testament. TWO OUT OF EVERY THREE QUOTATIONS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT FOUND IN THE NEW DO NOT AGREE VERBALLY WITH THE READING OF THE SEPTUAGINT translation of the Old Testament. "Paul was acquainted with other Greek texts," states Ellis on page 15 of his book, *Paul's Use of the Old Testament*. On page 19 he further admits, "Paul made use of variant trans- (Please continue on page 30)

The Bible Story

by Basil Wolverton

CHAPTER TWELVE

“I AM JOSEPH”

JACOB'S sons had happily returned loaded with grain from Egypt. But suddenly a worrisome thing happened.

When the sons began to take the grain out of their sacks, each one was shocked to find a bag of money in the very top of his sack—the same amount each had paid the Egyptians for his part of the grain. When Jacob saw this, he was worried lest all the brothers be branded as thieves and taken as prisoners back into Egypt.

“I have already lost two sons—Joseph and Simeon,” said Jacob. “Now you want me to hand Benjamin over to you. I won't do that because I don't trust you to return him to me.”

Reuben, the brother who had wanted to spare Joseph from his brother's cruel plans, spoke out to his father:

“Let me take Benjamin to Egypt so that we may prove ourselves and rescue Simeon from prison,” he said. “If I don't return with Benjamin, you may kill my two sons.”

“Do not make foolish promises,” said Jacob. “I do not intend to send Benjamin away. If anything should happen to him, I would die of sorrow.”

The Famine Grows Worse

Months passed, and the famine became worse. Like most other people, Jacob didn't know that there would be seven years without enough rain to make good crops. Every day he prayed for rain, and each day he looked forward to a weather

change that would bring fresh, green grass and good crops. But God had a plan in mind, and He set about carrying it out, even though those who followed Him prayed for a change.

At last the food supply which they had bought from Egypt became very low. Then Jacob could do only one thing—tell his sons that they should return to Egypt after more grain. (Gen. 43:1-2.)



Dry east winds blowing steadily year after year turned the once green fields and orchards into vast areas of yellow despair.

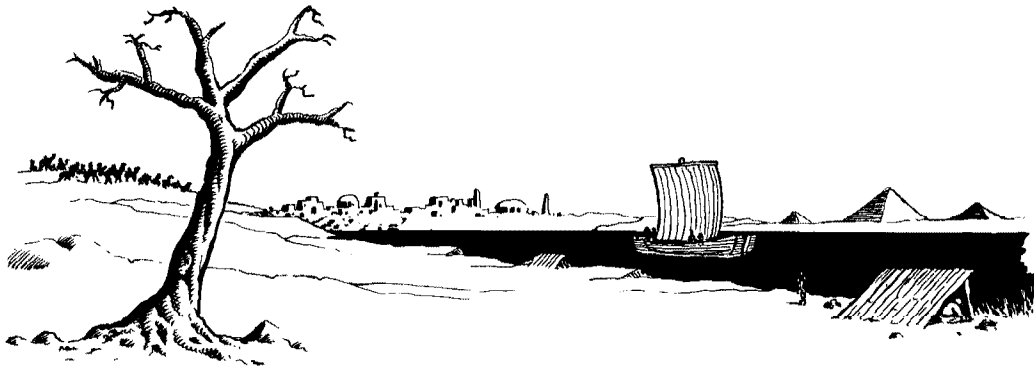
"There is no use returning for more grain unless we take along our brother, Benjamin," said Judah respectfully to Jacob. "We were told by the governor that he would not see us unless we could prove that we were not spies by bringing our youngest brother to him." (Verse 3.)

"You should never have mentioned Benjamin," Jacob said.

"We had to do it to answer the questions asked of us," replied the brothers.

Then Judah said, "Now if you want grain, let Benjamin go with us. If anything happens to him, you can blame me for it." (Verses 8-9.)

"If it must be like that, then take him," Jacob finally agreed. "But take also some gifts for the governor of Egypt. My servants will prepare packages of honey, spices, ointments, perfumes, and the very best dates and nuts from our country. Then also take back the money that was returned to you in your sacks as well as a sum with which to buy more grain. Offer all of it to the governor. I trust that God



Ten of Jacob's sons again journeyed across the parched land to the capital city of Egypt.

will be with you, and that you will return with both Benjamin and Reuben."

