

the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

VOLUME XXVII, NUMBER 8

AUGUST, 1962



Wide World Photo
LIFE BEHIND IRON CURTAIN—Crowds throng the pavements and twin-coached trams of spacious avenue in Sofia, capital of Bulgaria. Typical of poverty gripping Red Empire. Khrushchev visited nation recently to keep restive population in subjection.

What our READERS SAY

Finally Requests Literature

"Dear Mr. Armstrong,

"I'm a steady listener of your radio program. I've listened to you since '34. I enjoy your program very much. This is the first time I've ever asked for any of your literature."

Woman from Bakersfield, Calif.

• What makes some people wait 28 years before they write a letter? Not even the poll takers have found the answer!

Here's Another

"Dear Mr. Armstrong,

"I have long been wanting to write you, always deciding against it because I think you are so busy doing the work for our God, and you must be terribly inundated with letters from so many 'pen-happy' writers. I felt as if I was intruding and unnecessarily worrying you. However, listening to your broadcasts from Lourenco Marques and your request for us to write almost makes me think you would really welcome our letters. Foremost I want to thank you most heartily for the magazines. I look forward to them more than to any other of my reading matter and can hardly wait for the new one every month—they really fill that gap! I have not yet found a single article I have not found most absorbing and enlightening."

Man from Natal, South Africa

• Of course we welcome your letters! To assist Mr. Armstrong in the reading of mail is a staff of fully qualified, dedicated men who read every letter. If there are private problems that need a personal answer, your letter will be answered personally by a member of the Letter Answering Department. We are here to serve you!

Broadcast Educational

"I listen to your program every night. Being a college student, I have rejected the usual religious broadcast of organ music. Your program is extremely edu-

cational and makes religion down to earth—it has the ring of truth all through it."

Man from Seattle, Washington

Friend Brings Radio

"I heard your sermon this morning over WCKY Cincinnati, and it was different from the ordinary spiritual message. You knew where to quote the authority for the points you stressed. You sounded like you were sincere and believed what advice you had to offer. It also sounded like you lived what you preached. There was a spirit of enthusiasm in your voice like you wanted everybody to get the idea as you saw it, and to practice the same in their own lives. A friend brought me a transistor radio as he especially wanted me to hear you speak. Now I can understand why he was so anxious to have me listen. It was wonderful."

Man from Middlesboro, Kentucky

Comment from the Emerald Isle

"Dear Mr. Armstrong,

"I recently read a copy of your magazine which I borrowed from a friend. I can hardly express with what awe and admiration I realised that I have at last something to BELIEVE! In these bomb-torn times, when it seemed to me that God had abandoned the world, your magazine was like a fount of cool clear water to refresh me. Even greater was my astonishment when I discovered that, even in these days of gross exploitation and shoddy commercialism, you distribute your magazine free of charge. It is with a deep sense of humility and gratitude that I now ask you to begin sending me your beautiful magazine."

Galway, Eire

No Follow-up

"About your PLAIN TRUTH being sent free and absolutely no follow-up for funds: I have received *The PLAIN TRUTH* since 1956. I have also sent for and received many of your booklets

(Please continue on page 12)

the PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

VOL. XXVII

NO. 8

Circulation: 395,000

Published monthly at Pasadena, California; London, England; and Melbourne, Australia, by Ambassador College. German edition published monthly at Pasadena, California. © 1962, by Radio Church of God.

EDITOR

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Garner Ted Armstrong

MANAGING EDITOR

Herman L. Hoeh

SENIOR EDITOR

Roderick C. Meredith

Associate Editors

Albert J. Portune

David Jon Hill

Contributing Editors

C. Paul Meredith

Basil Wolverton

Jack R. Elliott

Clint C. Zimmerman

Ernest L. Martin

Charles V. Dorothy

Lynn E. Torrance

Robert C. Boraker

L. Leroy Neff

Gerhard O. Marx

News Bureau Director

Gene H. Hogberg

Research Staff

Donald D. Schroeder

Jack M. Pyle

Ronald D. McNeil

Joyce F. Sefcak

Editorial and Production Assistants

James W. Robinson

Donald G. McDonald

Regional Editors Abroad

United Kingdom: Raymond F. McNair

Australia: C. Wayne Cole

South America: Benjamin L. Rea

BUSINESS MANAGER

Vern R. Mattson

Circulation Managers

United States: Hugh Mauck

United Kingdom: Charles F. Hunting

Australia: Gene R. Hughes

South America: Leon Walker

Canada: Dennis Prather

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION has been paid by others. Bulk copies for distribution not given or sold.

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

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

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

Readers in Australia, the Philippines, China and southeastern Asia should address the Editor, Box 345, North Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

Readers of the German edition should address Post Office Box 1030, Pasadena, California, or Die Reine Wahrheit, (4) Düsseldorf 1, Postfach 1324, Deutsche Bundesrepublik.

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE paid at Pasadena, California.

BE SURE TO NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY of any change in your address. Please inclose both old and new address. IMPORTANT!

Personal from the Editor

A GAIN I am writing from my study in our cottage on the grounds of Ambassador College in England. On one side of my study, double glass doors open onto a stone terrace.

We have a very beautiful and very proud peacock on the college grounds. His hen, at present, is setting on three of her eggs in a small thatched-roofed one-room gardeners' tool house past the far edge of the beautiful Japanese gardens. She won't move from her nest. Our gardeners take food to her. But this strutting peacock is perfectly willing to move from the vicinity of the nest.

Do you know, I almost think he must be endowed with a bit of human nature! When the gardeners let him out for the day, I usually find him on the terrace just outside my glass doors looking in. And when he is not there, he is quite likely to be found looking in the floor-length glass windows which extend across one side of our living room.

Repeatedly, again and again and again, I have tried to shoo that peacock away from our terrace. But always he comes back. Today our head gardener explained the reason. In his best Welsh accent, he said:

"That proud bird struts up on your terrace because he can see and admire himself in the glass of the windows and the doors!"

It is quite evident this peacock thinks very well of himself. He can't have many brains—there simply isn't room in his small but brilliantly-colored blue head. But then it doesn't seem to take a large head to be filled with vanity, pride, and self-admiration! Yes, sometimes I think our peacock is almost human—and he can be just about as annoying!

This bird is ALL *SELF!*

And is that so different from most humans? Suppose we put other things out of mind for a few moments and give this a little serious thought!

In the April number of *The Plain Truth* I wrote in this column about

the worst sin anyone could possibly commit.

Every really *good* thing comes from GOD. He is Creator, Sustainer, Ruler of the Universe! He alone can fill us with happiness and joy—rid us of fears and worries—give peace of mind and security and faith—supply every need—make our lives interesting, thrilling, ABUNDANT—give us every BEAUTY, in the around, and the within! He alone can give us every blessing *now*, and eternal life *forever!* The greatest possible sin is that which cuts one off from the Giver of all blessings, here, and hereafter! To break the very first Commandment—to have another god before the one and only *true* God—that is the greatest sin.

Yet knowingly or unknowingly, everyone has committed it. But that, of itself, is not the unpardonable sin. God *has* provided a way of forgiveness, justification of the guilty past, and direct contact with HIM.

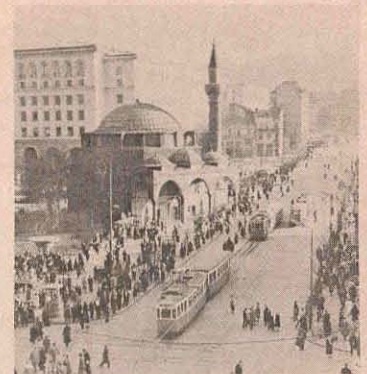
That *way* is to crucify the false god of SELF—the way of REPENTANCE toward God, and FAITH toward Jesus Christ. But *what is* REPENTANCE? It seems most do not know! Just today I have received a letter from one of our baptizing teams touring America this summer, visiting the hundreds who have written to me requesting baptism. The first *condition* before baptism is REPENTANCE. This is what the leader of this baptizing team wrote:

"So many of those we have met are just not repentant. They are quite proud of their past, saying how sincere they have been, and how thankful they are that God has rewarded their efforts and allowed them to find the truth." Like the Israelites of old, with whom God was grieved forty years, they are GOOD in their own eyes!

You know, I think this peacock is good in his own eyes, too! But how much GOOD is there in human beings? Yes, HOW MUCH? How much GOOD is

In This Issue:

What our Readers Say	2
Personal from the Editor	3
What's Behind New Shift in U.S. Foreign Policy	5
The Curse of Ill Health	9
Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong	13
Listen to The World Tomorrow	17
Radio Log	18
Why a Church?	24
Short Questions	30
The Necessity for Christ's Second Coming	31
The Bible Story	33
Is There a Real Hell Fire?	43



OUR COVER

Eastern Europe is the continental gateway to the Middle East. Our cover picture illustrates the meeting of East and West—of European civilization and Islamic culture. The old-type building, center, with minarets, provides an old-world contrast with the modern buildings rising majestically in the background. These public buildings were erected during Bulgaria's second five-year plan—the Communist method of creating public housing.

there, after all, in human nature?

I have said through the years, on occasion, that there is good as well as evil in human nature—that it is a mixture of good and evil—and that this is a bad mixture. In the *human* manner of looking at it, there does seem to be GOOD, as well as evil. But let's take a more realistic look at ourselves—as GOD sees us—and see whether I may not have to confess publicly I have been in error in saying there is GOOD in human nature.

To REPENT means more than being thankful you are so GOOD that you have been able to see the TRUTH; and you are so GOOD that you are now accepting it. *THAT IS NOT REPENTANCE!* If our baptizing teams should baptize such persons, the *living* Jesus Christ will call them to stern account in the Judgment! They *must* ask such "good" people to defer baptism until they REPENT!

REPENTANCE results not only from real godly sorrow for what you *have done*, but for *WHAT YOU ARE*, as well.

Now, just *WHAT ARE YOU?*

I said, above, the most terrible sin is to have another god which *cuts you off* from the true GOD. And all have been cut off! All have sinned! The vast majority of all humans have no real consciousness of God at all. God is not REAL to them. It is as if the blue sky above were a huge earth-encircling IRON CURTAIN about 100 miles thick, of some kind of the hardest, most solid blue-tinted IRON—impenetrable—and God is on the other side!

This world is totally *cut off* from God—just as if such a vast solid barrier shut the world off from all knowledge of God. To most, He simply does not exist. Oh, of course, most people have *heard* that there is a God up there somewhere—but they have been shut off totally from contact, and He is as unreal as if non-existent!

What, then, is the heart, center, and very CRUX of this whole thing? It is this: The consciousness of the average person centers *basically* only on *SELF*, and those persons, things, or interests with which *SELF* is concerned.

And, in its larger sense, *all* of that is, simply, *SELF!* And what, then, *is* *SELF?*

First of all, there is the *local* *SELF*.

This self includes your mind and your body. There also are three dimensions—and this is the first—the *WITHIN*.

But the *SELF* is not limited alone to the *WITHIN*—the actual *person*—his mind and body. Beyond and surrounding this *local* *SELF* is the *empirical* *SELF*. This expands the *SELF* to the second dimension—*THE AROUND*.

This encircling and expanding *empirical* *self* includes, first of all, what most closely is *owned* by the *self*—as human society would recognize ownership—starting with your own clothing, your home or place of abode, your wife or husband, children, your automobile, your home furniture and furnishings, gadgets, other property located farther away—all those people and things one regards as *belonging to him!* In one's mind and heart, they become a part of *SELF*. If some force, occurrence or happening takes away or destroys one or more of these possessions, the *SELF* suffers.

I have mentioned an automobile manufacturer I knew, who lost all his wealth and most of his possessions in the crash economic depression of 1920. So much of *SELF* had been stripped from him that he did away with what little remained—by suicide.

If the *SELF* loses an arm, an eye, a leg, *SELF* is deeply hurt, because he has lost a part of self. By nature he feels no person or circumstance has a right to deprive him of what he considers *HIS!* In the same manner one grieves over the loss of a husband, wife, child, or "loved one"—or even close friend.

Why is this? Analyze it! Is it not because *by nature* he has the sensory *FEELING*—the attitude of mind—that something that is *HIS* has been taken from him; and therefore the *SELF* resents the loss, feels wounded, and grieves? One may not consciously *realize* that this is the very source of his grieving, of course. Nevertheless, it is the real, if unrecognized, cause.

Now as the circle *around* the local self widens, it expands to include relatives, closest friends, social friends and fraternal "brothers" or "sisters," business friends, then lesser friends. Beyond that, the "party spirit" in human nature widens to include whatever athletic team he is rooting for, his political

party, and beyond that, his feeling of patriotism for his *NATION*. And, finally, being consciously a member of the *HUMAN RACE*, his empirical *SELF* subconsciously expands to *INCLUDE THE WHOLE OF THIS WORLD*—with its civilization, its ways, its beliefs.

And this very competitive "party spirit," being a *PART* of this world, and this world a part of *SELF*, it is only natural that there is a sense of hostility to the *GOD* who reveals that *this world*, as well as the *carnal self*, is *EVIL!*

And so we arrive at the realization that each man's world, as far as it extends in his consciousness, becomes *a part of him*—of *SELF*. The world's pleasures, sports, entertainments, become a part of *SELF*.

And what is the inherent *NATURE* of this *SELF*? Basically it is *VANITY*. Vanity is *SELF-LOVE* and *SELF-EXALTATION*. The very *nature* of vanity instills a love of the world, because the world is *his* world—a part of the empirical *SELF*.

This very human nature—vanity, self-love, self-exaltation—implants within the self the basic spirit of rivalry—the "party spirit." That is why students of one college are loyal to *their* team in sports, but *against* their team's opponents. It is natural—according to *NATURE*—that people are loyal to their political party, opposed to the opposing party—patriotic toward *their* country, willing to fight against and kill people of another country in war. Their sports team, their political party, their country, all these are part of their own empirical *SELF*.

People want to *BELONG*. People want to be part of a group, a club, a team, a party. And why is this?

The answer carries us a little further. When God created *MAN*, He formed man of the *dust of the ground*. Man is composed of *MATTER*. But *GOD* is a Spirit, and God *is creating, now*, man in His own image *spiritually*. What God created some 6,000 years ago was the clay model, from which the Master Potter may re-form and re-shape, spiritually, the man into His spiritual *CHARACTER* image. As we have, already, borne the image of the *earthly*, physical—material—we *shall*, if converted, bear the image of the spiritual and heavenly (I Cor.

(Please continue on page 28)

What's Behind *NEW SHIFT* in U.S. Foreign Policy?

A secret report to President Kennedy has leaked to the press. It proposes new approach to Communist threat. When Khrushchev heard of it he was elated! Here is what's behind latest U.S. foreign policy thinking.

by L. E. Torrance

NEW commentators are alarmed by a major shift in U.S. foreign policy now taking place.

Evidence is mounting that U.S. is attempting to come to some kind of terms with its adversary—the Soviet Union. Secretary of State Dean Rusk went flying to Germany on June 21 to try to explain to a worried Konrad Adenauer, West Germany's Chancellor, why the United States is seeking an understanding with Soviet Russia.

What's Behind It?

The hidden reason behind the latest attempts to appease Khrushchev is revealed in a secret report made to President Kennedy by Walt W. Rostow. What was in this secret report leaked out. An alarmed Senator Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois told the Senate on June 18, "The core of Mr. Rostow's proposal is an assumption that the Soviet Union and its communist masters are 'mellowing'; that Russia is becoming a mature state; that if we are only nice to the Soviets they will drop all of their suspicions of the free world and peace will finally bloom" (*U.S. Congressional Record*, p. 9966, June 18, 1962).

Is it any wonder, then, that Nikita Khrushchev told an audience in Bucharest, Rumania, on June 19, 1962, that he is listening with interest to the U.S. State Department overtures?

"I am convinced that tomorrow the Red Flag will fly over the United States," said Khrushchev. "But we will not fly the flag. *It will be the American people themselves.*"

Record Speaks for Itself

Ever since World War II the United States has accepted defeat after defeat from the hands of the Communists. Yet

(Continued on page 6)



Wide World Photo

Massive tanks passing in review prove Communists are still belligerent as ever.



Wide World Photo

Masses of the Soviet working class obediently assembled in Red Square during big May Day festival in Moscow. No proof of an evolving, peace-loving nation here.



Wide World Photo
Josef Stalin commenced Red expansion into Eastern Europe, was instrumental in stealing U.S. atomic secrets.

after World War II the United States had an overwhelming superiority of military power over the battle-scarred, war-weary, communist-enslaved Russians. Not only that, but we also had a monopoly on atomic weapons and could

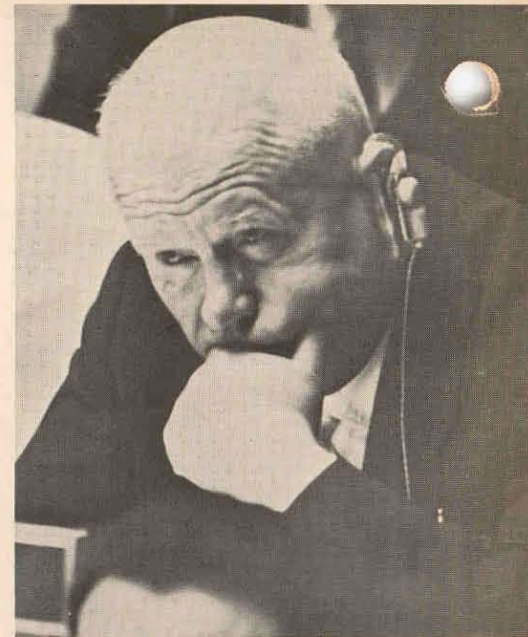
have forced the U.S.S.R. to renounce their atheistic Communism and their diabolical plans to conquer the world. We meekly allowed Stalin to enslave Eastern Europe.

Why, when we had the power to wipe the curse of atheistic Communism off the face of the earth—did the U.S. Government begin to adopt the policy of just plain "pussyfooting" toward the Communists?

Sir Winston Churchill, Britain's World War II Prime Minister, clearly understood the communist danger. He tried desperately to warn the American President on May 5, 1945, that "we should hold firmly to the existing position obtained or being obtained by our armies in Yugoslavia, in Austria, in Czechoslovakia, on the main Central front, and on the British front," until a peace treaty was signed with Russia, limiting her position and power over the nations of Eastern Europe.

This elder statesman repeatedly warned that if we allowed the Russians to take over Eastern Europe it would be one of the most tragic events in all history.

In spite of Mr. Churchill's earnest



Wide World Photo
The "honest" face of Communist dictator Khrushchev, photographed during his attacks in the United Nations.