Once again ten of Jacob's sons went to Egypt, and once again, after certain arrangements had been made, ten of Jacob's sons stood before the governor of Egypt, who was really another of Jacob's sons.

When Joseph, governor of the land under the Egyptian Pharaoh, saw that his brothers had returned at last with a young man who might be his young brother, he was very happy and excited. However, he didn't show his true feelings.

"Bring these men to my house and prepare a very special noon meal for them," he told his chief servant. (Verse 16.)

The servant took the ten sons of Jacob to Joseph's house. But they weren't sure why they had been brought to such a fine place, and they began to think that they were there to receive some sort of punishment for the things they had done that were wrong.

Therefore they told Joseph's chief servant all about their first trip to Egypt for grain, and how their money had mysteriously been returned to them. They showed this chief servant that they wanted to return the money that had somehow been returned to them, and that they had more money with which to buy more grain. (Verses 20-22.)

"Don't worry about these things," said Joseph's chief servant to them. "Make yourselves comfortable until my master comes."

Simeon Released From Prison

While the brothers waited, they were given the chance to bathe, and their animals were fed. Then, for a pleasant surprise, their brother Simeon, who had been a prisoner

in Egypt for about a year, was brought in to them. (Verse 23.)

About noon Joseph arrived at his house with some high-ranking Egyptians. The brothers were presented to him according to the Egyptian rules of etiquette of those times. The brothers bowed low to him, and humbly presented to Joseph the gifts they had brought from Canaan. Joseph thanked them and asked about their father.

"He is still alive and well," was the reply.

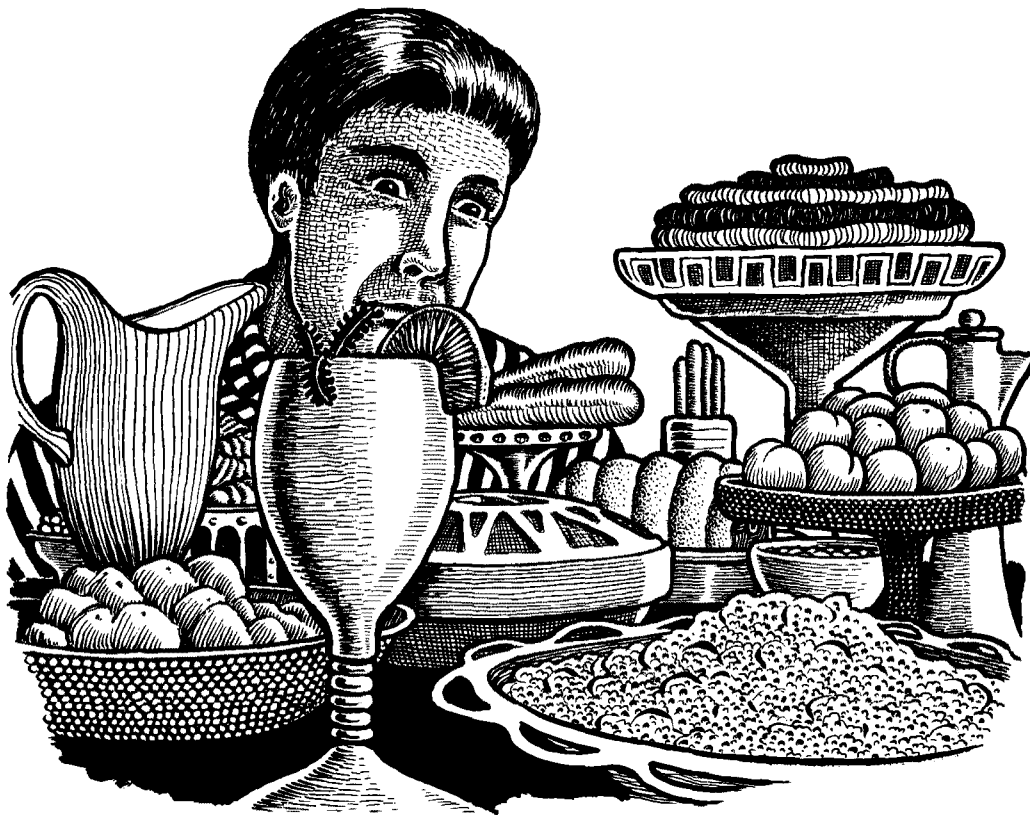
"And is this the brother you told me about?" Joseph asked, looking at Benjamin.

"It is," they answered. "This is Benjamin, the young brother who should help prove that we did not come to Egypt as spies."

Joseph was so glad to meet Benjamin that he almost wept. In fact, he had to excuse himself and go to another room, where he broke out in tears. He returned shortly. No one could know how he felt in standing before eleven brothers who did not know that he was their brother. (Verses 29-31.)

Joseph then ordered the meal to be brought in for all. With so many good

Having just come through the famine-stricken land, Benjamin stared with wonderment at the many kinds of food placed before him.



things to eat and drink before them, the brothers felt greatly honored, and forgot their fears and worries. Young Benjamin was more honored than anyone, however. Joseph secretly gave orders to his servants that Benjamin should receive special treatment. As a result, the servants who served brought five times as many kinds and amount of food to Benjamin's table than were brought to the tables of any of the Hebrews and Egyptians gathered in the great dining room. (Verse 34.)

Of course Benjamin couldn't eat nor drink all that was set before him. But he did look with wonder at this governor of Egypt who gave him such special favor. No doubt Benjamin would have been much more awed if he could have learned that this governor was his brother!

Brothers Prepare to Return to Canaan

Very early next morning the brothers set out for Canaan with as much grain as their animals could carry. They were happy with the way things had turned out. Simeon had been let out of prison to come home with them, they had enjoyed a meal with the governor of the land and now they were on their way home with grain after proving that they weren't spies.

Later in the morning they noticed a cloud of dust off to the south. As it grew larger, they could see that a band of men on camels was swiftly coming their way. They were surprised when the leader of the band turned out to be Joseph's chief servant.

"Why have you treated your host the governor so badly?" the chief servant asked of the brothers as they halted, wondering why they had been overtaken.

"What do you mean?" they asked.

"The governor's special silver cup is missing—the one he used yesterday when you ate with him," said the chief servant. "He thinks one of you has stolen it."

"But that isn't so," the brothers argued. "We are not thieves. We brought back the money that was returned to us on our first trip to Egypt. Why should we steal now? Search us, and if you find your master's silver cup in our belongings, we promise to become your servants. What's more, the one of us who is hiding the cup you speak of should die for stealing it." (Verse 9.)

The brothers meant what they said, but at the same time they felt that there was no chance that the silver cup would be found on them. Not a one of them would have dared to take such a valuable article from the powerful governor of Egypt.

"So let it be as you have said," said the chief servant, and he ordered his men to search the brothers' belongings.

To the unpleasant surprise of the brothers, the money for the grain was again



Joseph's servants looked into Benjamin's sack, and there was the missing silver cup!

found in their sacks! And, what was worse, the valuable silver cup was found in Benjamin's sack! (Verse 12.)

In miserable silence the brothers packed their belongings back on their animals, mounted their donkeys, and escorted by those who pursued them, rode back to meet Joseph again. When Joseph appeared, they fell down before him.

"What are you trying to put over on me?" Joseph sternly asked. "Don't you know that I have the power to see into the evil deeds of men?"

"What can we say?" asked Judah, the brother who had told his father that he would surely look out for Benjamin.

"There is no way of proving to you that we are not guilty," Judah went on. "The truth is that we are not guilty of these things you point out to us. But we do now admit that we have done some wicked things in the past, and we feel that it is now God's will that we be punished for those things. If that punishment means that we become your slaves, so be it." (Verse 16.)

"I don't think it need be that way," Joseph said. "I ask only that Benjamin become my servant. The rest of you may return to your father."

Perhaps some of the brothers thought of this as a very fair way of settling matters. But Judah felt that he should make a last great effort to get the governor to set Benjamin free. He reminded Joseph of all that had happened. He pointed out that Jacob had almost died of sorrow when his son Joseph had become lost, and that Jacob was certain to die of sorrow if his youngest son, Benjamin, failed to return to Canaan.