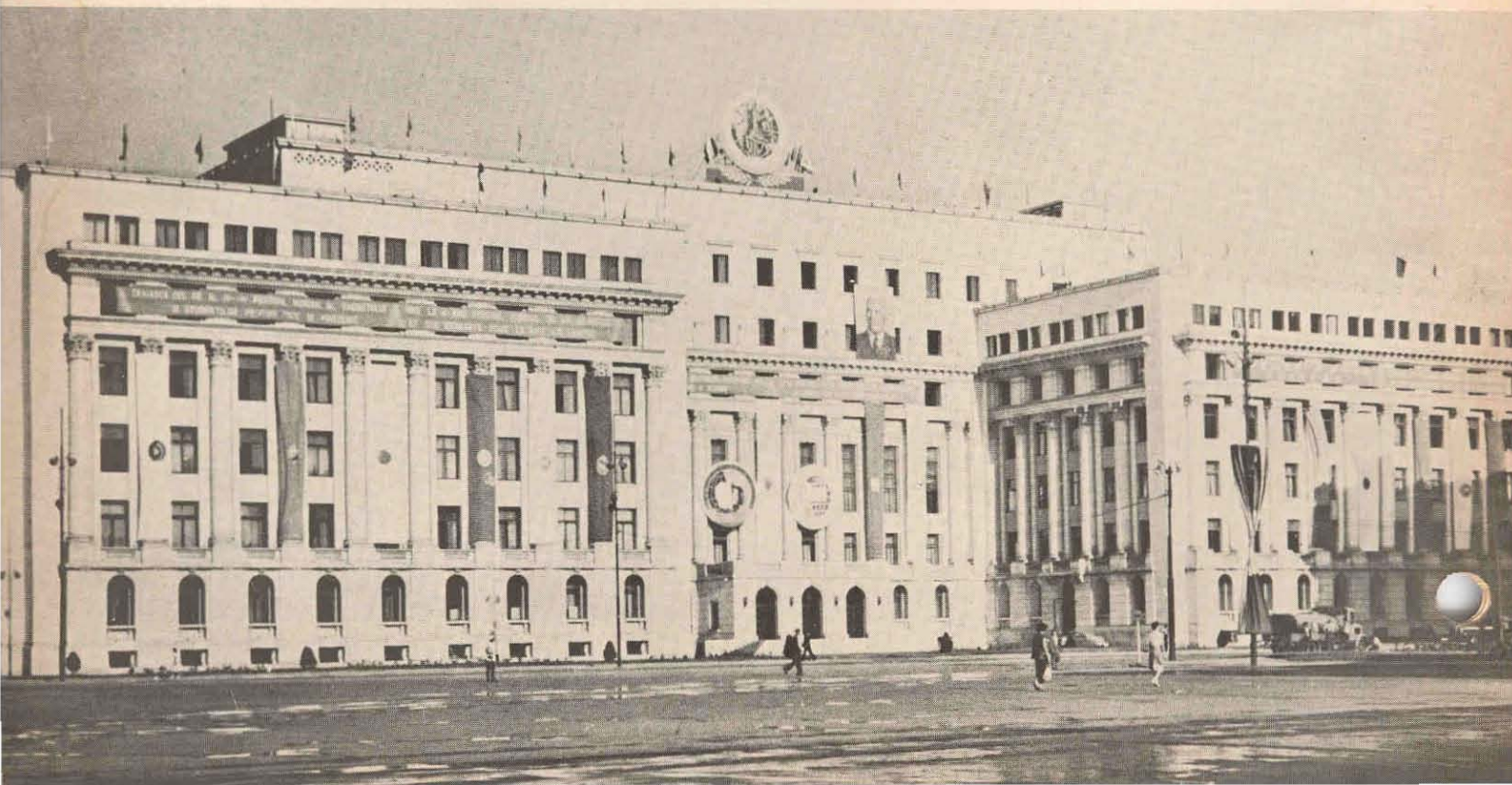
warning, the American President trustingly pulled back from the territory our soldiers had conquered in the battle of Germany, and gave the Communists Eastern Germany, East Berlin, Yugo-

(Please continue on page 8)

Whenever Communists seize new nations they immediately strengthen secret police, terrorize its captive millions. Here

is largest government building in Bucharest, Romania, headquarters for Ministry of Interior which controls police.

Wide World Photo



Communist Empire 1962

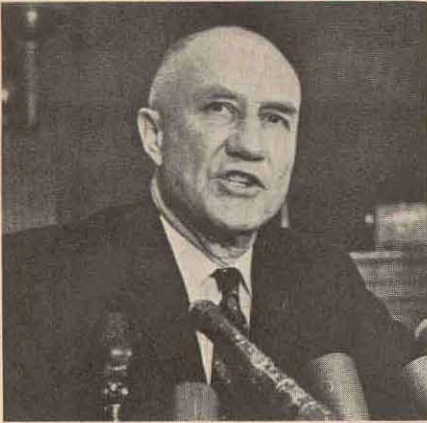


Map

No.	Country	Year Enslaved	Population
1.	East Poland	1939	10,315,000
2.	Northern Romania	1940	3,700,000
3.	Southern Finland	1940	54,000
4.	Estonia	1940	1,197,000
5.	Latvia	1940	2,094,000
6.	Lithuania	1940	2,700,000
7.	East Prussia	1945	1,187,000
8.	Ruthenia	1945	850,000
9.	Bulgaria	1944	7,630,000
10.	Poland	1944	24,977,000
11.	Romania	1945	18,360,000
12.	East Germany	1945	17,312,000
13.	Albania	1946	1,560,000
14.	Hungary	1947	9,978,000
15.	Czechoslovakia	1948	13,296,000

Map

No.	Country	Year Enslaved	Population
16.	Tannu Tuva	1944	95,000
17.	Southern Sakhalin	1945	415,000
18.	Kurile Islands	1945	4,000
19.	North Korea	1945	12,000,000
20.	Mongolia	1946	1,000,000
21.	China	1949	670,000,000
22.	North Viet Nam	1954	12,000,000
23.	Tibet	1959	4,000,000
24.	Cuba	1960	6,500,000
Total, excluding Russia			821,224,000
Russia			190,000,000
Total under Soviet Sway			1,011,224,000



Wide World Photo
U.S. Senator Strom Thurmond warns that nation's foreign policy is based on theory of evolution—the false idea that Communists are evolving into mature State.

slavia, part of Austria, and Czechoslovakia. We also allowed them to take Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Rumania, and a host of other countries.

The United States could easily have prevented Russia from overrunning the nations of Eastern Europe. Why didn't we? The answer is astonishing.

False Theory

Long before the peace conference in Potsdam at the end of World War II, psychiatrists and sociologists deceived

U.S. statesmen into believing that Russia would "evolve" into a friendly power if we could remove her fear of Germany by giving her most of Eastern Europe.

They also "speculated that Stalin was expansionist-minded because he had been too tightly swaddled as a babe." This statement by Anthony Trawick Bouscaren, Professor of Political Science, at Le Moyne College, Syracuse, New York, in a speech delivered at Tuscaloosa, Alabama, January 13, 1962, summarized the psychology pawned off on our diplomats.

Convinced that the theories of the psychiatrists and sociologists were right, the U.S. State Department allowed Stalin to expand into Eastern Europe—believing this would get rid of his "expansionist neurosis."

The foolishness taught by psychiatrists that if you give a child what he wants he won't want it any more—helped further to deceive foreign policy experts into believing that they could "cure" Stalin's lust for conquering territory by giving him what he lusted after, Eastern Europe.

Giving Stalin the nations of Eastern Europe didn't come any closer to "curing" his lust for power, than smoking

cigarettes will "cure" the desire to smoke.

The truth is—the more a man smokes, the more he'll want to smoke—the more countries the Communists conquer, the stronger will grow their lust for conquest.

Why did not U.S. leaders realize the simple truth that THE ONLY POSSIBLE WAY to stop the Communists from conquering the world is to stop them from conquering any nation?

Because our leaders became blinded by their own theory that the world is "evolving" into a society friendly to the United States!

The influence of the false theory of evolution has led U.S. statesmen to assume—without one shred of proof—that Communist Russia is evolving into a peaceful nation. United States Senator Strom Thurmond, from South Carolina, long ago admitted that our foreign policy is governed by a "... reliance on the evolutionary concept."

Evolution in U.S. Foreign Policy

In 1949 our "well-meaning" philosophical evolutionists allowed the Chinese Communists to conquer China, when we could have easily prevented it. These

(Please continue on page 21)

Typical Communist "paradise," with multitudes of sullen people afoot and only public transportation available. This

is Boulevard of the Republic in Bucharest, capital of Communist satellite, Romania.

Wide World Photo



The CURSE of Ill Health!

Our peoples are under a CURSE! Overfed and undernourished, the richest peoples on earth are also the unhealthiest! BUT WHY? WHY SHOULD Americans be SICK? What is the underlying CAUSE for our worsening health problems?

by Garner Ted Armstrong

MORE than *half our population*, babies included, is suffering from some type of chronic illness! Not only that, but our national health is *deteriorating, worsening*, not improving. As never before, our peoples are *sick*.

But WHY?

Does it make any sense? With our wonder drugs, our lauded advances in medical science, our vast families of pharmaceutical products within easy reach, and our supposed conquests of the age-old scourges of typhus and scarlet fever—we are still SICKER than ever before!

Other *newer*, and even *more deadly* diseases now strike our peoples with horrifying regularity. The age of the *degenerative* disease has arrived!

There is a BASIC, UNDERLYING CAUSE for sickness and disease. You need to thoroughly understand what it is! Last month, in the article "The SEVEN LAWS of Radiant Health," Mr. Roderick C. Meredith explained there are living LAWS which *regulate* and *produce* good health. He showed how the breaking of the laws of *your body* produce sickness and disease.

If you didn't receive last month's vital article, be sure to write for your free copy immediately. LEARN what *are* the seven laws to good health, and how to apply them!

Is It Really SERIOUS?

What about it? How many people do you know, *personally*, with chronic diseases? Perhaps YOU have such an ailment, or someone very *close* to you!

Almost NO ONE today seems to enjoy really GOOD HEALTH! Instead, we seem weak, lacking in power and drive, unable to perform normally. We have various small deformities, minor ailments, certain allergies, and seasonal sicknesses of all descriptions. If you wish to know of the *real seriousness* of our mounting

health problems—look at YOUR OWN HOME AND FAMILY—at YOUR OWN CIRCLE OF FRIENDS!

A National Curse

Our people are under a nation-wide CURSE! We're cursed with poor eyesight, poor hearing, bad teeth, and dozens of "minor" ailments. We suffer with kidney trouble, hemorrhoids, constipation, liver attacks and weak hearts.

And that's only the beginning!

As we have prided ourselves on the conquering of the infectious type diseases, a new and more insidious enemy to health, the degenerative diseases have begun claiming myriads of lives!

Today, *more than half the population* is suffering from chronic illness! Cancer wipes out more than 225,000 persons a year, and doctors estimate that one in three Americans will develop cancer at some time before he dies! Heart disease alone kills more than 817,000 persons annually and accounts for well over 50% of the deaths in the nation.

More than seven million Americans suffer from arthritis and other rheumatic ailments, and out of the some 7,000,000 hospital beds available in the United States, *more than half* are occupied by mental patients, with 250 thousand more beds badly needed to take care of the backlog of those with serious mental illnesses. It is estimated today that one out of every ten living Americans will have to spend at least a part of his life in a mental institution!

Doctor W. Coda Martin says, "Not only does half the population have some form of chronic disease, but only 13% of the remainder are free from some type of physical defect."

Can you imagine it? The lists become practically meaningless in the monotonous tables of the hundreds of thousands who are suffering with all types of diseases.

We are truly under a *national curse!*

We are the peoples identified in *your Bible* as the "House of Israel!" The United States and Great Britain comprise the chief tribes of *Joseph*, Ephraim and Manasseh! (If you have yet seen this amazing truth clearly *proved*, then write for Mr. Armstrong's free booklet "The United States and the British Commonwealth in Prophecy.")

Centuries ago, Almighty God set before us the right *way* to live, resulting in GOOD HEALTH, mental stability and every material blessing! Our forefathers chose the *wrong way!*

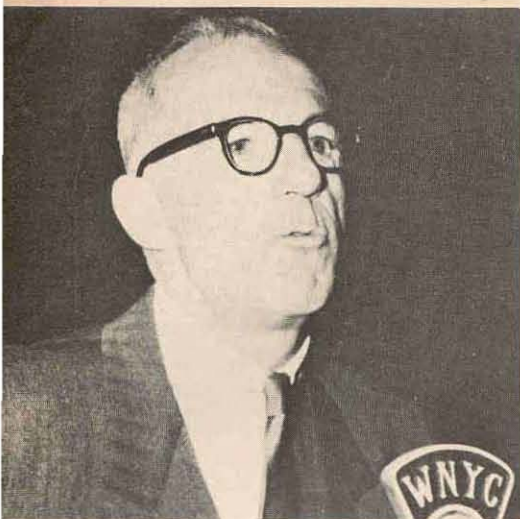
God said, "But it shall come to pass, if you will not hearken unto the voice of the Eternal your God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that *all these curses* shall come upon thee, and overtake thee" (Deut. 28:15).

True to form, because man in his natural-minded carnal rebellion is *hostile* to the laws and the regulations of God on *how he ought to live* (Rom. 8:7), our ancient forefathers rebelled against God!

Notice some of the curses which were to befall our progenitors, and on this generation today.

God thundered, "*Cursed shalt thou be in the city . . .*" (Deut. 28:16). The great CURSE of our cities is so monumental, so hideously monstrous in its proportions so as to be utterly impossible to more than briefly describe in this one article. The graft, the corruption, the terrifying rise of crime, the unhappy, wretched, empty human beings scrambling frantically in no particular direction in the pursuit of "happiness," or hunched miserably in front of their glaring television sets in our cities, is a well-known factor to all of us. But our cities are also *filled* with terrifying diseases, brought about by "city-type" living!

Our packaged foods, our chemical



Wide World Photo

Medical men are gravely concerned over nation's health. Here is Dr. Spock addressing radio audience on problem of child health.

dyes and fertilizers, the soft, ready-to-eat variety of foods most city dwellers eat today is literally *wrecking* our health!

God said, "CURSED shalt thou be in the field" (Vs. 16), and, just as God said He would, our *fields* (our nations' farm products) are under a *great curse!*

From *all parts of our* nations come terrifying tales of *drought* in one area, horrifying *floods* in another. Crops are damaged or totally lost in widespread areas of our lands year after year—while no one seems to pay much attention to it all. The statistics available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the United States Department of the Interior (especially the Forestry Service) are absolutely frightening!

God said, "CURSED shall be *the fruit of thy body . . .*" (Vs. 18), and today there are between three and five MILLION mentally retarded children in the United States. Babies are being *born* today as *helpless dope addicts*—having been born of mothers who are addicted to dope. Thousands of infants are born blind, deaf, partially dumb, lacking the proper use of their limbs, or as in some horrifying cases, born *without* limbs! The incidence of these malformed babies is rising rapidly!

Just as God said, we are literally CURSED—even the fruit of our bodies!

Finally God said, "The Eternal will smite thee with the BOIL [margin] of Egypt, and with the hemorrhoids [tumors] and with the scab, and with

the itch, WHEREOF THOU CANST NOT BE HEALED!"

Notice it, INCURABLE diseases! God here describes various *types* of diseases—but notice all of them are the DEGENERATIVE type diseases!

He said, "The Eternal shall smite thee with *madness* [insanity, mental debility] and *blindness* and astonishment of heart . . ." (Deut. 28:28).

Frightening though it seems, *we are the very people* against whom God has pronounced this horrifying CURSE!

LOOK at our nations today. Look at them carefully, statistically, accurately.

There is no possible *way* to escape the fact that we, *as a people*, are under the CURSE of ill health!

A clue to the *basic cause* for this curse is given in the statistics available from our medical practitioners.

Doctors are saying the disease *pattern* has totally changed! Whereas in 1900 the four leading causes of death in the United States per 100,000 population were: tuberculosis, pneumonia, diarrhea and related intestinal diseases and then diseases of the heart, by 1957 the leading causes of death were diseases of the heart FIRST, *then* cancer, and *then* accidents!

Tuberculosis, formerly the *leading* cause of death in 1900 had dropped to *tenth place* by 1957.

But, according to the latest figures in the U.S. Public Health Service, the leading killers in the United States *today* are *heart disease* in first place, then cancer, strokes (arterial and circulatory), accidents, and then diseases of infancy.

Can you comprehend what is happening? As the result of a basic, underlying CAUSE, the whole disease *pattern* in the United States is *gradually changing!*

WHAT IS THE CAUSE?

At the very root and core of all human nature is VANITY! God inspired Solomon to write "Vanity of vanities, ALL is vanity, saith the preacher!" (Ecc. 1:2). A great part of vanity is LUST and GREED!

The Apostle Paul was inspired to prophesy of our day "For men shall be *lovers of their own selves*" (II Tim. 3:2). Here, the Apostle Paul foretold the exact conditions of our modern God-

defying society. *Read this whole passage* in your Bible! Later, the Apostle Paul said, ". . . *lovers of pleasures* more than lovers of God!" (Vs. 4).

Today the whole *emphasis* is on PLEASURE! *Especially* the huge companies manufacturing commodities which have been PROVED to be DANGEROUS *to your health* must play on human *lust* to stay in business.

Cigarette smoking has been PROVED, time and again, to be an actual CAUSE of lung cancer! Yet, every cigarette company talks about the great, satisfying, titillating, piquant, soothing, overwhelmingly mild and completely overpowering PLEASURE you are supposed to get from every cloud of tar-laden smoke you inhale into your lungs!

LOOK at our advertising of such commodities today! The entire emphasis is an appeal to human *vanity*, and human *lust!*

So it is in our food and diet.

It has been said "You are what you eat," and truer words were never spoken. But take a long, horrified look at WHAT WE EAT! It seems people always look for SHORT CUTS! We believe we must IMPROVE on nature. Instead of letting our cattle fatten naturally, we must INJECT them with some *strange chemicals* which completely change and alter even their *very nature* (and maybe our *own*), which we hope will fatten them more quickly!

We dare not make bread which *will spoil*, and then eat it *before it does*—but we practically EMBALM our bread with chemical preservatives.

To mass-produce eggs, we force-feed hens in tiny wire cubicles, whose gnarled and deformed feet never touch the ground, where their soft, flatulent, unhealthy bodies *cannot* get any exercise—and where they never even hear the *crow* of a rooster—and then wonder why our eggs are thin shelled, and "splash" on the griddle! Ghastly!

Our era of TV dinners, frozen foods, packaged foods, pre-cooked foods, revitalized foods, "shot from guns" foods, colored and dyed foods, prepared foods is all aimed at the basic LUST of human beings! LUST FOR ADDITIONAL TIME, LUST FOR MONEY, LUST FOR LEISURE!

Probably no recent publication of note so graphically illustrates this *basic*

underlying cause of our worsening health, as an interview published in booklet form, and excerpted in *U.S. News and World Report*.

We have received permission from the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions with offices in New York and California, to reproduce here portions of that interview, with Dr. Herbert Ratner, a former general practitioner and now a professor of preventive medicine and public health at Loyola University Medical School, in Chicago, Illinois.

Read this leading Doctor's remarks—remembering how we Americans always seek for the EASY way out. We want a quick "shot in the arm" or some *immediate artificial solution!* See where this basic lust is taking us!

The FACTS

"STATE OF U.S. HEALTH: 'It is generally recognized that America is the most overmedicated, most overoperated and most overinoculated country in the world. It is also the most anxiety-ridden country with regard to health. . . .

'We are flabby, overweight and have a lot of dental caries, fluoridation notwithstanding. Our gastrointestinal system operates like a sputtering gas engine. We can't sleep; we can't get going when we're awake. We have neuroses; we have high blood pressure. Neither our hearts nor our heads last as long as they should. Coronary disease at the peak of life has hit epidemic proportions. Suicide is one of the leading causes of death. We suffer from a plethora of the diseases of civilization.'

"WASTE IN MEDICAL CARE: 'Though the United States is the best place in the world in which to have a serious illness—because . . . we have developed a high level of competency in handling complicated, serious illnesses—it is one of the worst countries in the world in which to have a nonserious illness. . . . We impose our lifesaving drugs and techniques, intended for serious ailments, on minor, even trivial, illnesses that are self-limited and that, except for occasional, symptomatic relief, do better without interference from the physician.'

"HEALTH AND WEALTH: 'Americans . . . think of health as something that

can be bought, rather than a state to be sought through an accommodation to the norms of nature. . . . We make health an end in itself. This is a sign of our materialism. We have forgotten that health is really a means that enables a person to do his work and to do it well. We are the wealthiest country in the world—yet one of the unhealthiest countries in the world.'

"PILLS AND PROBLEMS: 'Tranquilizers are the most misused drugs in the United States. We consume fantastic amounts of these drugs. For many, they are used as a panacea to solve personal problems; they are practically replacing the function of the virtues in striving for a sane and well-ordered life. . . .

'We are becoming a pill-swallowing civilization, and God help us as a nation and as individuals when the new contraceptive pill really gets going. None of these pills is innocuous, and the damage they do frequently far outweighs the good they intend.'

"MENTAL HEALTH: 'The terrible thing in this country is that, although we have done a masterful job in curbing deaths from many diseases, especially the infectious diseases, we now have a nation of presumably healthy persons who cannot function well because they are full of anxieties. The most radical condemnation of our society and culture and American character is that one out of 10 babies—and there are more than 4 million born in this country each year—will enter a mental hospital at some time in his life.'

"FAMILY PHYSICIANS: 'Give due recognition to the family physician as the key man in the practice of medicine and stop thinking of him as the lackey who does the leg work for others, or the whipping boy for the inflation of the specialist's ego. . . . The family physician, in great part, is the answer to reducing the high cost of medical care in this country.'

"HOSPITALS: 'The modern hospital is a highly misused institution. Many people with hospital insurance have been paying their premiums for years and, because they are dying to "get their money back," they are willing to go to the hospital for all kinds of minor things. This, in turn, drives the cost of hospital insurance up, and that makes

the person all the more determined to use the hospital.

'Anywhere from 20 to 40 per cent of our hospital beds are needlessly occupied.'

"MEDICAL SCHOOLS: 'Research scientists, rather than good teachers and practitioners, have become the sought-after commodity for medical schools. The modern medical school is really not much different from the veterinary school. It could, for the most part, just as well have the horse for its subject. There are only a few medical schools in the country that give a course in how to communicate with patients, for instance.'

"MOTHERS AND BABIES: 'Mental-health experts . . . say that the increased incidence of mental illness can be traced for the most part to what happens to the baby in its early years, to the lack of intimacy in the dependent baby's early relationship with its mother, formerly baby's bosom friend. . . .

'We brought in rubber nipples and glass bottles, which are ersatz compared to mother's nipples and breasts; we bring in automatic bottle holders which are far inferior to mother's loving arms. We have now recently brought into the hospital nursery—that efficiently conducted displaced-persons concentration camp—a mechanical heartbeat to substitute for the reassuring heartbeat the baby would normally hear when at its mother's bosom. It is called the Securitone—shades of Wells, Huxley and Orwell!''

NOTICE!

Response to Volume II of the Bible Story has been so tremendous that we have had to order another printing. If you have not already received your copy, please be patient. The second printing will be available in about one month. Your name and address is on file. If you are moving before you receive your copy, please notify us of your change of address and mention that you already have an order placed for the Bible Story.

Again, many thanks for your overwhelming response.

What our READERS SAY

(Continued from page 2)

including the first copy of The Bible Story, and I have never been asked for a penny for them."

Woman from Grantsville,
West Virginia

Conquering One-Eyed Monster

"How thankful I am for the article 'The Curse of Television.' I have been trying for weeks and months to explain the wrong of its use and haven't gotten too far. I believe your article has solved our problem. The one-eyed monster is soon to depart from our household. I'm sure this will allow us more time together as a family and more concern as to the need of studying the Bible and obeying God."

• Many similar comments point up the problem of enslavement to TV.

Weather Problems

"We sure have been having a lot of rain here. But our sister state, North Dakota, is having flooding and most all fields are under water, so the farmers can't get out in them. I have lived for 47 years and have never seen such weather conditions."

Man from Leonard, Minnesota

Tithing an Irrevocable Law

"A month ago I became laid off from a steady job due to low business volume. I sent my last check's tithe to you. I was not unemployed long enough to get my first unemployment check.

I got a job which is giving me much more and better experience in my field and pays two to three and one-half times as much. So tithing is an irrevocable law as you have said."

Man from Cadiz, Ohio

"God's Way Does Pay"

"I have been blessed with a little more money this month. My friends who make more than I do, don't pay tithes and always talk about how hard it is to make ends meet. I started to tithe when I was in debt and I am now out of debt

and can afford things I have always wanted. God's way surely does pay."

Canadian serviceman stationed
overseas.

Financial Problem Solved

"When I first commenced tithing nine months ago I was considerably in debt. Now, even though I've paid my tithes regularly, I am very pleased to inform you that I am solvent."

Middlesex, England

"God Does Prosper Tithe Payers"

"One year ago this past February, we lost everything we had in a flood, except the land and house, and the house was badly damaged. We could not understand, but kept on tithing every dime. Now 15 months later God has prospered us with a beautiful new home in a far better location, so now we see that God does prosper his tithe payers."

Man, Quitman, Mississippi

God's Ways Pay

"Thank you for Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong's article concerning children. Since I started to follow the instructions given, the difference in my small son's behavior is amazing! Please are you going to put them in booklet form? I feel sure that every parent would like to have one to keep and refer to from time to time—I certainly would."

From Belgium

The Gospel Does Change Lives

"You have changed my life. It was by accident that I turned to your program the first time. I was spellbound by the enthusiastic voice. I have lost all interest in ordinary programs, and my entire outlook on life has been changed. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for this wonderful change in my thinking, and bless you for not wasting valuable time on the air with monotonous hymn singing."

Listener from Detroit, Michigan

One of My Darkest Hours

"I can't begin to tell you how grateful I am for your broadcast of May 6. I tuned into you by accident and now I see that it was more an act of God than an accident because it happened to be one of the darkest hours of my life, and

your voice and message turned out to be a light in that darkness. I shall never forget you. I would like a copy of the two books you mentioned 'The Proof of God' and 'Why You Were Born.'"

Woman, San Francisco, Cal.

The Positive Approach

"I have found your broadcasts very educational. I have listened to quite a number of sermons through the years, but never, to my recollection, have I ever heard a minister say, as you do, that God wants us to be happy in a material way. Mostly, I was warned of the dire rewards of my evil life; now and hereafter, never of rewards of peace and joy on Earth. I much prefer your positive approach, and would like to learn more of the Laws stated in the Bible, which will not only make me more law-abiding, but clear up some of my personal problems, which are a result of my ignorance."

Man, Medina, Ohio

• The common idea is that God is a stern monster who derives pleasure from punishing us and watching us suffer. To please God we supposedly must give up all kinds of things which are good for us. Nothing could be further from the truth. Above all God wants us to prosper and be in good health as we spiritually prosper. Obedience to His laws bring joy, peace, and abundance of every good thing.

Faith, Hope Restored

"I listened just by chance last night to *The WORLD TOMORROW*. That single half-hour presented by Herbert W. Armstrong conveyed to me the real meaning of religion, and my abandoned hope and faith were completely restored. I now know where I have gone wrong, and what to put right. This programme will always be avidly listened to by me from now onwards. I am 'thirsty' for more information and advice."

From England

Coming—Next Issue
**The 21st CENTURY—
What it Will Be Like**

The Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong

*The World Tomorrow goes on a 100,000-watt Radio Station,
and growth of Work soars.*

INSTALLMENT 46

WE HAVE come, now, to the year 1944—one decade after the broadcasting and publishing work had started, in 1934.

It had been a decade of hardship, persecution, opposition and struggle. It was still a very small work—compared to the world-girdling power of that same work today. And even then—after ten years—at the beginning of 1944, we faced the most severe financial crisis up to that time.

Now NINE Stations

Yet, viewed comparatively, *remarkable* growth had been made. One must remember the almost incredible, infinitesimal beginning. Jesus Christ compared the beginning and growth of the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed—which starts, with this tiny seed, as the smallest of all, but grows to become the largest of all herbs—just as, eventually, the Kingdom of God will fill the whole earth. The Kingdom of God will actually appear very soon—with the END of this present evil world, and the beginning of the happy *World Tomorrow*. This very Work of God is the *end-time* proclamation of it, going just before, preparing the way, leading up to it.

This Work—GOD's Work—of necessity *had* to start infinitesimally small—smaller, in fact, than any sizable worldly work of a religious nature made its beginning.

But, compared to size, look at the remarkable, *burgeoning* growth even during the preceding year, 1943—and the year before that, 1942. At the beginning of 1942 we had been on only three *smallest*-powered radio stations in the Pacific Northwest—two with the minimum-power of 100 watts, the other, of 250 watts. During 1942 the work leaped out of the Pacific Northwest, to a 1,000-watt station in Hollywood. But that

station, the old KMTR, because of its low-frequency dial spot and an underground river under its transmitter, actually boomed out with a signal equal to 40,000 watts. 1942 saw the radio program make its first start of *daily* broadcasting. Even though this continued for only about three months at the time, it gave the work its tremendous impetus that sent it, during the following year, to NATIONAL coverage.

And now, January 1944, we were on NINE stations! Two of these were giant *exclusive*-channel *maximum*-powered 50,000-watt major stations heard in every state in the Union. In Portland, Oregon, we had now gone from 250 watts to a 10,000-watt station, and in Seattle we had added a 5,000-watt station which, like the Hollywood KMTR, on the identical dial spot of 570, actually put out the equivalent of about 40,000 watts!

The Plain Truth had developed from a hand-mimeographed little "magazine" of about 150 copies to a printed magazine of 35,000 copies circulated nationwide—though limited to 8 pages, and published every other month—*when funds allowed!*

We Sell Our Home

Actually, January 1944 was a month when funds did *not* allow! The days of hardship and struggle were far from over. Instead, we now had come to the most serious financial crisis faced so far.

There was no January-February issue of *The Plain Truth* that year. It looked, at the moment, as if there never would be another.

A few months before, our supply of copies of the booklet, *United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy* had been exhausted. TEN THOUSAND requests had piled up, unfilled! TEN THOUSAND envelopes lay there in our office, addressed, ready to enclose copies

of the booklet and rush to the post office—but there were no booklets. There was not money for postage.

We were running behind in paying radio bills for station time. We were threatened with being forced off the air—having this whole work stop. Co-Workers had failed to rise to meet this financial emergency. We had reached the point of desperation. If Co-Workers could not, or would not, make sufficient sacrifice to save the work, Mrs. Armstrong and I had to—even if it took our *all!* This Work always has been a work of FAITH—relying on GOD. But God supplies needs *through human instruments* whose hearts are willing.

For eight years we had been making monthly payments on a small and very modest house, while we struggled along with financial burdens in general. It had been purchased as Church property, while still in the depression years when property values were at lowest levels. The purchase price had been \$1,900, with \$190 down.

One of the Church members had put up the \$190 as a loan, to be paid back by Mrs. Armstrong and me. Although the property was deeded to four of the Trustees of the Church—my name among them—as officers of and trustees for the Church, the understanding was that I should repay the down payment, and meet the monthly payments of \$17.10 per month. This was approximately the amount we had paid as rental *before* making it a purchase—and far less, by the year 1944, than paying rent. However, the Church Board had agreed that, if I was able to keep up the payments, the property was to be deeded over to Mrs. Armstrong and me when paid out.

We had repainted and decorated the house not long before, and improved the property. Meanwhile, property values had risen. So the property was

worth considerably more than we had paid, back in 1936.

In the dire predicament of the work, there seemed no other solution. We decided we had to give up our home, sell it, and put the money in the work. The three other trustees agreed to the sale, to save the work. We listed it with a real-estate broker.

In February it was sold—at a real sacrifice according to current real estate values, though for quite a little more than the original purchase price.

The Work SAVED!

There was a March-April number of *The Plain Truth*. 25,000 copies of the booklet, *United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy* were printed. *We stayed on the air!* The work was, for the time, saved!

We were able to stay on in the house a few more months. But during the summer of 1944 we had to vacate. From that time, we had no home to live in until July, 1947, when we moved into our present home in Pasadena, California.

Our two daughters were married before we left our Eugene home—our younger daughter, Dorothy, very shortly before, on July 22, 1944; our elder daughter, Beverly, earlier, as recorded in a previous installment.

Readers who have been following this life story will remember how I had taken Dorothy to Hollywood in April, 1942. She was then engaged to marry Mr. Vern R. Mattson, who was shipping out from the east coast with the First Division United States Marines. He did not know where the Marines were going—but he *guessed* to the far Pacific theatre of the war, via the Panama Canal. He thought they might make a brief stop at San Diego, San Pedro (Los Angeles harbor), or San Francisco. He and Dorothy wanted to be married if such stop were made. That trip resulted in going on station KMTR, and the start of *daily* broadcasting.

After the battle at Guadalcanal, and spending some time in an Australian hospital, Vern had returned to the United States, at San Diego. During a brief furlough, in July, 1944, he had come to Oregon and he and Dorothy were married in our little Church in

Eugene. They have since given Mrs. Armstrong and me three of our eleven lovely grandchildren—two girls and a boy.

Living Without a Home

After we vacated our home in Eugene, we were not able to find a house to rent. The housing shortage was still acute in Eugene—had been since 1936.

At that time—1936—we had been renting for about a year the house we bought. We had been *forced* to buy it! The company that owned it gave us notice to vacate, at that time, saying the property was to be sold. They owned many houses, and were putting them all on the market for sale. The salesman, in 1936, had grinned and said, "You'd better find a way to turn this into a *purchase*—or you'll have no place to live. You won't be able to find a place for rent, anywhere!"

We had first searched the city with the proverbial fine-tooth comb—and found the salesman did, literally, have us "over a barrel." But we found a way to make the purchase, as described above.

But now, eight years later, we had sold in order to save the work. We were out on the street, so to speak, and we found the rental situation was still the same.

So we put the small amount of furniture we possessed into storage, and moved into a motor court. Because of the housing shortage, motels and auto cabins were limiting guests to transients, and a three-day stay as a maximum.

Now began the troublesome, irksome, frustrating experience of having to move from one auto court to another every three days. In a very few instances we were able to stay for a week or two, but not many.

After we had, with our two boys, made the rounds of all the motels several times, the owners got to know us. Then they began to inform us that they had to keep their rooms open for transient guests, and since we were not transients, they began to refuse to take us again.

Fatherly Advice Backfires

It was while we were living in one of these motels that I noticed our two

sons, then about ages 15 and 16, each for the first time smoking a cigarette. How was I going to handle this situation? If I tried authoritatively to *command* them never to smoke again, I was afraid they would then smoke anyway, and the more—but in secret.

I thought I had a better way. At the time, it really seemed to me to be a fool-proof way that couldn't fail.

I called the two boys into our one-room motel, and sitting on a bed, had a "man to man" talk with them.

"Boys," I said, "I could order you to stop smoking. I could try to stop you by force, but that would not build character in YOU. So I prefer to let you make your OWN decisions.

"But I want you to THINK about this problem, and *get all the facts*, before you make your decisions—for the result may affect your entire lives, and I don't want you to make a mistake. Now, if cigarette smoking is beneficial—really GOOD for you, and will help you to do good to others—then I'm sure God would want you to take up smoking, and so would I. But if it is BAD for you, harmful, then I feel you won't want to do it, and will stop right now, before you smoke a second one and develop a HABIT that's mighty hard to break."

You see, I myself still had a lesson to learn. These boys were still carnal—unconverted. In effect, I was actually saying the same thing to them, in principle, that God said to Adam and Eve. God allowed them to make their own decisions about taking the forbidden fruit.

"Now, boys," I continued, "here is what I want you to do. I want you first to check up—get the facts—get the TRUTH—and get it from *the voice of experience!* I want you to make a SURVEY, just as I have made many fact-finding surveys in business in the past. I want you to approach 100 experienced smokers—men of middle age or older who have smoked for many years, and *have the habit*. Tell each of these men you are a couple of young men who have thought of taking up smoking, but you want to know whether you *ought to*, or not. Ask each of these *experienced* smokers, who have had the habit for years, whether, as a result of his years of actual EXPERIENCE, he ad-

vises you to take up the habit, or leave it alone."

"Oh, Dad," chimed in young Garner Ted, age 15, "we don't need to make any such survey. I know right now, every one of them would tell us not to do it."

I felt secure. I felt sure, after that, that my boys would not start smoking.

Now GOD, in putting the proposition of the forbidden fruit up to Adam and Eve *knew better!* He knew human nature! He knew it will choose the wrong—even when it *knows* it is wrong!

Yes, God knew well, in advance, knowing human nature, which choice Adam and Eve would make. He knew, too, that *YOU*—every one of you reading this autobiography—would do what you realized was wrong—*ALL* would *sin!* Nevertheless, God left every human mortal *FREE* to make his own choice. Not one of us ever *had* to sin! We just *did*—of our own volition—and we *KNEW* we were doing wrong!

Well, other boys smoked. People, like sheep, follow others—seem to lack the courage to go against the crowd. Yes, my boys did start smoking—and I was terribly disappointed, wondering where my clever "psychology" had failed to work. Psychologists need to know a little more than most of them know about *HUMAN NATURE!*

Both boys, later on, came to themselves, and realized how cigarette smoking, among many other "minor vices," is, after all, *NOT GOOD!* Both had to undergo a terrific struggle with *SELF* to *break the habit* later on. But they both conquered the habit, instead of letting it conquer them. And articles by Garner Ted Armstrong in *The Plain Truth* on cigarette smoking have resulted in scores of habitual cigarette smokers making the same struggle and finally—with God's help—setting themselves *FREE* from slavery to that habit! But he himself had to learn this lesson the *HARD WAY!*

Moving into a Rooming House

Finally, after many months moving from one motor court to another—still unable to rent a house—we did find two upstairs bedrooms in a rooming house for rent. The one and only upstairs bathroom was shared with other roomers. These rooms were about six or seven

blocks from our office.

But we found it necessary to eat our meals out, at restaurants. This was neither good for our health nor our pocketbooks. With growing boys, reaching, now, from 15 on up to 18, this was no right kind of family life! In fact it was not *FAMILY LIFE at all!* But for the time, we had to put up with it. One thing may be said in our favor. We did not complain, through all these years. We knew we were being given trials for our development.

But we had tremendous blessings spiritually. We rejoiced, and were *happy.* We knew well that we deserved *NOTHING!* Yet we were privileged to be used in *GOD'S WORK!* That blessing outweighed all material acquisitions and enjoyments possessed by all the rich people of the earth combined! We thanked God for trials and tests—and for always carrying us through, and seeing every problem solved. Scores of times we thanked God that our trials and hardships had been physical and financial. My heart was no longer set on material acquisition. I had come to know its worthlessness. Instead, God had literally *lavished* upon us the *TRUE* riches—the *spiritual* blessings!

Electrical Transcriptions

March 24, 1944, I sent out a Co-Worker Bulletin from Hollywood. I was enroute to San Antonio, Texas, for one or two *live* broadcasts over WOAI, and then to Des Moines, Iowa, for a special three weeks' *daily* broadcasting over Station KSO, 5,000 watts. In those days most of the programs had to be aired by means of electrical transcription. The programs were recorded on large-size semi-soft acetate phonograph discs—15 inches in diameter. Each disc recorded 15 minutes—or *half* of our 30-minute program. The quality was not equal to the present tape-recording.

Nevertheless, we made every effort to provide stations with the best quality we could. Most of the recording was being done in Portland, where there was one professional recording studio. We felt that the recording obtained there was a shade inferior to that of the best recording studios in Hollywood—the nation's broadcasting capital. Frequently I made trips, through those

years, to Hollywood in order to get as many programs as possible recorded where the very top quality of transcriptions was available.

Often, however, in traveling, the program was recorded in other cities—San Francisco, New York, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Des Moines.

But in those days the Federal Communications Commission, the government supervising agency, enforced the rule that announcers must always tell the listeners that the program came via "electrical transcription," or was "transcribed." And when this was announced, listeners universally felt they were listening to a "canned" program—a mere record—not an actual live *person.* For this reason, especially on our large 50,000-watt stations, we felt—and so did the stations—that it was necessary that I visit these stations in person and do the programs "live" as frequently as possible. This necessitated a great deal of travelling.

At Hollywood on this particular visit in March, 1944, I learned of a new coast-to-coast network in process of being formed—to be known as "Associated Broadcasting Corporation"—or, for short, the "ABC" Network. I received information that this new Network was going to be willing to accept religious programming. At that time, only *Mutual* was selling any time for religious programming, and the word was that even *Mutual* was soon going to throw off all religious programs. I was hoping that we might be able to go on the new ABC Network. We were beginning to envision constantly bigger and bigger things as the living Christ expanded His Work.

Meanwhile, we had virtually outgrown the facilities of the local printing company in Eugene for publishing *The Plain Truth.* I was beginning to check with the largest printing and publishing establishments in Los Angeles. This, and the need for top-quality recording to be obtained only in Hollywood, brought to my mind, about this time, the first thoughts of the approaching necessity of moving our headquarters to Southern California.

We Go on a 100,000-Watt Station

In early August of that year, Mrs.

Armstrong and I spent two weeks in fasting, as we did nearly every summer, at a cabin on the Oregon coast beach, near Waldport. Returning, refreshed, I heard of the possibility of securing a good night time on a super-power 100,000-watt station, XELO, at Juarez, Mexico—just across the river from El Paso, Texas.

This station had twice the power of any station in the United States, had an *exclusive* clear channel—no other station on the North American continent at that time on its wave-length—800 on the radio dial.

We returned from the beach about August 20. The following Sunday night, after the Sunday morning broadcast, live, over KXXL, I was once again on the train for San Francisco, Hollywood, and El Paso.

At El Paso, I learned that this station had good coverage in every state, and even into Canada, after dark. It was managed by two men, partners. One, Mr. Don Howard, I contacted in El Paso. He was interested in opening a time for *The World Tomorrow*, but I found it necessary to travel on to Del Rio, Texas, to consult his partner, Mr. Walter Wilson, before anything final was arranged.

Mr. Wilson, I found, had managed the 250,000-watt station in Mexico just across the river from Del Rio, for the notorious goat-gland specialist, Dr. Brinkley. Dr. Brinkley's station had been heard, with loud signal, all over the North American continent. He had established a hospital in Del Rio, now the city's leading hotel. Apparently he had made millions, and had aroused the wrath of the American Medical Society—and also of the Internal Revenue Bureau. Finally, it seems, State Department pressure from Washington induced the Mexican government to close his station.