Joseph was so moved by Judah's plea that he could no longer keep his feelings under control. From the very first, Joseph had treated them harshly because he knew of their sins, and he wanted them to know that they would have to suffer because they had acted wickedly. He had returned their grain money twice to keep them in a sober state of mind. Lastly, he had the silver cup put in Benjamin's sack for the same reason—and also so that Benjamin would have to be returned to him—at least for a while. (Gen. 44:1-2.)

Joseph Reveals Who He Is

Now, at last, Joseph was overcome, and could no longer act the part of a stern ruler. He ordered the Egyptian officers from his house so that he could be alone with his brothers. (Gen. 45:1.)

"I am Joseph, your brother," he tearfully told them, speaking in his native Hebrew language. "Is Jacob, my father, still alive and well?"

Instead of answering him, the brothers only moved backward, staring in surprise and unbelief.

"Come near me," Joseph said. "Look at me closely, and you should recognize the young brother you sold to Arabian slave traders years ago." (Verse 4.)

The brothers kept on staring in unbelief. Perhaps some of them remembered Joseph's dream of their bowing down to him.

"Don't be unhappy or angry because I remind you of the things you have done," Joseph said. "God caused these things to happen. He opened the way for me to be taken to Egypt and gave me wisdom to see into the future. It was for the good of many people, including you and our father, Jacob, that God directed me to prepare for a famine. Five years without harvest are yet to come. Now, as one who has power even to tell Pharaoh what to do in these matters, I want you to go back to your father and tell him all that has happened. Tell him that I am governor of all Egypt under Pharaoh, and that I want him and his family and his flocks and all of you and your possessions to come down to Egypt to live while the famine lasts. If all of you don't come down here, you will probably lose all that you have.

Joseph then lovingly embraced his young brother Benjamin and after that all

of his other brothers. This caused his awc-struck brothers to lose their fear of this man they had thought of only as the stern governor of Egypt. They began to talk as only brothers talk among themselves. It turned out to be a happy time for all of them—especially because Joseph was so willing to forgive them for the wrong things most of them had done to him.

It wasn't long before Pharaoh heard about Joseph's brothers. Because of his great regard for Joseph, Pharaoh was pleased to tell him to tell his brothers that the king also wanted them to return to Egypt, but that first he wanted them to return to Canaan in grander style than that in which they had arrived.

Pharaoh told Joseph to give them carriages to take back to Canaan. It was Pharaoh's idea that the mothers and children would be much better off riding in the carriages than they would be riding on swaying camels or jogging donkeys.

Joseph then saw that his brothers received a number of carriages and plenty of donkeys to pull them. Also he gave them new clothes. To his brother Benjamin, whom he especially favored, he gave many more clothes and quite a sum of money. To Jacob, his father, he sent ten donkeys loaded with good things to eat from Egypt, including corn, preserved foods and fancy breads. (Verses 22-23.)

Besides these things, Joseph's brothers took the bags of grain they had been sent for in the first place.

"Don't let your good fortune get you into any trouble on the way back home," Joseph warned. "Go straight back to Canaan and bring my father back down here."

With this advice, the governor of Egypt sent his brothers away to Canaan.

(To be continued in next issue)

Letters to the Editor

(Continued from page 2)

word as a witness to the world before the end of the age.

"During June 1957 I changed employment status and now feel that God was showing us the way to more of His truth. One of those first days in the new job I noticed a man named Bill reading his New Testament during lunch period. After some discussion I found that Bill did not believe many of the things commonly taught by modern worldly church leaders . . . I learned a great deal, which was passed on to my wife. God blessed us in that she grew in knowledge as I did. We both began to read our Bibles in earnest and continue to do so.

"About October or November I had a desire to take a Bible study course and discussed it with several people. A

short time before this Bill had told me about The World Tomorrow broadcast, so we had listened a few times. He said he was now on lesson 18, I believe, of the Ambassador College Correspondence Course and suggested that I request it, which I did. I am now on lesson 6.

"Some time in November we discontinued paying our tithe to the church and considered getting out altogether. By the 15th of December or so we quit going. Santa Claus, the church sponsored Christmas program, and our refusal to teach the 'Christmas Story' rather brought things to a climax. One of the hardest things was to tell the children that there was no Santa Claus and that we would have no Christmas Tree, even though we knew it was for the best.

"Needless to say, God has truly blessed us in many ways. Both children, who were sick much of last year, have

been ill very little since December 1957. Looking back at the past we certainly didn't trust God very far! We thank God for you and your part in the above story."