Nevertheless, I found that Walter Wilson knew all the "ropes" in the matter of operating border radio stations, just beyond the American border, with a super-power that could reach a national audience over the United States.

I was not very happy about the company I was going to have to keep on this Mexican station—programming

which never would have been acceptable on most United States stations—and religious programs of a nature I most certainly did not want to be identified with.

Nevertheless, knowing *The World Tomorrow* was a program of highest quality, and yet of power and tremendous listener-appeal, these partners offered me the prime, *most* desirable time of 8 P.M. every Sunday night.

We had been forced to take the very *poor* listening time of 11 P.M. over any large United States station—and we were able to be, then, on only the one—WOAI. This *BEST* time on XELO was going to cost quite a little more, but I knew we would have many times the audience at 8 P.M., and 800 on the dial, that we had at 11 P.M. after most people had gone to bed. So I took the plunge.

Fantastic Response

Immediately the mail response was fantastic. Never did it equal the more than 2,000 letters from a single broadcast we had once received from a program on WHO, but it was sensationally heavy, and continued steady and increasing. *The Plain Truth* circulation rose steadily.

More and more I was having to contemplate moving our headquarters to the Los Angeles area.

By winter, 1944, and perhaps about January, 1945, I was trying out an early-evening *nightly* broadcast on XELO, using discs recorded at KMTR, Hollywood, while doing live series of 15-minute programs on that station. I had frequently, since July 1942, gone to Hollywood for about three weeks' continuous *daily* broadcasting of 15-minute programs.

However, these 15-minute programs never seemed to bring a large response. It was becoming evident that our type program was a full half-hour program. It was much easier to *hold* a listening radio audience to *The World Tomorrow*-type program for a full half hour than a short 15 minutes.

These try-out 15-minute programs on XELO were aired, I believe, at 6 P.M. But after available recordings were exhausted, this series was discontinued—until we could afford to go on every

night with a full half hour.

Colorado Campaign

It was during this winter—and I believe about January-February 1945—that I received a "Macedonian call" for help from a minister I had been associated with some ten years before, in Oregon. He had moved to Canon City, Colorado—a location of high altitude and very dry climate—for health reasons. He had had a small church to pastor there, but all its members had moved away.

He needed to remain there for health reasons, but without the support of a church to which he could minister, he would be unable. Would I come and hold a two-weeks' campaign, and see if I could raise up another church?

I decided to take with me our elder son, Dick, then age 15. His high school teachers, seeing educational value in the trip, agreed, assigning lessons to study while gone. When we arrived at Canon City, we found the climate remarkably warm and dry, for mid-winter. A vacant store-room on the main street had been rented for the meetings. A large advertisement was placed in the local paper, and circulars were passed out over the town.

I was surprised to learn that approximately half of the people in this area had heard *The World Tomorrow* program, either on WOAI, or XELO. We were still keeping the program on WOAI, although we took it off that station later, during 1945. But XELO had a strong signal in this area.

The meetings started out with a fair crowd. The hall was about half full. But interest began to pick up, as we went along. By the middle of the second week, the hall was well filled.

A decision had to be made. Two weeks was not enough to accomplish the purpose for which we had started the campaign. With a growing attendance and interest, it was apparent we ought to continue. With a long distance call to our Eugene office, arrangements were made so that Dick and I might remain on for another two weeks.

Another reason I wanted to stay—*young* Dick was, for the first time in his life, showing real interest in what

(Please continue on page 47)

Listen to The WORLD TOMORROW

Do you have difficulty during the summer receiving the broadcast each day? Here is how you can hear it every day.

by L. Leroy Neff

ESPECIALLY during summer we receive letters asking how to receive *The WORLD TOMORROW* radio broadcast better. During the summer months radio stations do not reach out as far. Some people state that the station they customarily listen to fades in and out all the time. Others say that the clearest broadcasts in summer months are quite late to listen to, as they must arise early for work.

Points to Remember

Here are important points that will help you to receive the broadcast each day.

In each issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH* we publish a complete list of all radio stations which carry the radio broadcast. For complete radio information you should refer each month to this radio log. In each issue there are usually several changes. New stations may be added, or old stations have the time changed. These changes are indicated by an asterisk.

In most areas of the United States and Canada the broadcast can be heard *several times each day*. One or two of the most powerful radio stations broadcasting the program cover most of the United States and even into Canada. This fact is not known by many people. When some see a station listed in a distant area they immediately dismiss it as one they cannot hear. This is not necessarily correct.

Before giving specific information about the various stations it is good to understand something about the characteristics of radio waves which bring the programs into our homes. This explanation should help you to understand why distant stations will sometimes fade away.

Radio waves go a limited distance in direct line. Beyond this distance the reception is sometimes spotty. This is caused by the reflecting of radio waves

back from the ionosphere. The ionosphere is a layer of gases several hundred miles above the earth which reflects radio waves much like a mirror would reflect light rays.

This layer of gases is constantly shifting. Consequently the best reception for distant stations changes from time to time, often quite quickly without warning. Thus you might be able to see that at one particular time one station might come in loud while another one will be drowned out. Fading in and out is a result of this situation.

Superpower Stations

Most people have no idea of the tremendous coverage of some of the stations. Here is a brief summary of some of them. Station WLAC, Nashville, Tennessee covers a large area of the United States, especially the southeastern states and even the British West Indies. Station WWVA, Wheeling, West Virginia, is heard as far away as Ontario and Nova Scotia, Canada; Maine, Bermuda, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Kentucky.

San Francisco, California's KGO is a station that reaches from "Canada to Mexico." This is not quite correct since we receive letters from as far away as Alaska. This very powerful station covers all of the west coast of the United States and as far east as Utah. Station WCKY, Cincinnati, Ohio reaches out into much of the Southeast. Station KRLD, Dallas, Texas is another long-reaching station which is heard in large areas of the South. Station KCMO, Kansas City, Missouri reaches a large audience in the Midwest. In addition to these stations there are many other superpower stations with large coverage. You need to become familiar with all of the stations that can be heard in your particular area.

One station with large coverage is

XEG. We receive letters regularly from people who listen to this station in Colorado, South Dakota, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, and places in between. Station XELO is heard as far as Montana, North Dakota, Minnesota, Missouri, and parts of Canada. Station XERB is heard as far as Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Nevada.

It should be understood that all of these stations are not heard like local stations in every place and they are not always consistent because of atmospheric conditions.

When one station is not received so well in your locality you will usually find another one coming in better. If you listen to Station WWVA, for example, and the station does not come in too well, try another station such as WLAC or WCKY, depending on your locality. If necessary you can shift from one station to another each night. If you cannot hear all of the broadcast on one station maybe you can hear the remainder of the same broadcast on a different station, at a different frequency, or time.

About Your Radio

If you have a problem in receiving a station properly, there is one simple thing that may help you greatly. Most modern table receivers, portable receivers, and even some of the larger console models have directional antennas. You can very easily tell if your set has a directional antenna by tuning in a station, then slowly rotating the radio. If there is a decided change in volume as you rotate the direction of the receiver you will know that it has a directional antenna. If the station that you are trying to receive is weak, turn the set in the direction where the station comes in strongest and clearest. In this

(Please continue on page 20)

RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

MAJOR STATIONS—

Heard over wide areas

East

- WHN—New York—1050 on dial, 9:00 a.m. Sun.
 WWVA—Wheeling, W. Va.—1170 on dial, 10:30 a.m. and 11:15 p.m. Sun., 10 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. (E.S.T.)
 WNAC—Boston—680 on dial, 8:30 p.m. Sun.
 WIBG—Philadelphia—990 on dial, 12:30 p.m. Sun.
 WPTF—Raleigh, N.C.—680 on dial, 9:30 a.m. Sun., 8:05 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

Central States

- WLAC—Nashville—1510 on dial, 10:30 a.m. Sun., 7 p.m. daily and 5 a.m. Mon. thru Sat. (C.S.T.)
 WSM—Nashville—650 on dial, 9 p.m. Sun., 12 a.m. Mon., thru Fri., 1 a.m. Sun. (C.S.T.)
 WCKY—Cincinnati—1530 on dial, 7 and 9:30 p.m. Sun., 5:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat. (E.S.T.)

- CKLW—Detroit-Windsor—800 on dial, 7 p.m. Sun., 5:30 a.m. Mon. thru Fri., 6:15 a.m. Sat.
 KCMO—Kansas City—810 on dial, 7:30 p.m. Sun., 8:15 p.m. and 5 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 KXEL—Waterloo, Ia.—1540 on dial, 8 p.m. Sun., 9:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 KXEN—St. Louis—1010 on dial, 10:30 a.m. Sun., 12 noon Mon. thru Sat.

South

- KRLD—Dallas—1080 on dial, 8:10 p.m. Sun., 6:45 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 KTRH—Houston—740 on dial, 8:00 p.m. Sun., 8:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 KWKH—Shreveport—1130 on dial, 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. Sun., 9:15 p.m. Mon. thru Fri., 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 p.m. Sat.
 WGBS—Miami—710 on dial, 10:30 a.m. Sun.
 KTHS—Little Rock—1090 on dial, 9:30 a.m. and 8:15 p.m. Sun., 9:15 p.m. Mon. thru Fri., 8 p.m. Sat.
 WNOE—New Orleans—1060 on dial, 9:30 a.m. Sun.
 WGUN—Atlanta—1010 on dial, 4 p.m. Sun., 11 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 KRMG—Tulsa—740 on dial, 10:00 a.m. Sun., 6:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

*Asterisk indicates new station or time change.

XEG—1050 on dial, 8:30 p.m. daily. (C.S.T.)

Mountain States

- CFRN—Edmonton, Alta.—1260 on dial, 7:30 p.m. daily.
 KOA—Denver—850 on dial, 9:30 a.m. Sun.
 XELO—800 on dial, 8 p.m. (M.S.T.) 9 p.m. (C.S.T.) daily.

West Coast

- KGO—San Francisco—810 on dial, 10 p.m. Sun., 9:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 KIRO—Seattle—710 on dial, 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat., 5:30 a.m. Tues. thru Sat.
 KGBS—Los Angeles—1020 on dial, 10 p.m. Sun.
 KRAK—Sacramento—1140 on dial, 9 p.m. daily.
 XERB—Lower Calif.—1090 on dial, 7 p.m. daily; 9:30 a.m. Mon. thru Fri.

LEADING LOCAL-AREA STATIONS

East

- WJRZ—New York area—970 on dial, 9 a.m. Sun., 7:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 WBMD—Baltimore—750 on dial, 12 noon daily.
 WWIN—Baltimore—1400 on dial, 12 noon Sun., 12:15 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 WPIT—Pittsburgh—730 on dial, 7:00 a.m. daily.
 CKFH—Toronto—1430 on dial, 10:00 p.m. Sun., 9:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri., 10:00 p.m. Sat.
 WMIE—Miami, Fla.—1140 on dial, 8:30 a.m. Sun., 12 noon Mon. thru Sat.

Central

- WSPD—Toledo, Ohio—1370 on dial, 9:05 p.m. daily.
 WJBK—Detroit—1500 on dial, 9:30 a.m. Sun.
 WADC—Akron, Ohio—1350 on dial, 9:30 p.m. daily.
 WOW—Omaha, Nebr.—590 on dial, 9:30 p.m. Sun., 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 KRVN—Lexington, Nebr.—1010 on dial, 10:30 a.m. daily.
 WNAX—Yankton, S. Dak.—570 on dial, 8:30 p.m. daily.
 WEAW—Chicago—1330 on dial, 9:30 a.m. Sun. (105.1 FM, 9:00 p.m. Sup.), 7 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 WIBC—Indianapolis—1070 on dial, 10:30 p.m. Sun.

- WFBM—Indianapolis—1260 on dial, 7:15 p.m. daily.
 KWTO—Springfield, Mo.—560 on dial, 7:00 p.m. daily.
 KFH—Wichita, Kans.—1330 on dial, 6:30 p.m. daily.
 KEVE—Minneapolis—1440 on dial, 10:00 a.m. Sun., 7:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 WEBC—Duluth, Minn.—560 on dial, 7:30 p.m. Sun. thru Fri., 11:30 a.m. Sat.
 WOOD—Grand Rapids, Mich.—1300 on dial, 8:00 p.m. daily.
 KFVR—Bismarck, N. Dak.—550 on dial, 7 p.m. daily.
 CFQC—Saskatoon, Sask.—600 on dial, 7:30 p.m. daily.

South

- KCTA—Corpus Christi, Tex.—1030 on dial, 2 p.m. Sun., 12:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri., 4:30 p.m. Sat.
 KCUL—Ft. Worth—1540 on dial, 1 p.m. Sun., 8:30 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 *KMCA—San Antonio—630 on dial, 9:00 a.m. Sun., 7:15 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 KFMJ—Tulsa—1050 on dial, 12:30 p.m. daily.
 KBYE—Okla. City—890 on dial, 10:30 a.m. Sun., 12:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 KWAM—Memphis—990 on dial, 10 a.m. Sun., 11:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 WKYB—Paducah, Ky.—570 on dial, 12 noon daily.
 KTLU—Rusk, Texas—1580 on dial, 7:30 a.m. Sun.

Mountain States

- KPHO—Phoenix—910 on dial, 6:30 p.m. daily.
 KLZ—Denver—560 on dial, 10:45 p.m. Sun. thru Fri., 10:30 a.m. Sat.
 KCPX—Salt Lake City—1320 on dial, 7 p.m. daily.
 KIDO—Boise, Idaho—630 on dial 7 p.m. daily.

West Coast

- KHQ—Spokane—590 on dial, 8 p.m. daily.
 KVI—Seattle—570 on dial, 8 a.m. Sun.
 KNBX—Seattle—1050 on dial, 12 noon daily.
 KWJJ—Portland—1080 on dial, 10 p.m. Sun., 9 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 KUGN—Eugene—590 on dial, 7 p.m. daily.
 KUMA—Pendleton, Oregon—1290 on dial, 7:00 p.m. daily except 7:30 p.m. Monday.

RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

KSAY—San Francisco—1010 on dial, 7:30 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.

KFRC—San Francisco—610 on dial, 9:30 a.m. Sun.

*KDB—Santa Barbara, Calif.—1490 on dial, 8:00 p.m. daily.

KHJ—Los Angeles—930 on dial, 7:30 p.m. Sun.

KRKD—Los Angeles—1150 on dial, 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sun., 6:15 a.m. and 7 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

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

KACE—San Bernardino-Riverside—1570 on dial, 92.7 FM, 9:30 a.m. Sun., 7:05 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.

KNEZ—Lompoc, Calif.—960 on dial, 9:30 a.m. Sun.

In Spanish—

KALI—Los Angeles, Calif.—1430 on dial, 4:45 p.m. Sun.

Alaska & Hawaii

KFQD—Anchorage, Alaska—730 on dial, 7:30 p.m. daily.

KULA—Honolulu, Hawaii—690 on dial, 7:30 p.m. daily.

Canada (in French)

CKJL—St. Jerome, Quebec—900 kc., 10:30 a.m. Sun.

TO EUROPE

In English—

RADIO LUXEMBOURG — 208 metres (1439 kc.) medium wave and 49 metres (6090 kc.) short wave—Mondays and Tuesdays: 7:00 p.m. B.S.T.

In French—

RADIO LUXEMBOURG—1293 metres—5:40 a.m., Mon.

EUROPE NO. ONE—Felsberg en Sarre, Germany — 182 kc. (1622 m.)—5:45 a.m. Wed.

In German—

RADIO LUXEMBOURG—49 metres (6090 kc.) shortwave and 208 metres (1439 kc.) medium wave—Sun., 6:05 a.m.; Wed., 7:00 a.m., M.E.T

TO AFRICA

RADIO LOURENCO MARQUES, MOZAMBIQUE — 3301 kc. and 4925 kc.—10:30 p.m., Mondays and Tuesdays; 10:00 p.m., Saturdays.

*RADIO UFAC, ELIZABETHVILLE —OQ2AD—4980 kc. (60 m.) —10 p.m. Sun., Mon. and Wed.; 9:30 p.m. Tue., Thur. and Fri.

*WNBS—Lagos—602 kc.—8:30 p.m. daily.

*WNBS—Ibadan—656 kc., 3380 kc., 6185 kc. and 9500 kc.—8:30 p.m. daily.

TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

2KY—Sydney, NSW—1020 kc.—10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Thurs., 10:45 p.m. Fri. and Sat.

*2AY—Albury, NSW—1490 kc.—10:00 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

*2GF—Grafton, NSW—1210 kc.—10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

2GN—Goulburn, NSW—1380 kc.—10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

2HD—Newcastle, NSW—1140 kc.—10:30 p.m. Sun.; 10:03 p.m. Mon. thru Thurs.; 10:50 p.m. Fri.

2KA—Katoomba, NSW—780 kc.—10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

2KM—Kempsey, NSW—980 kc.—10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

2MW—Murwillumbah, NSW—1440 kc.—10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

3AW—Melbourne, Vic.—1280 kc.—10:30 p.m. Sun.

*3BO—Bendigo, Vic.—960 kc.—10:15 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

*3CV—Maryborough, Vic.—1440 kc.—10:15 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

3HA—Hamilton, Vic.—1000 kc.—10:30 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

3KZ—Melbourne, Vic.—1180 kc.—10:30 p.m. Sun.; 10:45 p.m. Mon. thru Thurs.; 10:15 p.m. Fri.

3MA—Mildura, Vic.—1470 kc.—3:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 10:00 p.m. Sat.

*3SH—Swanhill, Vic.—1330 kc.—10:15 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

*3SR—Shepparton, Vic.—1260 kc.—10:15 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

*3UL—Warragul, Vic.—880 kc.—10:15 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

*3YB—Warrnambool, Vic.—1210 kc.—10:15 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

4AK—Oakey, Qld.—1220 kc.—9:30 p.m. Sun.; 10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Thurs.; 10:30 p.m. Fri.

4BK—Brisbane, Qld.—1290 kc.—9:30 p.m. Sun.; 10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Thurs.; 10:30 p.m. Fri.

4CA—Cairns, Qld.—1010 kc.—10:00 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

*4TO—Townsville, Qld.—780 kc.—10 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

4KQ—Brisbane, Qld.—690 kc.—10:30 p.m. Sun.

4WK—Warwick, Qld.—880 kc.—10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

6GE—Geraldton, WA—1010 kc.—9:30 p.m. Sun.; 10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.

6KG—Kalgoorlie, WA—860 kc.—10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

6PM—Perth, WA—1000 kc.—10:00 p.m. Sun.; 10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.

6AM—Northam, WA—980 kc.—10:00 p.m. Sun.; 10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.

7AD—Devonport, Tas.—900 kc.—3:30 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

*7HT—Hobart, Tas.—1080 kc.—7:30 p.m. Sun.; 9:30 p.m. Mon., Wed., Thur. and Fri.; 10:35 p.m. Tues.

7SD—Scottsdale, Tas.—540 kc.—4:00 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

2XM—Gisborne, New Zealand—1180 kc.—8:30 p.m. Wed.; 9:15 p.m. Thurs.; 10:00 p.m. Sat.

TO ASIA

RADIO BANGKOK—HS1JS—461.5 metres (651 kc.), Monday —10:35-11:05 p.m.

RADIO TAIWAN (FORMOSA)

"The 3rd Network, B.C.C."—

BED23 Taichung 1380 kc.;

BED55 Taipei 960 kc.;

BED78 Tainan City 1540 kc.;

BED79 Kaohsiung 1220 kc.;

BED82 Chiayi 1460 kc.—

18:00 T.S.T., Wed. and Fri.

RADIO OKINAWA—KSBK—880 kc. Sundays: 12:06 noon.

ALTO BROADCASTING SYSTEM—PHILIPPINE ISLANDS:

DZAO, Manila—620 kc.;

DZRI, Dagupan City—1040 kc.;

DZRB, Naga City—1060 kc.;

DXAW, Davao City—640 kc.—

9:00 p.m. Sunday.

DYCB, Cebu City—570 kc.—9:30 p.m. Friday.

*RADIO GUAM—KUAM—610 kc.,

6 p.m. daily.

TO LATIN AMERICA

In English—

RADIO AMERICAS—Swan Island—1160 kc.—6:30 p.m., E.S.T. Sun.

RADIO AMERICA—Lima, Peru—1010 kc.—5:15 p.m. Saturdays.

HOC21, Panama City—1115 kc.—7:00 p.m., Sundays.

HP5A, Panama City—11170 kc.—7:00 p.m., Sundays.

HOK, Colon, Panama—640 kc.—7:00 p.m., Sundays.

HP5K, Colon, Panama—6005 kc.—7:00 p.m., Sundays.

In Spanish—

RADIO AMERICAS—Swan Island—1160 kc.—9:00 p.m., Sun., 9:30 p.m. Sat. E.S.T.

RADIO LA CRONICA—Lima, Peru—1320 kc.—7:00 p.m. Sun.

RADIO COMUNEROS—Asuncion, Paraguay—970 kc.—8:30 p.m. Thursdays.

RADIO SPORT—CXA19—Montevideo, Uruguay—11835 kc.—4:00 p.m., Sundays.

RADIO CARVE—CX16, 850 kc., and CXA13, 6156 kc.—Montevideo, Uruguay—3:30 p.m., Saturdays.

In French—

4VBM—Port au Prince, Haiti—1430 kc., 7:45 p.m. Wed.

4VCM—Port au Prince, Haiti—6165 kc., 7:45 p.m. Wed.

World Tomorrow

(Continued from page 17)

way you are able to increase the volume of the received station, and you may also possibly minimize interference from other stations on a similar frequency but in a different direction.

One reason why some people have difficulty in receiving these stations is that their radios may not be designed for distance reception. Most modern sets are usually designed for local reception only. People are often not interested in receiving out-of-town stations today.

In order to solve this problem, it may be necessary to purchase a type of radio designed for distance reception. Such a set will usually have a minimum of six tubes including what is called in radio terminology an r.f. (radio frequency) amplifier tube. In addition it may have two i.f. (intermediate frequency) amplifier tubes instead of the usual one. Such sets can be readily identified if you can see the inside chassis of the set and determine if it has a "three gang tuning condenser" which is used for standard broadcast. These additional sections enable it to reject more unwanted noise and interference and more readily select and amplify the wanted station. If you are looking for such a set which will be able to receive the more distant stations, or to receive the broadcast in the areas where it does not come in well, *be careful in your selection*. It would be wise to obtain the set on approval. Try it in your own home to see if it will work satisfactorily and will really be an improvement over the set you are now using.

If you want to get the best possible reception of distant stations you might consider the more expensive communications receivers such as Hallicrafters, Hammarlund or National. These sets will require outside antennas. In purchasing such a set be sure that it is not one of their least expensive sets as they sometimes are only four- or five-tube sets, about like any other table model set with short wave bands added.

There are several fine portable "Trans-Oceanic" or short-wave radios that also have the standard broadcast bands. These are not as good in distance reception as the short-wave receivers

mentioned in the last paragraph. However, in many situations they may be quite adequate.

A cheaper solution may be to take an older radio that was designed for long distance service and have it put in good condition. Select a radio which uses modern tubes, fulfills the requirements of an r.f. tube as was mentioned previously. Be sure that such a set is not encumbered by too many tubes. A six- to eight-tube set should usually be adequate. These radios can sometimes be more economically obtained than buying a new set. *If, however, you are not careful it could cost more.* The quality of sound will probably not be as good, but the distance receiving characteristics are usually better than modern receivers. In such cases *a competent, honest and reliable serviceman should be consulted to determine costs before making any decision.*

If you are going to purchase such a set, you may wish to put it in "first class" condition. If so, it is wise to have new, high-quality, modern condensers installed in place of the old ones, along with replacement of any weak or shorted tubes. Sharp alignment of the set will also be necessary in most cases as well as a good outside antenna. If any of these comments seem strange to you, consult your serviceman and he will understand.

If It Is a Late Hour

Another problem that some people have is the late hour on the station they like to listen to. In certain limited areas there is only one station that can be received. If it appears impossible to stay up late or if you are at work during the broadcast time, *there is a solution to your problem.*

Some of our listeners have secured tape recorders. These can be operated with the radio. With a timer that turns the radio and recorder off and on, the broadcast can be recorded, while you are at work. Then you may play back the tape at a convenient time. In addition to the recorder and timer it may be necessary in some cases to have other minor connections made by a serviceman. These recorders can be secured from most radio stores, radio mail-order houses, or large mail-order stores.

But the late hours can be of real help in summertime. Notice some of the stations which broadcast late night or early morning hours. During these times there is less radio interference from television sets and other sources. In addition, the stations reach out further. There are fewer stations on the air to interfere. As a result of these factors, such stations as WSM (at midnight), WLAC (at 5:00 a.m.) and WCKY (at 5:30 a.m.) reach out much further, covering a vast area especially in time zones to the west. These stations can be especially helpful if you have a tape recorder to use in conjunction with your radio.

In summary, remember these points. Always *check the radio log each month*. If the station to which you listen is at times not clear, *try other stations*, at the proper frequency, and time. Especially notice any variation in the time zone. *If necessary, obtain a different radio* which can get distant stations better. When you are not able to listen because of the time element, secure a tape recorder.

We have found through the years that those who diligently listen to the broadcast each day are usually the ones who are growing spiritually. You need to listen to the broadcast each day and receive the spiritual food that God makes available.

HOW YOUR PLAIN TRUTH SUBSCRIPTION HAS BEEN PAID

So many ask: "HOW does it happen that I find my subscription price for The PLAIN TRUTH has already been paid? How can you publish such a high class magazine without advertising revenue?"

The answer is as simple as it is astonishing! It is a paradox. Christ's Gospel cannot be sold like merchandise. You cannot buy salvation. Yet it does cost money to publish Christ's TRUTH and mail it to all continents on earth. It does have to be paid for! This is Christ's work. We solve this problem Christ's WAY!

Jesus said, "This Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached (and published—Mark 13:10) in all the world for a witness unto all nations" (Mat. 24:14) *at this time*, just before the end of this age. A PRICE *must be paid* for the magazine, the broadcast, the Correspondence Course, or other literature. But HOW? Christ forbids us to *sell* it to those who receive it: "Freely ye have received," said Jesus to His disciples who He was sending to proclaim His Gospel, "freely GIVE!" "It is *more blessed*," He said, "to GIVE than to receive."

God's WAY is the way of LOVE—and that is the way of *giving*. God expects every child of His to give free-will offerings and to tithes, as His means of paying the costs of carrying His Gospel to others. We, therefore, simply trust our Lord Jesus Christ to lay it on the minds and hearts of His followers to give generously, thus paying the cost of putting the precious Gospel TRUTH in the hands of others. Yet it must go *only* to those who *ask for it for themselves!* Each must, for himself, *subscribe*—and his subscription has thus already been paid.

Thus the living dynamic Christ Himself enables us to broadcast, world-wide, without ever asking for contributions over the air; to enroll many thousands in the Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course with full tuition cost *already paid*; to send your PLAIN TRUTH on an *already paid* basis. God's way is GOOD!

NEW SHIFT in U.S. Foreign Policy

(Continued from page 8)

"well-meaning" men believed the Chinese Communists were "agrarian reformers" and would initiate a step forward in the EVOLUTION of China—believe it or not!

Some do-gooders, internationalists, and "universal brotherhood" experts feel we can hasten the "evolution" of the communist conspirators if we will send to just one more peace conference "social welfare workers," "East-West cultural exchange clubs," "autograph collectors," "corn growers," "no-win philosophers," "advocates of surrender," and a host of other politically naive men and women. It has even been suggested that we could hasten their "evolution" if we would but give them all our atom and hydrogen bombs so they would no longer need to fear us, loan them our gold from Fort Knox, and agree to teach Communism in all our schools!

As a result of this sordid influence of the theory of evolution, we have a national "no-win policy" formulated by men who have determined that we do not want to win the Cold War. As Professor Bouscaren said, "Our opponents defy, denounce and challenge, while we plead and propitiate." We have, as David Sarnoff snorted, "left the vocabulary of confidence and victory to the other side, contenting ourselves with such solacing and temporizing words as accommodation, modus vivendi, co-existence, or relaxation of tensions."

Professor Bouscaren warned, "A few years ago the foreign policy debate was between the advocates of liberation and the advocates of containment. Today the debate is between the advocates of containment and the advocates of surrender."

After making the rounds of Washington on his U.S. tour, Mr. Khrushchev's bland comment was, "The mind you change may be your own."

Dr. Malik, the former President of the United Nations General Assembly, warned Americans of "the softness, the

laxity, the lack of determination and decisiveness, the general decadence, the uncritical readiness to settle for 'peaceful coexistence.'" He asked this soul-searching question, "Are we then face to face with some ineluctable judgment or fate of God?" (From an address given in Williamsburg, Virginia, June 11, 1960.)

What the Future Holds

How can we know whether or not the decisions foreign policy leaders make

are going to succeed? Are we going to save ourselves by uniting with Europe? There is a sure and certain way you can tell.

For example: What should foreign policy experts do if they hear that a large army is preparing to march toward our nation? Should they seek help from Germany?—economic cooperation from South America?

In such a case, it is sure and certain that the decisions of our leaders will be right if they say, "Come, let's open our Bibles and see what the instructions of the LORD are for us. Then let's call a fast and pray." Can you imagine our atheistic evolutionists, our sociologists and our psychiatrists doing such a thing?

The Bible reveals that every leader who goes astray fails to do two things. He fails to ask the Eternal what he

Refugees flee from behind Iron Curtain by every conceivable means. Recent emphasis on exodus from East Germany has obscured from public mind the fact that refugees have fled the USSR ever since Communism seized Russia. Huge exodus took place after World War II, illustrated here by sloop Inanda from Estonia which traversed Atlantic for 30 days. Over years, Communists have plugged holes in Iron Curtain. Few exits remain.

Wide World Photo



should do, and he fails to study the Bible. Now if today's leaders fail to do either of those two things—watch out! That nation is headed for trouble!

Each ruler is commanded to have a book of the law before him, and "he shall read therein all the days of his life" (Deut. 17:19).

The world's only reliable textbook on foreign policy is the Holy Bible. Read Judges, I and II Samuel, Joshua, I and II Kings, I and II Chronicles, and notice how many instructions are given to rulers on how to manage foreign policy.

You will see that every time ancient Israel went to a foreign ally for help instead of to the Eternal—the army met with disaster.

We are so used to hearing lies, that the truth is shocking. Isn't it?

God gives our foreign policy experts clear-cut examples of what to do when our country is threatened with a powerful enemy. Notice the example we are to follow. We are to do what King Asa of Judah did when he heard that the Ethiopians were coming against him with 3,000 chariots and 1 million men. Do you think he ran over to Assyria (Germany of today) and asked for help? Or did he go to the psychiatrists and ask, "If we let them conquer us—will it 'cure' their lust to enslave us?"

No! Asa did what we should do. "Asa CRIED unto the LORD his God and said . . . 'We rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude. O LORD, thou art our God; let not man prevail against THEE'" (II Chron. 14:11).

The same thing happened then that would happen today. God is "the same yesterday, and today, and for ever" (Heb. 13:8). When the physical, carnal nation of Israel asked God for help, "The LORD smote the Ethiopians before Asa, and before Judah; and the Ethiopians fled" (II Chron. 14:12).

If we would turn to God and ask Him for help, within months China and Russia would be fighting each other to the death. Believe it or not!

How do we know this? The Bible gives us a similar example. King Jehoshaphat went down to Samaria to visit king Ahab of Israel. Ahab talked him into helping him in a war against Syria. Ahab was killed in the unsuccessful

battle.

Jehu the seer rebuked king Jehoshaphat, "*Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD?* therefore is wrath upon thee from before the LORD" (II Chron. 19:2).

Jehoshaphat did something few will do today—he repented. Then when a great multitude of Moab, Ammon, and their allies came against him, your Bible reveals, "Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah" (II Chron. 20:3). The prophet of God said to him, "Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for *the battle is not yours, but God's*" (II Chron. 20:15). "Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, *stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD* with you, O Judah and Jerusalem" (II Chron. 20:17).

Jehoshaphat placed—out in front of the army—his singers, to sing, "Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever" (vs. 21). What happened? The Ammonites, the Moabites, and the inhabitants of Mount Seir fought each other to the death till not one of them escaped alive—while the Israelites watched the Salvation of the LORD from the head of the valley.

Now let's go back to king Asa who did not long remember his all-important foreign policy lesson. When Baasha, the king of Israel, came up against Judah, Asa became frightened and committed—in God's eyes—one of the worst possible sins. He sent gold and silver to Benhadad, the king of Syria—in an effort to buy an ally to help him—relying on man instead of God for his protection.

The prophet of God reminded Asa, "Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubim a huge host, with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet, because thou didst rely on the LORD, he delivered them into thine hand" (II Chron. 16:8).

The prophet explained to Asa that "the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him."

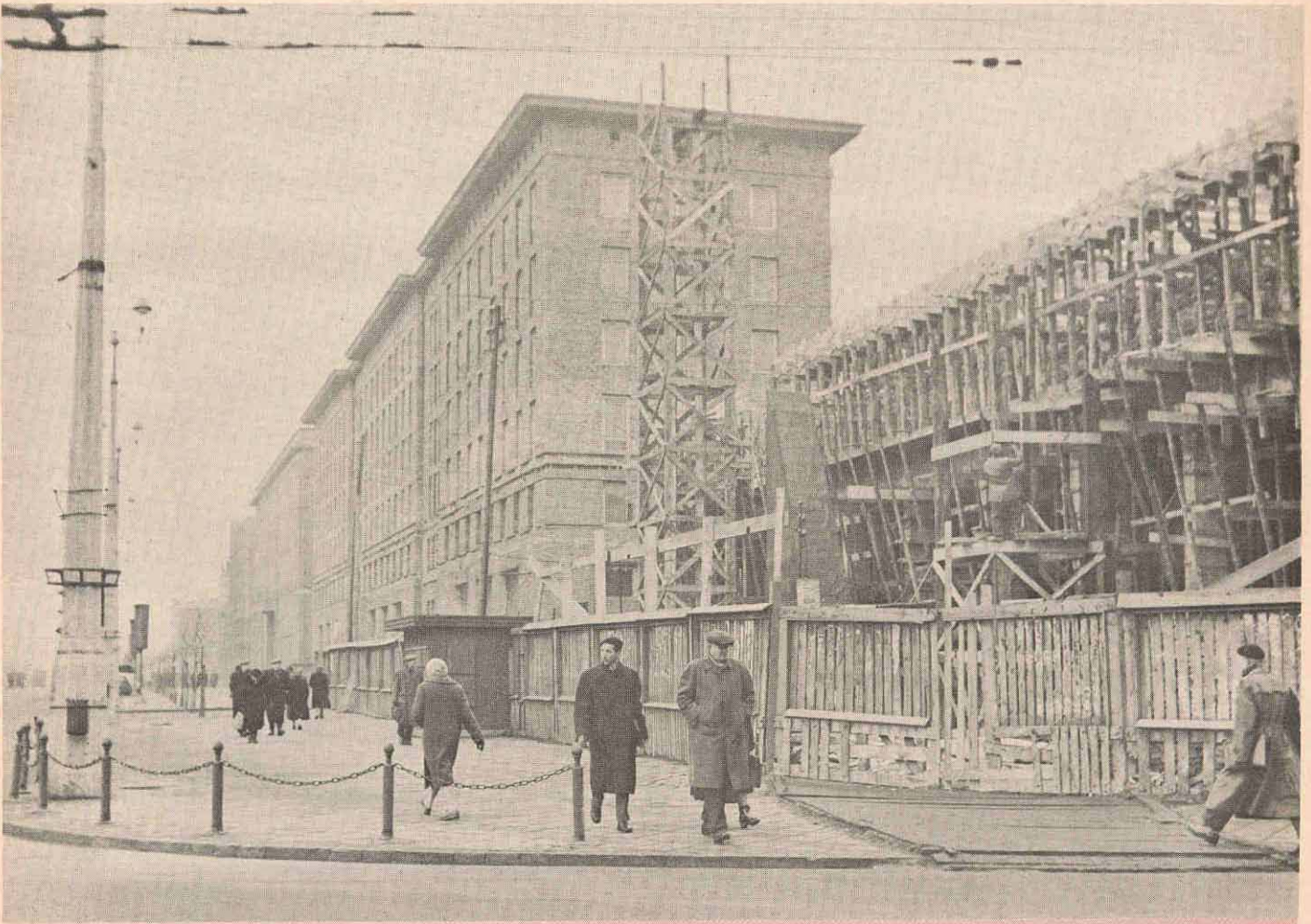
Because Asa sought help from a foreign ally, instead of the LORD, the prophet told Asa, "Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars" (vs. 9).

The same sins will bring the same punishment today. God has not changed (Mal. 3:6). If we continue to go to foreign allies for our protection instead

Warsaw, capital of Poland, is still poverty-stricken. Here is taxi stall—with an old man, an old cab and an old horse waiting for business. Photo taken on sun-drenched day in the Square of the Three Crosses. Hungry Poles have been sent U.S. foreign aid for past few years.

Wide World Photo





New blocks of Government offices under construction in Warsaw, Poland. Throughout Communist Empire huge expenditures go for gigantic bureaucratic administration that

Wide World Photo
saps life from economy of captive peoples. Communism degrades every nation it enslaves, must build Iron Curtain to keep people from fleeing.

of to God, we will have wars—disastrous wars—IN OUR LIFETIME. Your Bible reveals that unless our nations repent, a German-dominated union of ten nations

in Europe we are now turning to for help—will strike us down in a surprise, sneak hydrogen and atom bomb attack. The scoffers will never believe it can

happen until it is too late—but it's going to happen just the same. Your Bible says it will—unless our nations repent.

To keep minds off material poverty and lack of consumer goods, the communist regime builds huge public palaces of

culture. Below is the New Palace Hall in Bucharest, Romania, where State musical programs are performed.

Wide World Photo



WHY A CHURCH?

Why have a Church? What is a Church? What PURPOSE does it serve? Should YOU attend a Church? Read the plain TRUTH from your Bible! It will surprise you!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

WHAT a paradox. *What confusion!* Almost no one seems to know **WHAT** is a church, **WHY** have a church, and what the church is supposed to *accomplish*, and yet *church-going* is steadily increasing, and *church-building* is at an all time high!

Right now there is a new Protestant church finished somewhere in the United States every 18 minutes! Hundreds of "converts" make "decisions for Christ" in huge evangelistic campaigns. Thousands "join the church of their choice" each week.

But something is wrong. Something is *missing!*

Churchmen say something really serious is *lacking* in all this religious fervor of our modern age. They say the return to religion is *only skin deep!*

What the Pastors Say

There are more Bibles in America than people. Three million complete Bibles are sold in the United States each year, with 200 million already in circulation. Church membership now stands at a record-breaking 114,000,000 for all faiths.

Church construction now approaches the **BILLION DOLLAR** mark for the year, with more than 310,000 houses of worship in the country.

Yet, poll-takers and ministers are finding the average church-goer is a *Biblical illiterate!* He not only remains totally **IGNORANT** of the Bible, but he doesn't even know **WHY HE'S IN CHURCH!**

Theologian Reinhold Niebuhr said, "Religious faith is always put to the test by the crises of history." America's religious faith is now being *put to the test*—it's being *weighed in the balances*, and **FOUND WANTING!**

A leading rector of a well-known church in New York delivered a sermon to his congregation, the condensation of which was published in *Reader's Digest*. He said, searching into the real *place* of religion in people's **DAILY** lives, "Dur-

ing the week the church is a series of promotional, organizational and semi-commercial activities. . . ." ". . . it is common for many to think that numerous activities are identical with religion. To pay mortgages, to build new parish houses, to put on a drive for new members, to hold bazaars, lunches, dinners, and bake sales . . ."

This sermon was thought to be so applicable that it received a prominent place in *Reader's Digest*. The rector showed how there is **NO TRANSITION** between the Gospel and the *weekday lives* of people!

And **NO WONDER!**

To **MOST** people, religion seems a confusing, conflicting hodgepodge of vague, "theological" ideas, proclaimed in the dim interior of a huge building in a drab, uninspiring, dull monotone! Those making a real sincere **ATTEMPT** to find what *is* their purpose in life, **WHERE** they are going, and the real **MEANING** of human life are soon disillusioned!

Instead, they find more questions than answers, more doubt than faith, and find themselves confused, perplexed by it all.

Yes, **NO WONDER!** When the theologians **THEMSELVES** are confused! In an article entitled "The Agony of Religious Doubt," it was admitted by one theologian that "Pastors and laity are . . . all playing a solemn game of 'Let's Pretend.'"

The article revealed that "the minister tells his confidants that he does not believe the doctrines . . . but would not dare to say so from the pulpit."

A well-known theologian was quoted in this shocking article as saying, "There have been times, in the middle of a service, when I have been assailed by the most appalling thoughts. I find myself saying: 'What am I doing here? Does this make any sense?'"