Man and wife from Enon, Ohio
Editor's comment: If you have not learned the truth about Christmas write in for Mr. Armstrong's booklet "The Plain Truth About Christmas."

"World Tomorrow"

(Continued from page 16)

shall they learn war anymore" (vs. 4).

Israel BLESSED Under God's Government

God's dealing with Israel is often used as a type of the way He will deal with *all nations*. Many of the Old Testament prophecies concerning the millennium have particular reference to Israel. Yet,

since God is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34), this is only a type of what God will do, in principle, for *all nations* as they serve and obey Christ.

Speaking of the final regathering of Israel, God says: "And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant them upon their land and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the Lord thy God" (Amos 9:14-15).

The fulfillment of this prophecy is yet in the future, for God says Israel shall "no more" be pulled out of her land at this time. This is speaking of the great physical *blessings* God is going to shower upon His people of Israel—America, Britain and the democratic peoples of Northwestern Europe—when He brings them back from captivity after Christ's return.

In a prophecy written over one hundred years after the first and only captivity of Israel so far, God prophesies through Jeremiah of a soon-coming captivity of Israel—*our people*—and their restoration back to Palestine after Christ's return (Jer. 30:1-11). The time of our national captivity is called "the time of Jacob's trouble" (verse 7). But we will be rescued out of this national punishment and captivity at the second coming of Jesus Christ.

"For it shall come to pass *in that day*, saith the Lord of Hosts, that I will break his *yoke* (our yoke of captivity) from off thy neck and will burst thy bonds, and strangers shall no more serve themselves of him: But they shall serve the Lord their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up unto them" (verses 8-9). At Christ's coming, Israel will be delivered from their captivity, David and all the saints will be *resurrected* from the dead to take their places as kings and priests in God's government to rule this earth under Christ.

"Therefore, fear thou not, O, my servant Jacob, saith the Lord; neither be dismayed, O, Israel: For, lo, I will save thee from afar, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and

be quiet, and none shall make him afraid" (verse 10). At last PEACE shall come to this war-torn world — and Israel shall no more be made afraid by any nation!

JOY Under God's Government

Referring to the entire prophecy, God says: "In the *latter days* ye shall consider it" (verse 24). Jeremiah 31 continues with the same prophecy (verse 1), and God tells of His blessings to Israel at that time: "Again I will build thee, and thou shall be built, O virgin of Israel: thou shalt again be adorned with thy tabrets, and shall go forth in the dances of them that make merry. Thou shalt yet plant vines upon the mountains of Samaria: The planters shall plant and shall eat them as common things" (Jere. 31:4-5).

Dancing, singing, happiness and JOY will overflow in abundance as Israel is blessed by God after Christ brings them back to Palestine to be the chief nation of the world and to set a pattern for all nations of His government.

After their national punishment and captivity, they will come back repentant and contrite. "They shall come with *weeping*, and with *supplications* will I lead them" (verse 9).

But as they return, God will begin to *bless them* in every possible way—spiritually and physically. "Therefore shall they come and SING in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the Lord, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and for the herd: and their souls shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all. Then shall the virgin *rejoice* in the DANCE, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning into JOY and will comfort them and will make them rejoice from their sorrow" (verses 12-13).

Through obedience to God's ways, there will be an *abundance* of good things to eat and drink—and there will be overflowing happiness in the human heart at last!

The entire 11th chapter of Isaiah is well-known to all Bible students as a description of the coming thousand year reign of Christ on earth. Here Christ is described as the "branch" or offspring

of Jesse. He will be totally motivated by God's Spirit to become the PERFECT world ruler!

As a Divine being, "He shall not judge after the sight of his eyes," but will be able to read the thoughts and hearts of men everywhere. He will judge the poor and downtrodden "with righteousness" and will *punish* the wicked with the death penalty which will put *fear* into the hearts of evil doers (verse 4).

After Christ's return, the wild and vicious nature shall be removed even from the wild animals such as the wolf, the lion, and the poisonous snakes. "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them" (verse 6).

Most important of all, human beings everywhere will at last learn God's ways which alone can bring *peace*. "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: For the earth shall be full of the *knowledge of the Lord*, as the waters cover the sea" (verse 9).