Yes, **LITTLE WONDER** many of the laity are *mixed up* about the purpose of the church today—when even the leaders seem to be *mixed up, in doubt, con-*

fused, perplexed!

One member of a Religio-Psychiatric Clinic said, "Much of my work is counseling ministers who get discouraged and have doubts." Notice! **DESPITE** the boom *on the surface*, it has been absolutely **PROVED** and **DOCUMENTED** that even the *officers* in churches are Biblical illiterates!

It was found many leaders were not sure whether the Sermon on the Mount was in the Old or New Testament! In a poll conducted by a leading council of churches, the most extensive survey **EVER** taken of U.S. Protestantism, an **APPALLING** degree of ignorance was revealed. Many of those questioned didn't know whether the Psalms were in the New or Old Testament, didn't know which books comprised the Gospels, and only a startling **35%** could *name* the first four books of the New Testament, and **FIFTY-FIVE PER CENT** **COULDN'T NAME EVEN ONE!**

What **SHOCKING** facts! While we *profess* religion, while we **APPROPRIATE** the name of Christ, calling ourselves "*Christian*," we totally **IGNORE** **WHAT HE SAID!**

Crime and Violence as Usual

Meanwhile, with the burgeoning surge of religion, it's business as usual, cheating as usual, divorce as usual, and crime as usual!

J. Edgar Hoover said we face the **TWIN** enemies of Communism and **CRIME**—placing our national crime problem on a par with the terrible threat of world Communism with its sinister plan for world conquest.

Sydney Harris, editorializing concerning our terrifying criminality, said, "The most violent people on earth are not the 'savage' tribes in the African Congo . . . for no other nation on earth has a worse record than the United States for murder, manslaughter, rape, armed robbery, sluggings, muggings, carnage on the

(Please continue on page 26)



Wide World Photo
Christianity, to most people, is symbolized by costly—and often drab—church buildings and cathedrals. Illustrated here is famous Bucharest cathedral, typical Eastern European edifice. What the Church really is—and why it exists—is made plain in accompanying article.

highways and assorted forms of violence."

Mr. Harris went on to describe how there are more killings annually in Houston, Texas, than in all England, and showed that some of our larger cities have more crime than many European countries!

THINK of it! We in America, proud of our heritage, proud of our great freedoms, with a *surface return to religion*, LEAD THE WORLD IN CRIME!

Mr. Harris said, "We have somehow bred a national character . . . in which VIOLENCE seems to play the dominant motif." (Emphasis mine.)

It would be superfluous to again document the hideous, bestial, animalistic forms of violence that have become such a daily part of our decadent life. You know which section of *your* town or city you must avoid, which districts are dangerous, how you must teach *your* children to beware of strangers, how *your* wives, mothers, sweethearts or daughters must avoid being out at night alone! Sure you do! Everybody does! We KNOW we're a vile, crime-ridden nation caught in a fetid vortex of degeneracy unparalleled in history! It's time we faced it squarely in the light of our outward pretense of RELIGION!

Most Admit Ignorance of the Place of the Church

Asked what the church is FOR, what it should DO, the real *place* of the church in our society, most people are vague.

In another extensive survey, people were hazy and *confused* about the church and its beliefs. There was the prevalent view that it is important to "have faith" but it didn't seem to matter much in what or in whom.

A large majority looked upon the church as "a building with an employed staff and a scheduled program . . . engaged in the same basic business as other character-building agencies."

Many admitted they joined church because they wanted to have a sense of "belonging." Others said it was because it was "the thing to do." Some said they went to their church because of the ease of its parking facilities, because they like the tenor soloist, because they enjoyed the voice of the minister, or be-

cause it was the church they had "always attended." Still others went to their church because it was attended by the people with whom they had always wanted to associate. Some wanted to get their children into "wholesome activities."

Shocking as it seems, to MANY people today, a church is looked upon as a civic necessity—a communal obligation—a "nice thing for the town to have," like clean streets, a secure jail, a swimming pool, and a city dump!

What classic ignorance! And what frightening implications for the future!

At a time when as NEVER BEFORE we need to know the basic answers to life, to *know* where we are going, to *know* WHAT we are, WHY we are, HOW to fulfill our purpose in life, the many conflicting brands of religion FAIL TO GIVE THE ANSWERS!

Not only are people in ignorance as to the *purpose* of the church, but most simply do not know WHAT IS the church!

The CHURCH—Just What Is It?

Jesus promised, "I will build MY Church!" (Matt. 16:18). But what *did* Jesus DO when He BUILT it? Did He *construct a building*? Of course not! But He DID organize a *body of believers*!

Jesus BUILT His Church on the Day of Pentecost, A.D. 31. It was *built*, and it became a true BODY of called-out ones, in whom was the Spirit of God, when the Apostles were suddenly imbued with the Spirit of the Father.

Let's come to understand! The word "church" in the English language has come to assume the meaning of a certain kind of BUILDING! To MOST people, a "church" is a *building* set aside for religious services.

But what is the BIBLE definition? What IS a "church" according to the BIBLE?

Stephen, in his inspired message, just before his martyrdom, said, "This is He (Christ) that was in the CHURCH in the wilderness with the angel which spake to Him in the Mount Sina, and with our fathers, who received the lively oracles to give unto us" (Acts 7:38).

Stephen referred to the One of whom Moses spoke, showing, as did the Apostle Paul (read I Cor. 10:4) that the Person who became Christ was actually *with*

the Israelites in the wilderness. The physical human beings of the tribes of Israel were called a CHURCH.

The Greek word used for "church" is *ekklesia*. It has NO connection with *any* kind of a building or physical structure, in its original intent. Rather, it means, simply, "congregation." It means a gathering, a group, a congregation of PEOPLE!

Let's notice some striking New Testament proofs. Paul wrote his greetings to Priscilla and Aquila, who were his close helpers, saying, "Likewise greet the *church* that is IN THEIR HOUSE" (Rom. 16:5). What did he mean? That there was a little white building, complete with a "steeple" (you would be SHOCKED to look up the *origin* of the steeple) INSIDE OF AN HOUSE? Of course not! Paul spoke of the PEOPLE, the *group* of called-out ones, who were meeting inside the house from time to time.

Notice too how Paul mentioned this same group in his letter to the Church at Corinth. "The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the *church that is in their house*" (I Cor. 16:19).

The world assumes the PEOPLE come to the church—which is the BUILDING! But in actuality, it is the CHURCH that assembles INSIDE THE BUILDING. The CHURCH IS NOT the mere building, but the PEOPLE!

But what KIND of people?

A person can *walk* into a building. But he CANNOT walk into the Church of God!

Rather, he must be PUT into it. Notice Acts the second chapter, and verses 41 through 47. Here, on that same day of Pentecost (verse 41) there "were ADDED unto them (those already *in* the church) about three thousand souls." Luke concluded by writing, "And the Lord ADDED to the church *daily* such as should be saved."

These people did NOT look about, deciding upon one type *building* or another. They were NOT concerned with parking lots, tenor soloists, the size of the choir, or the *number of members*—rather, a total CHANGE had come over their lives, flooding their whole BEINGS! They had become *repentant*, and, after meeting God's prior conditions, had

been *put into* His true Church!

The Church Is the Body of Christ

Just as Jesus accomplished the *work* of God in His physical body while here on this earth, so today He accomplishes the *WORK* of God through His *SPIRITUAL* body on earth.

That body is the Church of God—of which Jesus is the *HEAD*!

"And He is the Head of the body, the Church, who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that in all things He might have the preeminence" (Col. 1:18). Paul was also inspired to write, to the Ephesian Church, "For the husband is the head of the wife, even as *Christ is the Head of the Church*, and He is the Saviour of the body . . ." (Eph. 5:23). Earlier, he had written, ". . . and gave Him to be *THE HEAD* over all things to the Church, which is *HIS BODY*, the fullness of Him that filleth all in all" (Eph. 1:22,23).

Jesus Christ is the *LIVING, DYNAMIC HEAD*, the ruling, deciding, leading, guiding *HEAD* of His true Church. He *DID NOT* give this great position into the hands of *ANY* man, men, or woman or women. Rather, *HE*, and *HE ALONE* retained the office of *LIVING, ACTIVE HEAD* of His true Church!

Each *member* of that true Church, who must be *PUT INTO* the Church, becomes completely *joined* to Christ by the Holy Spirit of God! Just as your physical body has many *members*, which *automatically* follow the will of the *HEAD*, so does the Church have *MANY MEMBERS*, all comprising *one body*.

"For as the body is *ONE*, and hath *many members*, and all the members of that one body, being many, are *one body*, *SO ALSO IS CHRIST!*" (I Cor. 12:12).

Notice it! All are *ONE*. They are one in spirit, one in purpose, one in real unity and harmony. Together, they are accomplishing *ONE GREAT WORK* of which Jesus spoke.

The Church is the *BODY OF CHRIST!* It is *NOT* a building. It is *NOT* a man-made organization of "believers" who are devising *their own* way to "worship God." It is *NOT* a nation of people, *NOT* a conglomeration of many *conflicting, differing* ideas, all somehow being "one" church! The Church is the

spiritual *BODY OF CHRIST—HIS BODY—THE CHURCH HE BUILT, AND OF WHICH HE IS RIGHT NOW THE LIVING HEAD.*"

How Do People GET INTO the Church?

People may *WALK* into a *building*. They *cannot* walk into the Church of God—the *Body of Christ!*

Peter said, "*Repent*, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:28).

It is the receiving of the Holy Spirit that *MAKES* you a member of that *one true body!* "By *ONE SPIRIT* are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free, and have been all made to drink into one spirit. For the body is not one member, but many" (I Cor. 12:13,14).

But remember, the Creator gives His Spirit *ONLY TO THOSE WHO WILL OBEY Him!* (Acts 5:32). *If* a person has truly, deeply *REPENTED*, and *NOT* just experienced the sorrow of the *WORLD*, (II Cor. 7:10), has been *baptized in water*, as God commands, and has truly received the energizing Spirit of God, *THEN* he becomes a *MEMBER* of the Church of which Jesus is the living *Head!*

Believe it or not, it is absolutely impossible to *JOIN* the true Church! Jesus plainly *said* so! He said "Not *everyone* 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" (Matt. 7:21). He said, ". . . in *VAIN* do they *WORSHIP* me (actually *WORSHIP* Christ, *CLAIM CHRIST AS SAVIOR, PROFESS CHRIST*), teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (Matt. 15:9).

No, getting into the true Church of which Jesus is living *HEAD* is not *so easy* as to merely "join" or "begin attending" or walk into. It involves a complete change of character, a total about-face in your life. Jesus sternly warned, "*Strive* to enter in at the strait (difficult) gate, for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and *shall not be able!*" (Luke 13:24).

How do people get into the *TRUE CHURCH?*

By *REPENTING* of their *sins*, the

transgression of God's laws (I John 3:4). By being *baptized*, as an outward sign of their obedience to God, and their willingness to *lay down their carnal lives* to be *BURIED* forever (Acts 2:38, Rom. 6:1-6), and then, by the *laying on of hands* (II Tim. 1:6) receiving the *SPIRIT OF GOD*.

Paul was inspired to write, "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His" (Rom. 8:9).

God must *PUT* you into His one and only true Church. *YOU CANNOT*, of yourself, *JOIN!* Your Bible says so!

How MANY Churches ARE There?

Today, you live in a world of *confusion*. The world has actually *ORGANIZED* confusion. There is chaos and confusion among races, among languages, between political powers, military forces, and especially is there *GREAT CONFUSION* in religion!

Remember, Jesus said plainly, "*I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH!*" (Matt. 16:18). He *DID* build it. The converted *members* of that Church are called God's *BUILDING!* (I Cor. 3:9). He built *HIS Church*—*NOT* the church of a man, or a new type government, or a woman, or of a famous theologian, or of a "saint" in the past! Rather, it is the *ONE Church* which is *ACTUALLY* the *Body of Christ!*

Jesus solemnly promised He would *NEVER LEAVE* His one true Church (Matt. 28:20).

Notice what God inspired Paul to say about it. "There is *ONE* body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling, *ONE Lord, ONE FAITH* (body of beliefs, *DOCTRINE*), one baptism, *ONE God* and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all" (Eph. 4:4-6).

That one body is in *complete agreement!* It *responds* to its Living *HEAD*, Jesus Christ, readily, willingly, *AUTOMATICALLY!* It is together, in real *UNITY!*" ". . . From whom the whole body *FITLY JOINED TOGETHER* and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the *effectual* working in the measure of *every part*, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love" (Eph. 4:16).

Jesus Christ gave the pattern for His own kind of *GOVERNMENT* to *KEEP* that body in harmony, in unity, in

singleness of purpose, accomplishing the WORK OF GOD on earth today. (I Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:11).

WHAT Should the Church DO?

But what is the real PURPOSE behind it all?

What is the REASON for a unified body, well organized, following the LAWS of God, receiving the admonitions and corrections of its LIVING Head, Jesus Christ, from His word?

WHAT SHOULD THE CHURCH DO?

The world doesn't have the answer!

When a well-known foundation and theological seminary sent out questionnaires to 1,600 ministers, they found that today's pastor is not so much a *preacher* (God said, "PREACH THE WORD!" (II Tim. 4:2) as he is organizer, promoter, financier, psychologist, administrator, entertainer, and socialite!

As one clergyman said, "We simply cannot see where we are GOING in the Church. Our churches are successful. We gain more members, we have more at church, we have bigger budgets, we have more activities. But we can't see that we are making much of a difference in our communities or in the lives of the individual members of our communities."

The entrance requirements of some modern churches, according to a minister, are "... like those of a *social club* ... primarily external and they provide status. . . ."

What SHOULD the Church do? Keep children off the streets? Become a social club? Build new buildings?

When a professor of sociology asked a group of 368 persons who attended a church in one western city the question, "What is the purpose or reason for the being of the church?" one in six answered, "TO worship God," while one in three said, in different expressions, "To evangelize non-Christians, to sustain fellow Christians, promote community morale, fight Communism, raise the standard of living, reassure people in a world of turmoil, help those with problems . . ." and so-on.

The findings of the survey were that people frankly DO NOT KNOW WHY THEY ATTEND CHURCH—and they DO NOT KNOW WHY THE CHURCH EXISTS!

(Please continue on page 43)

Personal from the Editor

(Continued from page 4)

15:45-49). Therefore, what God created in the first Adam was *not yet complete*. Man was made carnal, material—but he was made to *need* the SPIRIT OF GOD. Without this *spiritual life* from GOD, man experiences a sense of emptiness—a hunger and thirst for that which will SATISFY.

The only thing that will impart to him this sense of satisfaction, completeness, abundance, is GOD'S Spirit—God's nature—God's FULLNESS. Yet his carnal mind does not recognize that fact. Being incomplete, lacking in the spiritual waters and heavenly food—God's Word—that would FILL him to satisfaction, he has a gnawing soul-hunger that leaves him miserable, empty, discontented. He seeks to quench his thirst and satisfy his soul-hunger in the interests and pursuits and pleasures of this world.

This very lack within him—this spiritual NEED—gives him an innate INFERIORITY COMPLEX. He senses his INFERIORITY, as compared to God—his lack of what he was made to *need*; but, not understanding what it is, he seeks to quell the painful sense of inferiority by conceit, and blowing up the ego—the SELF—with vanity and SELF-exaltation. This *vanity*, then, is a substitute for GOD and His Spirit—another god before the true God.

Since, then, his group, his club, his team, his party, his country, HIS WORLD, is all a *part* of his EMPIRICAL SELF, he exalts it, he loves it, he is loyal to it—and hostile to all opposing powers or forces. And this, too, becomes a kind of idolatry.

This world travels A WAY that is the very antithesis of THE WAY of God. Therefore, since THIS EVIL WORLD is a *part* of the *empirical SELF*, the carnal mind of man is *hostile to God!* Do you now see WHY?

Human nature is SELF-LOVE. Yet this love is *not* true love, but LUST. The SELF, as a *local self* or taken at its

widest expansion, is *hostile* to God. It has a contrary NATURE. It travels a different road. It is part of a different team, party, or group, or world, WAR-RING against God and Gods' WAY. It is WAR—and the SELF is lined up on the side of THIS EVIL WORLD, against GOD! And this is idolatry. Do you begin to see why you need to *repent* of what you *are*?

In this SUPREME WAR of all wars, God Almighty will accept no terms of PEACE but UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER!

The world is the ENEMY of GOD. It is hostile to GOD. Its educators have not retained GOD or His revealed knowledge in their curricula. Its educational approach to knowledge is not from the basis of God's revelation of origins, purposes, causes and right ways, but from opposite, contrary and false concepts. Its historians in their hostility to the common enemy—GOD—have deliberately rejected Biblical historic FACT, such as the flood, the exodus, the creation.

Its science, its medicine, its economics, its political structures, its social systems, its religions—ALL are hostile toward, and contrary to THE TRUTH and THE WAY of GOD!

But now look at the individual! Look at YOU! The SELF is part of this evil world of Satan. This world is *part* of the empirical SELF. The very NATURE in man is SELF-LOVE.

So by nature man loves HIS WORLD. His nature is saturated with love for the things that are AT WAR AGAINST GOD. His love for, and sense of loyalty toward his group, whether small or large, means automatically a *hostile attitude* toward whatever or whoever is opposed. So HUMAN NATURE automatically expresses resentment, jealousy, malice, spite, hatred, toward opposing parties, whether within or without his world.

You see, Satan's world *is* divided against itself. A man hates soldiers of an opposing army in war—yet those soldiers are a PART of the WHOLE world, which he loves. But this love, again, is actually LUST, for it is a love of the empirical SELF!

I said that before one can be converted, he must REPENT of WHAT HE IS, as well as what he has done. And

now I wonder if you see WHAT MAN IS! I wonder if YOU, now reading this, begin to see what YOU really are!

Man is VANITY. Man is LUST. Man is hostile to God, loyal to what is opposed to and WARRING against God and God's WAY! Man cannot find PEACE with his Maker on any terms but UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER. That means forsaking this world and its ways and hostilities.

The first thing that enters the mind of natural man when his mind is first opened to some of God's Truth, or when the first suggestion of following it enters, is: "What would my friends—family—relatives—group—say?" They will oppose. If you go over on GOD's side in this war for all eternity, they will say you are crazy, condemn you, accuse you, oppose you, persecute you.

You have to decide the question, in this war, of *whose side* you are on!

For it is WAR!

War to the DEATH—and I mean ETERNAL DEATH, or else to ETERNAL LIFE. And you must choose which. You cannot have both. You must forsake utterly, and give up completely, the WORLD, and the SELF, or go on to the DEATH for eternity with it!

This world is AT WAR with God. And this world is going to LOSE—and very soon! You are living in its very last days!

You think you are pretty good? Do YOU? Well let me tell you on God's authority that you are not good, but EVIL. To use expressive language—and I hope I can drive it through and through into your consciousness—you are, spiritually, so rotten you stink—you are so foul you deserve nothing but eternal death—you are so evil, by comparison to GOD, you are *not fit* to be called HIS SON! Yet, if you really *repent* of WHAT YOU ARE as well as the way you have done, and *really* turn around and go the other way, with God's power, God has provided a way of grace by which you may be redeemed, washed in Christ's blood, and actually be MADE righteous by THE HOLY SPIRIT of GOD!

How much GOOD is there in YOU—in your SELF?

Let GOD answer you. Don't take my word. LISTEN TO GOD!

Jesus Christ said, ". . . there is *none* good but One, that is, GOD." (Mat. 19:17). Will you face Christ in the Judgment and dispute Him, saying, "You were wrong, Lord—I am GOOD!"? Or will you accept, you who think you are pretty good, Christ's WORD that NONE is good, except GOD!

God's Word says to YOU: "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9). That means *your* heart. It is spiritually *sick* (see marginal rendering), and needs healing by the power of GOD.

When people came to John the baptist to be baptized, he told them how far from GOOD they were: He said ". . . You brood of vipers, . . . produce fruit that answers to your repentance. . . any tree that is not producing good fruit will be cut down, and thrown into the fire" (Mat. 3:8-10, Moffatt translation).

If you are not bearing GOOD FRUIT, you will be thrown into the lake of FIRE. Now can a carnal human bear good fruit? Is there GOOD in a human? In John 15, Jesus Christ compares us to *branches* of a vine—it could be a grapevine. He is the vine, we are the branches (verse 5). A branch, He said, "cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine" (Verse 4). If we abide in Him—are in constant CONTACT, so that HIS GOODNESS flows into and through us, we shall bring forth GOOD fruit, ". . . for without me, ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered: and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned" (Verses 5-6).

Jesus said we are known by our fruits. And a bad tree *cannot* produce good fruit. Nor can a good tree bring forth evil fruit. If you, then, are pretty GOOD—as many of you now reading this—even though already baptized and professing to be converted—think you are, and are a GOOD "tree," it is IMPOSSIBLE to bring forth bad fruit—that is, IMPOSSIBLE for you to sin. You have sinned—so you are *not* GOOD. But if you are not changed so as to produce GOOD FRUIT, you shall be burned up in the lake of fire (Mat. 7:17-19).

The apostle Paul said: "In me dwelleth *no good thing*"—or, as in the Re-

vised Standard translation: "NOTHING good dwells in me . . . I can *will* what is right, but I cannot do it" (Rom. 7:18).

I can *wish*—*want* to do, desire, or make a resolution, to do what is right—but I cannot DO it! No, without Christ, and His power within, you have no good, and can do no good. A carnal human may THINK he has good—thinks good thoughts, has good intentions. But when we understand what GOOD really means, he cannot produce it!

You may say, "But I think MOTHER-LOVE is good. Is it not GOOD when a mother loves and cares for her baby?" As a carnal human looks at it—humanly, perhaps—but let's just look at this noble mother love, as an example of human "goodness." That child is one of the *closest* portions of her empirical SELF. She regards it as HERS—it's a part of HER—and she loves herSELF, so she loves her child. Does your carnal mind still argue that this is really GOOD? If so, YOU NEED TO COMPREHEND WHAT IS GOD'S GOODNESS AND REPENT!

A rich man becomes a philanthropist. Andrew Carnegie gave millions of dollars to establish public libraries in many cities. Wasn't that GOOD?

Well, *look at it* a moment! He gave to HIS WORLD which he was part of and loved, didn't he? Just about all of the books in those libraries, except the few that are Bibles, are the writings of men HOSTILE to God, and the product of this world's education. Yes, Jesus Christ said the world LOVES ITS OWN, and showing love for and of the world is *not* the love of GOD. God commands us to love NOT the world, nor the things that are IN the world. And did you ever notice that Mr. Carnegie's NAME is placed on these libraries, to perpetuate his name, and uphold his vanity for generations after his death?

A man or wealthy widow donates a great art collection to an institution—but the donor's NAME is always there to exalt the "good" donor, and show off to people how "GOOD" he or she was! A person of means endows a college or university with a large sum—but it is known as the "scholarship" of the donor! And ALWAYS philanthropists see to it that their gifts go to the places and uses of *their choice*. The donation BUYS the

assent of the recipient to USE it as the donor demands!

Yes, by HUMAN STANDARDS, as HUMANS view things, there may be some "GOOD" in human nature, and in people. By human standards, Joseph of Arimathaea, who buried the body of Jesus, was a "good man" (Luke 23:50), but, let JESUS CHRIST settle this question once and for all: "If ye then, BEING EVIL, know how to give good gifts (see James 1:17) unto your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?" (Luke 11:13.)

Here is the supposed "good" mother giving "good" things to her child or baby. HERE IS MOTHER LOVE—perhaps the "highest" love we can recognize in a human. And Jesus Christ says emphatically that she does it "BEING EVIL." She, herself, is EVIL inherently. And if a person is EVIL, can an evil tree bring forth GOOD fruit? Jesus Christ says IT CANNOT.

What kind of fruit *does* a natural man, without God's Spirit, produce? These fruits are listed. They are ". . . adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like" (Gal. 5:19-21).

Do we, BEING EVIL, produce GOOD fruit? Are the fruits of the flesh—of human nature—love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, GOODNESS? No, these are the fruits of GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT, which you cannot produce except GOD produce them in and through you BY His Holy Spirit. *These* are the fruits of GOD, and they can come only *from* GOD. That's why there is NO PEACE in the world!

I know many who have been baptized, and who *think* they have been converted, and ARE PRETTY GOOD IN THEIR OWN EYES! And I hope YOU of that category can know that I *do* mean YOU!

But *you* are not as good as JOB!

Job was so "good" that even Satan could not detect any sin—any evil. Job possibly had repented of what evil he had DONE, and turned from it—for Satan could find no evil in what Job DID! But GOD found evil in what Job

was! He was self-righteous! He was pretty GOOD, humanly speaking—and HE KNEW IT TOO WELL! He had spiritual VANITY—like some of YOU!

Well, how do YOU compare to GOD? Where were YOU, when GOD created this earth? Can YOU sustain, control, and rule the UNIVERSE? Or are YOU about as small, compared to GOD, as our strutting peacock? Why, you don't even have his beautiful plumage!

But you *do* have the potential of coming to *recognize* your own worthlessness, depravity, inherent EVIL—and REPENTING of it! You *do* have the mind power, and the will, *if* you choose, to make the complete UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER to God, and to HIS WAYS, and HIS AUTHORITY, and HIS GOVERNMENT over your life!

And it *is* within your potential, if you'll pray—and FAST and pray, with your whole heart *until* God grants it—to REPENT, not only of what you are conscious of having *done* wrong—but of WHAT YOU ARE!

For, "except ye REPENT," said Jesus, "ye shall all likewise PERISH" (Luke 13:3).

To really REPENT means to come to God completely *broken up* in contrition of the spirit of REBELLION that has

been in your heart (oh yes, that rebellion *has* been in *your* heart!) and to return to God "*with all your heart*, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning: and REND YOUR HEART . . ." (Joel 2:12-13).

Do many seeking baptism take it *THAT* SERIOUSLY? Do YOU take it that seriously? Have *you* ever been really *broken up* about what a rotten, foul, deceitful, vain, and evil creature you have been?

It's about time many thousands of our readers get their eyes opened—for THIS WORLD is nearing its END with the speed of space-flight!

It is MUCH later than you think! May God help you to SEE!

This world has its TWO dimensions—the WITHIN, which is the *local* SELF, and the AROUND, which is the *empirical* SELF! It's time to EXPAND your horizon now to the THIRD dimension—the ABOVE—on up to GOD, for every GOOD and perfect gift comes down from ABOVE—from GOD whose supreme purpose is to beget each of us with HIS SPIRIT—His love—His *goodness*—His very *life*, which is ETERNAL LIFE—the only complete, full, ABUNDANT life, full of goodness, happiness, joy, and PEACE FOREVER!

THE BIBLE ANSWERS

Short Questions

FROM OUR READERS

"Why do you say it is impossible for God to lie? God has all power and can do anything if he wants to!"

This reader certainly has not read his Bible! Paul answered this very question twice in the New Testament. To Titus he wrote that God "cannot lie" (Titus 1:2) and in Hebrews 6:18 he declared it is "impossible for God to lie."

But why should it be impossible for God to lie—if God can do all things? The answer ought to be obvious.

First, consider this—God is perfect character. Character is a matter of the will. God has willed, determined, chosen

always to tell the truth. God cannot lie because He *will* not lie. No trait of character is more important than this. If God could not be relied upon, then His Word, the Bible, would have no authority.

It takes a strong character always to tell the truth. Anyone who lies is a weak character. It is *easy* to lie. It is human to lie. Truth, by contrast, is an attribute of God—a trait of divine character.

When one is born of God and possesses the fullness of divine character, it will be impossible to sin—impossible to lie (I John 3:9).

The Necessity for Christ's Second Coming!

Read the startling TRUTH regarding an event that will soon
startle this world!

by Roderick C. Meredith

THE visible bodily return of Jesus Christ is not a mere theological "idea." It is a FACT soon to be revealed—an absolute NECESSITY for a world on the verge of *human annihilation*.

Why God Is Concerned

To Arnold J. Toynbee, the historian of civilizations, the unleashing of atomic energy raises the basic question of man's survival in our time. He says: "Since 1949, when Russia, too, got the bomb, it has become possible for the human race to destroy itself. *If we are able to survive, we are going to live in danger from here on.*"

As reported in a survey of twenty eminent historians in *Look Magazine*, Professor Samuel Elliott Morrison concluded: "We have got to get used to living without solutions. *We have to get used to living in crisis after crisis, hoping for the best, but expecting the worst.*"

It is high time you learned why God is concerned with humanity's threat of self-extinction.

Stop and think!

Would the very Creator of heaven and earth allow man to completely destroy this world as we know it—to defeat the great PURPOSE He is working out here below, a purpose of which most men are in total ignorance?

A Religious Theory?

The educated of this world have come to regard the prophecy of the second coming of Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God, as a *myth* or *superstitious idea* held by a few ignorant folk. They smile knowingly at one another whenever the subject is mentioned.

Very few modern ministers ever speak about Jesus' return. Most of those who do preach on this subject often bring discredit on themselves and

their messages by making startling statements to frighten people, or by setting exact dates for certain events for which they have no Biblical basis whatever. Their particular exposition of this subject is so obviously in error that the educated listener usually winds up disbelieving the entire doctrine.

It has come to the place that most so-called "Christian" churches in our time no longer teach their members about the *hundreds* of passages in the Bible which speak of the second coming of Jesus Christ to rule this world. Most of the larger denominations do not directly deny this doctrine, they just carefully avoid mentioning it, or else they try to "allegorize it away."

Is the "*sure word of prophecy*" which Peter speaks of to be relied upon as a *fact*—or can we relegate these prophecies to the rubbish heap as of no consequence? Are these prophecies actually taking place *right now*? Does the continuance of human life on this planet *demand* the intervention of God which the prophecies in His Word foretell? Is God's intervention a *logical* solution to mounting *world chaos*?

A Startling Historical Admission

The renowned historian, Edward Gibbon, in the fifteenth chapter of his authoritative *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*—recognized as a standard work on this period of history—admits that the doctrine of Christ's second coming to earth was taught as a FACT by the early Christian church. He states: "The ancient and popular doctrine of the Millennium was intimately connected with the *second coming of Christ*. As the works of the creation had been finished in six days, their duration in their present state according to a tradition which was attributed to the Prophet Elijah was fixed to 6000 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 who had escaped death, or who had been miraculously revived, would reign upon earth till the time appointed for the last and general resurrection . . . The assurance of such a Millennium was carefully inculcated by a succession of fathers from Justin Martyr and Irenaeus, who conversed with the immediate disciples of the apostles, down to Lactantius, who was preceptor to the son of Constantine . . . But when the edifice of the church was almost completed, the temporary support was laid aside. The doctrine of Christ's reign upon earth was at first treated as a profound allegory, was considered by degrees as a doubtful and useless opinion, and was at length rejected as the absurd invention of heresy and fanaticism."

NOTICE!

Here are the words of the recognized "authority" on the history of this time. As a *historian*—not a theologian—he states that the early church taught the doctrine of the second coming of Christ as a FACT—but that it was later gradually rejected or in many cases treated as a "profound allegory!"

Modern theologians have clearly DEPARTED from teaching the people about a REAL God who can and soon *will intervene in world affairs!*

Recent world events are beginning to FORCE thinking men to admit that things are "different" now. For if there is a *real God in heaven*, then NOW is the time for that God to intervene and send His Son Christ back to *literally* "save" this world from destroying itself!

President John F. Kennedy admitted in his inaugural address: "The world is VERY DIFFERENT now. For man holds in

his mortal hands the power to ABOLISH all forms of human poverty and ALL FORMS OF HUMAN LIFE" [emphasis ours].

We have reached a turning point in human history where we had better stop and ask ourselves—not what men say—but what are the DIRECT WORDS OF GOD on the subject of *Divine intervention in human affairs?*

Jesus Christ's Direct Statements

When Jesus Christ was here on earth, His disciples asked Him to describe the signs that should precede His second coming and the end of this world—or age. Study His answer in Matthew 24. In verse 21, He foretold a terrible time of trouble "such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be."

Most people who read this prophecy say, "Yes, but there have *always* been wars and troubles in the world—so how do we know what to go by?"

The *answer* is contained in the very next verse of this momentous prophecy. It reveals that a time *is* coming when God will INTERVENE in world affairs and *shorten* the course of events in this age! He will do this as a *Loving Creator to prevent* HUMAN ANNIHILATION. "And except those days should be shortened, there should NO FLESH be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened" (Verse 22).

Here are *definite statements* in your Bible in which Christ predicted a time of trouble at the end of this age to which no other can be compared—a time when God MUST INTERVENE in world affairs to prevent man from blasting himself into oblivion with *hydrogen bombs* and *rockets*.

Could this prophecy refer to any other time than the present and the immediate future? Has man EVER—at any time—had the means to *completely obliterate human life* so that "no flesh" would be saved alive on this earth?

The Apostle Paul was also inspired to describe the condition of humanity of this end time. In II Timothy 3:1-4, he says that "perilous times shall come," and predicts that at this time men would be *traitors, truce-breakers, greedy*, coveting the wealth and territories of each other. This condition would *not* get

better but *worse*, for Paul said: "Evil men and seducers shall wax *worse and worse*, deceiving and being deceived" (Verse 13).

In spite of all our "peace" conferences and high ideals, the lust and greed of carnal men is expressing itself in worse and WORSE depredations against what peaceful society still remains.

Men Reject the Truth

Yet, even though most men can see the "handwriting on the wall" and know that this world is perhaps plotting its own doom, they scoff at the idea that the Creator God should intervene in human affairs. Peter wrote: "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days *scoffers*, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation" (II Pet. 3:3-4).

Peter says these men are *willingly ignorant* of the fact that God has ALREADY intervened once in this world's affairs to send a flood to destroy a corrupt and violent civilization of another day (Verses 5-6). How true this is! In our day above all others, countless scientific findings in the fields of geology and archaeology point conclusively to the *absolute reality* of the flood of Noah. But carnal men use every clever device and artifice possible to hide their eyes with this FACT.

Contrary to what these "scientific" scoffers think, all things have NOT continued as they once were. Man's basic lust and selfishness is the same—only perhaps a little worse. *But the physical means of expressing that lust in war and conquest have radically CHANGED!*

New Scientific Horrors

Among all the fantastic ideas being thought of to stop an enemy nation from attacking with nuclear weapons is the idea of the "ultimate weapon"—the "DOOMSDAY MACHINE." Such a machine, some think, would be the "ultimate deterrent." Here is the conception of such a machine by one of the nation's outstanding thinkers on military research, Herman Kahn, physicist: Such a machine "might be built within a

decade for perhaps ten to one hundred billion dollars . . . and programmed by a computer to fire at the first flash of an enemy attack, DESTROYING THE WORLD with radiation, heat or profound climatic change." Kahn says there would be "*nothing left to orbit the sun but the cinder of a planet* shrouded in an atomic cloud." No nation, it is hoped, would dare launch an attack in the face of such a total threat.

Americans today generally refuse to face squarely the issue of a war with such horrifying weapons and call it simply "unthinkable."

"We must think about the *unthinkable, or perish*," Kahn maintains.

He states: "The ultimate solution to *Armageddon* . . . is some form of arms control and *rule of law*, possibly under a *world government*."

The REAL Hope of Civilization

Our leaders now realize that the only real hope of saving our civilization from self-destruction is the eventual formation of a strong WORLD GOVERNMENT. But all attempts at this encounter suspicion, distrust, and *hate*. The hard fact is that man has consistently failed, *and will continue to fail to attain this objective*.

Men will NEVER achieve a successful world government because the greed, covetousness, and lust for power of world leaders will *always* keep them from being willing to make the sacrifices such a universal government would involve. The Apostle James says that these same lusts are the basic cause of *war*: "From whence come wars and fighting among you? Come they not hence, even of your *lusts* that war in your members? Ye *lust*, and have not, ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain; ye FIGHT and WAR, yet ye have not, *because ye ask not*". (Jas. 4:1-2).

Human nature has not changed.

Men are still quite willing to spill the blood of their fellows to satisfy their *lust* and *greed*. Do the men of this world really know the *WAY* to *peace*? God Almighty says of sinful men in general: "The *WAY* of *peace* have they not known" (Rom. 3:17).

We hear a lot of sentimental platitudes about the hopes of achieving
(Please continue on page 41)

The Bible Story

by Basil Wolverton

CHAPTER FORTY-SIX

KING'S RANSOM TEMPTS A PROPHET

TOWARD the ancient land of Mesopotamia, by the upper Euphrates valley, lived a prophet named Balaam. This man was known in many areas as one who had such a special gift of prophecy that he could pronounce wonderful blessings and great curses on people—pronouncements that seemed to be amazingly inspired and honored by God in whose name Balaam uttered them.

A King's Evil Design

Balak, the heathen king of Moab, had heard that Balaam had the power, through God, to bless people, and to curse them. Such a power, he thought, might be much greater than that of any wizard or enchanter who worked through spells and magic and strange mixtures.

"If this man Balaam could be hired to pronounce a curse on all of this upstart nation of Israel," Balak told his officers, "those trespassing people might be so crippled that we could drive them out or even destroy them. We must try every possible means to keep those Israelites away, and therefore I want Balaam to be brought here." (Numbers 22:1-6.)

The king immediately sent several of his princes eastward into Midian, where they were joined by Midianite princes. The caravan then moved on northward to the city of Pethor where Balaam lived.

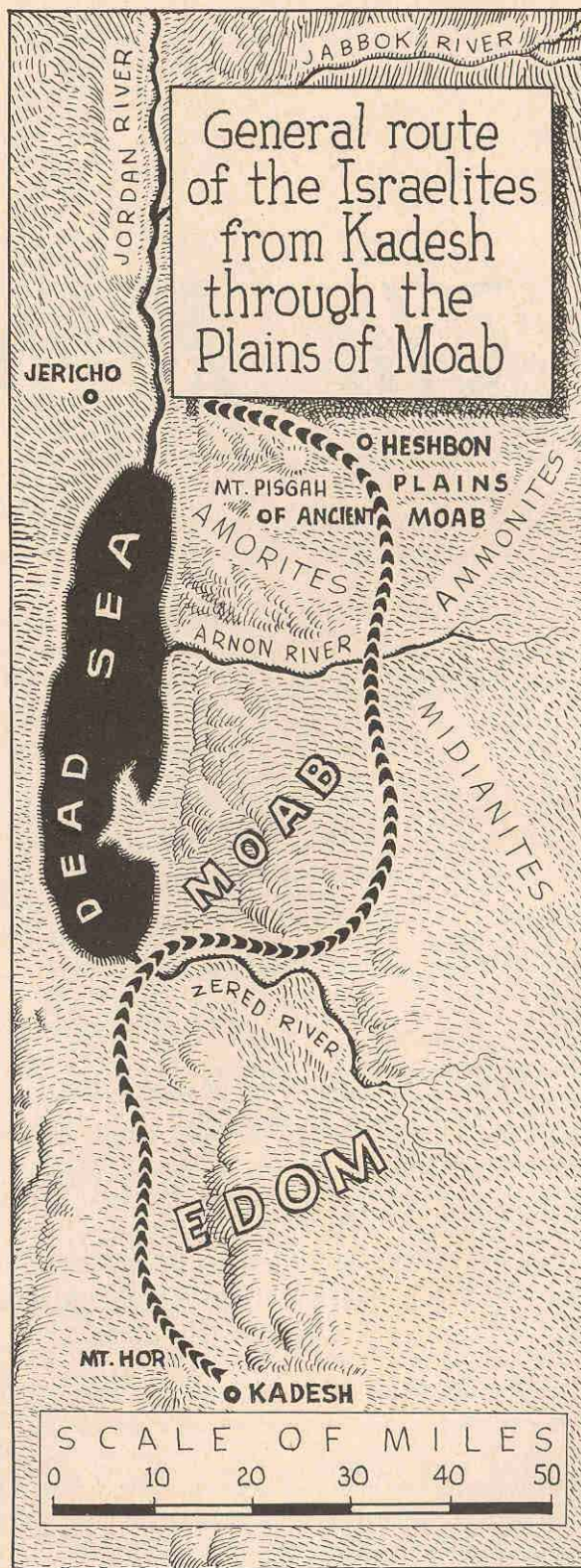
When Balaam was told by these men of high rank why they had come to him, he felt a bit honored but quite uneasy.