This is the wonderful time spoken of by the inspired apostle Peter as "the *times of restitution* of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began" (Acts 3:21). Indeed, God has described this blessed reign of Jesus Christ on earth in literally *scores* of prophecies throughout your Bible.

This was the *message* of Jesus Christ! This is the *only real way* to find true UTOPIA!

Conditions During the Millennium

In order to humble them and teach them God's ways more fully, He will force some of the heathen peoples who have helped spoil His people Israel to become their servants in the land of Palestine during the early years of the millennium. "For the Lord will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and will set them in their *own land* (Palestine): and the stranger shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob. And the people shall take them, and bring them to their place: and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the Lord for servants and handmaids: and

they shall take them captives, whose captives they were; and they shall *rule over their oppressors*" (Isaiah 14:1-2).

As Lord of Lords, Christ will begin to *convert* and *save* the entire world during His reign. To do this He will have to strip aside the BLINDNESS that has come on all people of the earth as a result of Satan's deceptions (Rev. 12:9).

Isaiah says: "And he will destroy in this mountain the face of this *covering* cast over all people, and the *vail* that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death in victory . . ." (Isaiah 25:7-8).

All peoples will then come to KNOW God. Their *blindness* and religious *confusion* will be removed and they will finally be converted.

The resurrected saints will teach the people God's ways—and they will be BLESSED by God as they obey. "For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem: thou shalt weep no more: he will be very gracious unto thee at the voice of thy cry; when he shall hear it he shall answer thee. And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity in the water of affliction, yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner anymore, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers: and thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, *This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left*" (Isaiah 30:19-21).

It will be a startling experience for some to have a voice behind them suddenly boom out and warn them *not to break one of God's commandments!* But, the saints of God—now born of the Spirit and *become* spirit at the resurrection—will be able to be invisible or visible at will.

There will be no "cheating" on God's law!

Through the restoration of real CONTACT with Almighty God, millions of deaf, blind, dumb and crippled people all over the earth will be supernaturally *healed* by Almighty God within a few years! "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing; for in the wilderness shall waters break out and streams in

the desert" (Isaiah 35:5-6).

Notice that not only the people, but the *land* shall be healed and the earth shall receive proper rainfall again with God's blessing. "And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water" (verse 7).

And it shall be a time of *singing*, and *happiness* and *joy*. "And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and shall come to Zion with *songs* and everlasting *joy* upon their heads: They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" (verse 10).

The WAY to Blessings

The world could have *peace* and *happiness* now, but it refuses to have it GOD'S way.

Speaking of *all humanity*—Jews and Gentiles alike—the apostle Paul was inspired to write: "Destruction and misery are in their ways: And the WAY OF PEACE have they *not known*" (Romans 3:16-17).

The reason the world cannot have peace is because it *refuses to obey the commandments of God as a WAY OF LIFE!* As we have seen, when Christ comes to set up His government the "law" of God shall go forth from Zion and the "word of the Lord" from Jerusalem.

Those who *yield themselves* most to obey ALL of God's commandments now will be best qualified for the highest positions in God's government during the coming millennial reign of Christ. For He said: "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: But whosoever shall DO and TEACH them, the same shall be called *great* in the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 5:19).

This is because Christ is going to have PEACE in His kingdom—and so all lawbreakers are going to be kept outside!

This same principle holds true in the New Jerusalem, the Holy City which will come down out of heaven to this earth after the millennium. "Blessed are they that *do his* COMMANDMENTS, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city" (Rev. 22:14).

Yes, we will have *real* UTOPIA when

we learn to *obey God's commandments!* Then the world will be *blessed* with physical abundance. The sick and crippled will be HEALED. The spiritually blinded *millions* will come to really KNOW God!

The human beings on earth under God's government during Christ's millennial reign are pictured as learning to *sing*, and *dance* and *shout* for JOY at the wonderful way of life they will experience under the perfect government of God!

Even the nature of wild animals will be turned to LOVE instead of *hate* and *selfishness*. At last, people will learn that it really IS more blessed to *give* than to *receive* (Acts 20:35). All their *frustrations* and *guilt complexes* will at last disappear. Then they will come to know "the peace of God, which passeth all understanding" (Phil. 4:7).

Under *God's government* and His *perfect laws*, people will learn that Jesus *meant business* when He said: "I am come that they might have LIFE, *and that they might have it more ABUNDANTLY*" (John 10:10).

This is what the happy, joyous "World Tomorrow" will be like!

The COMPLETE Bible

(Continued from page 20)

lations or renderings known to his readers." In the days of the apostles there were several different translations into Greek of the Old Testament. Though the first five books of the Septuagint were originally approved by the Jews to be read in Greek, the remaining books of the Septuagint Version became so corrupt that the Jews finally forbade their people to use any of the Septuagint. Numerous quotations from Daniel make it plain that both Christ and the apostles were using an official translation different from the Septuagint in the first century A.D. No wonder Kenyon wrote on page 32 of his book, *The Text of the Greek Bible*, that the apostles were "using some earlier translation of which we have otherwise no knowledge; for several [non-Septuagint] readings occur in the New Testament, notably in the quotations from Daniel, in the Apocalypse, and Hebrews. There must therefore have been . . . some other version

than the LXX [Septuagint Version] extant in the first century. . . ."

The evidence is overwhelming—the apostles did not use the Septuagint translation as the standard Greek translation of the Old Testament. Nor did they ever approve the Apocrypha!

It was only as a result of the rise of the Roman Catholic Church that gradually, from the third century onward, to the Septuagint translation were added different Apocryphal writings. Another proof is that *no two copies of the Septuagint version have the same Apocryphal books in them.* This is ABSOLUTE PROOF that the Alexandrian Jews had no settled or established canon—list of the inspired books—which included the Apocrypha. The addition of the Apocrypha to the Septuagint translation of the Old Testament was a matter of human tradition. So many different Apocryphal books were circulating in the Catholic world that it took a church council in 397 A.D. to decide which books the Roman Catholic Church would finally approve!

So the Apocrypha is not a part of the inspired Old Testament. It is not part of the Bible! *The Bible is COMPLETE WITHOUT IT!*

Other Missing Books?

Some sects today contend that there are "missing books of the Bible" from which Jesus and the apostles quoted. But notice! In Acts 17:28 Paul incidentally quotes the *heathen poets*. And in Titus 1:12-13 he again quotes non-Christian Cretan religious leaders. This certainly does not mean that the apostles are giving sanction to these heathen poets! Today we often quote from accurate historical sources—just as have been done in this article—but that does not mean we recognize the volumes from which these quotations have been taken as inspired of God!

In similar manner sometimes Jesus and the Apostles quote from historical source material which has been preserved by the Jews from the days of Ezra and Nehemiah. But that does not mean that the volumes from which those quotations were taken were required to be preserved by the Jews for all generations. *Just those particular quotations which Jesus and the apostles thought necessary*

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have been preserved in the New Testament today.

God inspired the prophets of ancient times to bear His message not only for their generation but for all generations. Much of the material that they wrote for their generation was not intended to be preserved. God led them to choose those particular things which were needful for all generations. And what they themselves had not already preserved for us in the three divisions of the Old Testament—the law, the prophets, and the psalms—Jesus Himself and the apostles have retained for us as quotations in the New Testament. *But notice that none of these New Testament quotations come from the Apocrypha.*

These spurious books, which have no authority in the official Jewish community, were primarily the work of the Jewish sect called the Essenes. (See the proof in *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, article "Apocrypha.") The Essenes were an ascetic Jewish group commonly influenced by pagan mysteries. To justify their pagan practices they secretly composed spurious books in the name of Enoch and Jasher in an attempt to justify their teachings adopted from the pagans. It is no wonder that most of their books have been preserved by that "Great Mystery" described in Revelation 17, which for nearly 1900 years has ruled the religion in the western world!

New Testament Also COMPLETE

When the Jews in New Testament times refused the message of Jesus Christ and His Apostles, Jesus raised up the Apostle Paul to go to the Greek world to have His New Testament message preserved in Greek for us today. (This was explained in the June issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH*. If you had not subscribed for the *PLAIN TRUTH*, in June of this year, write for a copy of this back article.)

Most people are not aware that if the New Testament is placed side by side with the Old, *the Bible is COMPLETE IN SEVEN DIVISIONS*: law, prophets, psalms; gospels, acts, epistles, revelation. Here is an amazing SEVEN-FOLD DIVISION of the books of the Bible. Seven is God's number for completion. With these seven divisions of the Bible, God's Book is complete.

Protestants today assume that the authority which determined how many books belong in the New Testament rests with the Roman Catholic Church. This is untrue. The authority for the preservation of the books of the New Testament rests with the Greek people and its official copyists who have been centered at Mount Athos in Greece. The Greeks were given the New Testament to preserve but God led the Apostles to make the decision as to which books the Greek world would be heir to.

Notice that Paul sanctions the gospels as *inspired* in I Tim. 5:18. Paul quotes as *Scripture* the words, "The laborer is worthy of his reward." This quotation is found nowhere in the Old Testament. It is found in Luke's gospel, chapter 10, verse 7.

In II Peter 3:15-16 the epistles of Paul are compared with the Old Testament and are designated "Scriptures."

A comparison of the book of Genesis with the book of Revelation would prove conclusively that *the book of Revelation was intended to be the last book of the Bible.* And as a final warning not to add any other book, God inspired John to write (Rev. 22:18-19) "For I testify unto every man that hears the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: and if any man shall

take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the Holy City, and of the things which are written in this book."

New Testament Prophesied in Old

The Old Testament itself prophesied of the disciples that they would be the ones who would close the Canon—that is, complete the number of books of the Bible. Notice Isaiah 8:14. Christ was sent "for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem." That is exactly what happened. The Jews rejected Him and rejected His message. As a result (verse 15), "many among them shall stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken." Though that would happen to the Jews, who rejected God's message, yet Jesus' Word was to be preserved by the Greeks. Read verse 16: "*Bind up the testimony, seal the law AMONG MY DISCIPLES.*" "To bind up" comes from the Hebrew word meaning "to complete." The apostles were used "to complete" the testimony of Jesus Christ. The New Testament Church has "the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Rev. 12:17). It was also through the disciples of Jesus Christ that God's seal of approval was placed on those laws which are eternally binding on Christians.

Yes, we can know! The Bible *is* COMPLETE! Not one book of the Bible has been lost. Not one is missing. The books of the Bible as you find them in your King James Version constitute the complete Bible!

What Is a REAL Christian?

(Continued from page 14)

John, "COME OUT OF HER my people, that ye be NOT partakers of her sins, and that ye receive NOT of her PLAGUES" (Rev. 18:4).

If you *really* come out of the world—you will suffer PERSECUTION!

Jesus SAID so!

Notice it! "Think NOT that I am come to send peace on earth, I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come

to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be those of his own household" (Mat. 10:34-36).

If you really begin to CHANGE!—if you really SURRENDER your life to God!—if you really begin to DO AS CHRIST DID, to LIVE AS HE LIVED—you will be persecuted!

And if YOU'RE NOT BEING PERSECUTED, *the chances are*, YOU ARE NOT A CHRISTIAN!

"BLESSED Are Ye"

Jesus goes on to describe how really converted ones will REJOICE when they receive this persecution that comes from living righteously, godly, in this present evil world.

He says, "GREAT is your reward in heaven, for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you!"

Yes GREAT, and INCOMPREHENSIBLE is the reward of God's *true* Saints, reserved for them in heaven, which is to come down OUT of heaven, *to this earth!*

Jesus tells us to PRAY, "THY KINGDOM COME [not that we'll go to IT], THY WILL BE DONE, IN EARTH as it is in heaven!" (Mat. 6:10.)

How PLAIN are the true teachings of Christ!

And HOW DIFFERENT from what you've grown up believing and assuming!

The Bible truly is diametrically the OPPOSITE from the commonly accepted practices of a religion which is CALLED "Christianity"! Now you've seen just a *few* of these great differences. *Not* technical, involved, scholarly arguments about foreign language words, or ancient manuscripts—but just the plain, simple, straightforward words of God—those spoken by Christ Himself!

Yes, right here in the BEATITUDES, the "Sermon on the Mount" you can see clearly the majority of professing Christians just DO NOT BELIEVE OR PRACTICE what Christ SAID!

Do you see how DIFFERENT the REAL Christianity of the BIBLE is from today's PROFESSING brands? May God help you to *really* see, and CHANGE before it's too late!

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