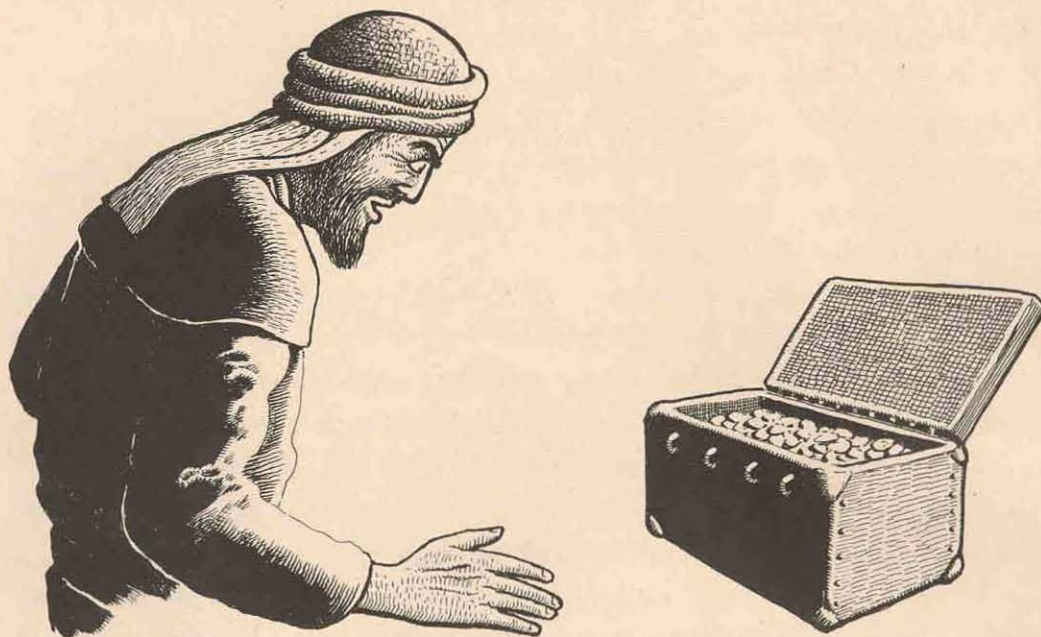
"I am a prophet of the most high God," he explained to them. "If it pleases my God to inspire me to pronounce curses and blessings, so be it. But I cannot curse whom He would bless."

"Perhaps you should make certain what you are allowed to do before you give us a final answer," one of the Moabite officers said. "We haven't come here to ask you to do something without a proper reward."

The officer clapped his hands, and in came two servants almost staggering under the weight of a metal-strapped box. The lid was lifted, disclosing a huge amount of pieces of silver and gold. Balaam's eyes widened at sight of this unexpected display of wealth. Nothing more was said, but Balaam knew that this fortune would be his if he would accompany the princes back to Moab and pronounce a curse on Israel. He began to hope that God would allow him to reap those riches. In his heart he began to covet the reward more than righteousness.

"I certainly must consult my God about this matter," Balaam finally spoke up after an awkward silence. "I should like to talk to you more about it tomorrow if you would be pleased to lodge here





The prophet stared covetously at the box of gold and silver that had been brought to buy his services.

overnight in the spacious inn just down the street.”

The Moabite and Midianite officers took this to mean that the sight of such a rich reward had speedily caused Balaam to give in to their wishes, and they departed with satisfaction for the inn which was one of Pethor's best. (Verses 7-8.)

That night God spoke to Balaam, asking him the identity of the men who had come to visit him. God already knew, but He wanted to know if Balaam feared Him enough to tell the truth. Balaam told the truth.

“You must not go with these men to curse the Israelites, for they are blessed,” God told him.

Next morning Balaam met with the princes, whose faces fell when they heard what he had to say.

Balaam Speaks Deceitfully

“My God has refused to let me go with you to do what you ask,” Balaam announced. “There is nothing more to be said or done about the matter except for you to return to your countries.”

As Balaam later watched the caravan depart from Pethor, he couldn't help but regret that a fortune in precious metals was slipping through his fingers. He wasn't exactly certain that he had been wise in turning down this opportunity to become

wealthy overnight, and he hoped Balak would send more messengers and persuade him so forcefully that he would have to go with them.

After the caravan departed, Balaam's mind often dwelled on that chest of gleaming gold and silver. Balaam felt that if only his fear of God wasn't so great, he could have become possessor of the chest. Instead of desiring a king's ransom, Balaam should have gladly rejected riches in order to serve God, as Moses and Paul did. (Hebrews 11:24-26; Acts 20:33.)

A few weeks passed. Then another caravan suddenly showed up at Pethor. It was made up of Moabite and Midianite princes of even higher rank than those who had come before. (Num. 22:15.) There were more servants and more animals. The people of Pethor were excited and honored to welcome another assemblage of men of high rank, and were proud that a resident of their city was famous enough to attract such a group of officers from other nations. Balaam's sudden increase in popularity made him even more desirous of the offered wealth.

He was quite impressed with the visitors, especially when some in the caravan turned out to be musicians and dancing girls who performed in the street in front of the prophet's home. He began to realize that if Balak made him rich, he could afford to have his own private musicians and dancing girls. Balaam's love of money was leading him into all sorts of evil desires. (I Timothy 6:10.)

Following the street performance, the head princes met with Balaam to inform him that the king of Moab had been greatly disappointed because his offer had been turned down, but that he was so needful of Balaam's services that he would give him great rank besides anything he asked if only he would come to Moab and call down a curse on Israel.

Playing With Temptation

This was a severe temptation to Balaam. All that he had to do to be wealthy the rest of his life was to go to Moab and utter a few words against Israel in the name of God. What bothered him was the question of just how long his life would continue if he should go contrary to God's will. He hoped circumstances would work out so that he could please Balak without directly disobeying God.

"I can't do anything my God tells me not to do," Balaam told the princes. "Even if your king were to give me a whole house full of gold and silver, I cannot do any more or less than God allows. However, I must contact my God tonight to see just what His will is. If it pleases you to stay overnight in our city, there is good lodging in the adjoining place down the street. I shall be in touch with you tomorrow to report what I am allowed to do." (Num. 22:16-19.)

It was plain to see by the expressions of the princes, as they filed out, that they were gravely disappointed in the answer they received.

Balaam wondered later if they would ever return. Then God again spoke to Balaam. "If these men from Moab and Midian come to you in the morning, I won't stop you from leaving with them," God said. "If it turns out that you do go with them, remember that I am warning you not to say anything to them except what I tell you to say." (Verse 20.)

Balaam Disobeys

Balaam got up very early next morning to prepare for the possible return of the princes. When a little time dragged on, and no one showed up, it seemed like hours. Balaam was worried. He desperately wanted to go to Moab because of the rich reward that could be his, but he feared to displease God. Finally he reasoned around God's command by saying to himself, "God said if they came for me I should go with them; and they came for me yesterday." So he decided to go with the princes without waiting longer for them to come for him. After all, the princes may have given up the idea of hearing from him, and started preparing to return to their native lands. Balaam's decision was direct disobedience, because he was commanded originally not to go unless the princes came for him that next morning.

"Go quickly to the lodging place of the princes," Balaam instructed a servant. "If they are yet there, tell them that they need wait no longer for word from me. If they have already gone, overtake them and tell them that I shall join them."

A little while later the servant returned to report that the caravan was about to leave Pethor, and that the princes were surprised, but looking forward eagerly to Balaam joining them on the trail.

Balaam instructed his servants to prepare a burro for him and provisions for a long journey for three people—himself and two servants. (Verse 21.) A short time later Balaam's group joined the caravan on its way to Moab and Midian.

Suddenly Balaam's burro lunged off the trail and into a field, almost throwing its rider. Angered by the animal's unusual action, Balaam lifted the rod he was carrying, and violently struck the burro on one of its flanks to force it back onto the trail. The animal, however, kept on heading out into the field. Balaam was furious.

His fury would have swiftly melted away if he could have been aware of what had startled the burro. An angel bearing a sharp sword was standing in the road! He had made himself visible only to the burro, which finally, because of Balaam's angry shouts and gouging heels, started back toward the road. The angel swiftly moved and stationed himself before the donkey between two vineyard walls border-

ing a pathway leading back to the road. (Verses 22-24.)

To bypass the angel, the burro lunged to the side, this time painfully jamming her master's foot and crushing it against the wall. Balaam vengefully struck the burro on the neck with his staff, as the animal staggered fearfully forward. The angel again stationed himself further down the narrowing path. When the burro saw it could not get by the angel, it collapsed with fright and nervousness at being so close to the ominous figure of an angel of God. What little patience Balaam had left came to an abrupt end. He leaped up and brought the staff down on the animal's back with all his strength.

The Burro Speaks!

With God all things are possible. (Mark 10:27.) The burro opened her mouth and spoke her thoughts as though with a human voice!

"What harm have I done to you to cause you to strike me so violently these three times?" the animal asked Balaam.

Balaam stepped back, his mouth falling open in astonishment. It was too much for him to believe that this animal had actually spoken, yet he somehow felt obliged to reply.

"I—I struck you because—because you have made me look ridiculous by tossing me around and shoving me against that wall. Besides, you are delaying me in an important trip," Balaam nervously but angrily answered. "If this staff of mine were a sword, I would jab it through you!" (Num. 22:25-29.)

Balaam stared at the burro, wondering if he had been wrong in thinking that she had spoken in the first place. Then the animal's mouth quivered again, and Balaam was unhappily certain that it was actually the burro that was talking.

"Years ago you chose me as your favorite animal for riding," the burro said. "I have served you faithfully all this time. Have I ever treated you so badly as you have treated me just now?"

Balaam was still a little stunned because of the human voice that came from the mouth of his burro.

"—uh—no!" he finally managed to mutter. (Verse 30.)

God gave Balaam the ability to suddenly see the angel. The prophet staggered back, his eyes popping in amazement. In dreams and visions he had heard and seen angels, but this was the first time he had ever seen one while awake. Because of his feeling of guilt, he fell forward to prostrate himself before the powerful being from God.

"What good did it do to beat your donkey?" the angel asked Balaam. "I was stand-

ing in your path, and when the animal saw me there, she tried three times to dodge around me. Were it not so, I would have used this sword to kill you—though not your donkey—because of your disobeying God by joining the caravan returning to Moab!" (Verses 31-33.)

Groveling with his face in the soil, Balaam realized how wrong he had been in coveting the fortune offered him to curse Israel. How unwise he had been in not fearing God enough to refuse to disobey. He realized he should have stayed at home, since the princes did not come for him in the morning after God instructed him.

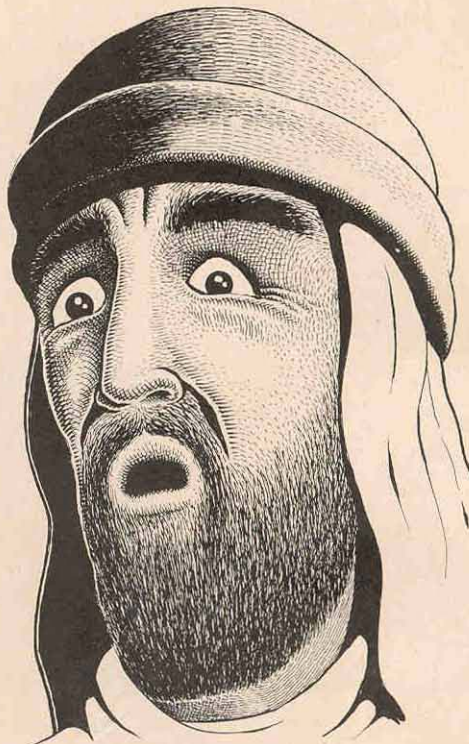
"I have sinned!" he cried out. "I didn't know that God would go so far as to send one of His angels to slay me. Please spare me! If you don't want me to continue, allow me to return to my home!"

"I shall spare you," the angel told Balaam, "but not to return to your home. Now that you have begun this journey, God wants you to rejoin Balak's caravan. However, when you arrive in Moab, you are to declare only the things I tell you to speak."

God was giving Balaam another opportunity to refuse wealth and choose to obey Him. If God had sent him back home, Balaam would not have had another such test of his loyalty. Balaam was greatly relieved not to be punished. He gladly agreed to God's terms, remembering the wealth of Balak. Accompanied by his two servants, who had excitedly watched and heard his strange experience from only a short distance, he hastily rejoined the caravan of princes headed back toward Moab. (Verses 34-35.)

After the caravan was well under way, a messenger using the swiftest beast in the caravan was sent ahead to inform king Balak that Balaam was already on the way with the caravan.

When the messenger reached the Moabite capital, the king was satisfied to learn that the prophet was coming. Balak ordered a caravan to be organized to take him



Balaam staggered back, his eyes popping in amazement at sight of an angel with a gleaming sword!

to meet Balaam and the princes. The caravan set out at once, and stopped at a town in the northeast corner of Moab—about as close as Balak could get to the caravan coming from Pethor without going into another nation. This town was on the well-used trail to Pethor and the Euphrates river region, and it was there that the two caravans met. (Verse 36.)

Balaam Again Weakens

"Why didn't you come to Moab the first time I sent for you?" king Balak asked Balaam a little impatiently. "Didn't you realize that I am able to give you a high and honorable position in my government, as well as the treasure my men offered you?" Balaam was happy to hear the treasure mentioned again. He had again begun to think more about it and less about the warning God gave through His angel.

"It was difficult for me to leave Pethor when your first caravan arrived," Balaam replied. "Here I am at last, but I want you to know that I have no power to curse or to bless any nation unless my God gives me that power. I can speak only what I am told to speak." (Verses 37-38.) Balaam was careful to speak in such a way that king Balak would not give up, but would keep trying harder to buy his services. He had become greedy for the reward Balak promised. (II Peter 2:15-16; Jude 11.)

As Balaam hoped, his statement didn't discourage Balak. The king was convinced that the prophet somehow could manage to bring down his God's wrath on Israel. He correctly believed that Balaam's statement perhaps meant that the price would be higher than anything Balak had already offered. Whatever the price, the king was willing to pay and was pleased to take Balaam with him farther into Moab, to the town of *Kirjath-huzoth*, which means "a city of streets." Its many fine streets made it a good place for a festive occasion to celebrate Balaam's arrival.

Because the king and princes of Moab and Midian were present, there was a great celebration that night in the town where rugged men who dealt in sheep and cattle often came for business and entertainment. Kirjath-huzoth was something like an ancient Middle East version of an American cattle town of a century ago. Streets were ablaze with torches. Carefree, pleasure-seeking shepherders and cattledrivers whooped and yelled as they moved in and out of the various establishments of the town.

The festive feeling was further promoted when the king ordered his musicians, entertainers and dancing girls to perform their best and loudest in the streets and market place. Although Balaam realized that this festivity was at least partly in his honor, he was uncomfortable because it was coming from such boisterous idol worshippers. He was even less at ease when he noticed a huge fire being built at a street intersection, and was told that the Moabites were about to sacrifice oxen and sheep to their

gods, and that generous portions were being brought to him and the Midianite princes with him. (Verse 40.)

"We seek protection from our enemies by pleasing our gods with sacrifices," Balak explained to Balaam. "If you wish to sacrifice to your God at the same time on this altar, I shall see that you are supplied with any kinds of carcasses you need. Of course I hope that you will at the same time implore your God to join our gods in protecting my nation."

"I am sorry to disappoint you," Balaam answered uneasily, "but I can't join you in this ceremony. My God is a jealous God who has nothing to do with other gods. Tomorrow would be a better time to sacrifice to Him." Balaam could see he was not like these idol worshippers, but he was blind to the fact he had begun to serve silver and gold in place of God, which is idolatry.

(To be continued next issue)

The NECESSITY For Christ's Second Coming!

(Continued from page 32)

peace through the United Nations. But the pitiful RESULTS confirm Paul's inspired statement that *carnal men simply don't know the way to peace.*

It may be an *unpleasant fact*, but it is still a FACT.

Let's not hide our eyes from these realities and be overtaken by our DOOM. The events in this world *prove* the Bible stands fast. Evil men are continuing to "wax worse and worse." More than at any other time in history, men are *traitors and truce breakers* as Paul prophesied. Man has proved himself incapable of bringing peace to this earth. He does not even know the WAY to *peace*. His character is basically *lustful and evil*—and waxing *worse* in these end times. Only *God* can change it.

Most significant of all, as we have seen, man now has terrifying weapons of destruction which were formerly unheard of. NEVER BEFORE in human history have such weapons existed! Times

HAVE CHANGED! Guided missiles and earth satellites, horrifying nerve gases, hydrogen bombs and rockets—all these and many more scientific horrors—make WORLD SUICIDE a definite, fearful possibility!

The ONLY real hope is the intervention in world affairs of the Creator God Himself. Can we GRASP this?

How to Understand

Jesus' own prophecy of His second coming to prevent human annihilation has already been briefly discussed. But in this prophecy, Jesus warned that most men would either disbelieve or be in ignorance of this momentous event until it actually took place. He compared them to the men in Noah's time who unheedingly continued in their worldly endeavors. "Until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; *so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be*" (Mat. 24:38-39).

Why are men in such great IGNORANCE of this vital subject today? Why are they so backward and skeptical about investigating the ONLY REAL HOPE for the continuance of mankind on this earth?

It is because most people—and even most churchgoers—are in almost total IGNORANCE of the countless prophecies in the Bible which clearly reveal that God has ordained that His Son Jesus Christ shall RULE this earth for a thousand years and teach men the *way to peace!* Your Bible shows that this is to occur after a DEFINITE SERIES OF EVENTS. It will occur after man has had time to write a lesson in human suffering to show once and for all that his *own ways* literally lead to DEATH (Prov. 14:12).

In a basic prophecy describing this definite series of events before Christ's intervention in human affairs, the prophet Daniel foresaw the rise and fall of four great world-ruling empires which would culminate in the establishment of God's government on this earth (Dan. 2:36-45). These kingdoms are known by all Bible scholars to be the Babylonian, Medo-Persian, Greco-Macedonian, and Roman Empires. Verses 41-43 indicate that the end time revivals of the Roman Empire in central Europe would be less stable than

at first, but would continue until God intervened.

Nevertheless, an amalgamation of nations in central Europe comprising a revived ROMAN EMPIRE was prophesied to exist until Christ's second coming. "And in the days of *these kings* shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall NEVER be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but is shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and *it shall stand forever*" (Verse 44).

Isaiah prophesied that in the "last days" God's Kingdom would be established here on earth and that "all nations shall flow unto it" (Isa. 2:1-4). At this time, Christ will teach men the WAY to peace. "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 SHALL THEY LEARN WAR ANY MORE*" (Verse 4).

One of the principle thoughts in these prophecies is that Christ is coming to *save* the world from SELF-DESTRUCTION and will begin to teach all nations—*with force as necessary*—the WAY of peace.

Christ's Coming is NEEDED

The bodily return of the Divine Christ is ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY to keep man from *destroying himself*, and to make possible the strong *world government*—the KINGDOM OF GOD—which will *keep the peace* and make possible the literal utopia for which mankind longs so much!

In every age, God has had *His ministers—His prophets*—to WARN those who would heed, of His DIVINE INTERVENTION, and how they might come under His protection from any impending calamity. God promises in His Word: "Surely the Lord God will do NOTHING but *He revealeth His secret unto His servants the prophets*" (Amos 3:7).

Where are God's prophets today?

As you continue to listen carefully to The WORLD TOMORROW broadcast and to read and *study with your Bible* The PLAIN TRUTH magazine, the answer to that question will soon become

very apparent. For there is NO OTHER SOURCE from where you can get real UNDERSTANDING of the *definite prophesied events* in world affairs which are now occurring and beginning to occur.

Long before the European Common Market ever came into being—long before Germany revived into the MOST POWERFUL industrial and political nation in central Europe—this work was warning America and Britain in *definite terms* of these prophesied events!

For these nations now uniting in Europe will ultimately comprise the "Beast" of Revelation 17—the final revival of the Holy Roman Empire!

It will be this highly militaristic, pagan, yet church-dominated system which Jesus Christ will have to CRUSH at His second coming.

There will be exactly *ten kings* or *dictators* ruling over ten nations or groups of nations which will comprise this system. They will all give their power eventually unto one *super dictator*—prophetically called the "Beast" (Rev. 17:12-13). This dictator and the entire system will be heavily influenced and dominated by a false church system called a fallen woman or "great whore" which sits upon and guides this political "Beast" (Verses 1-3).

The book of Revelation, together with Matthew 24, shows the exact order of world-shaking events preceding Christ's return to this earth. For a complete exposition of this subject, write immediately for Mr. Armstrong's free booklet, "The Key to the Book of Revelation."

Where GOD Is Working

For over a quarter of a century, this work of God has been *definite and specific* in showing the world—event by event—EXACTLY what is going to take place before the second coming of Jesus Christ! Can *you* grasp the SIGNIFICANCE of this?

This work *alone* has been warning America and Britain of the *specific punishments* which are coming upon us. Millions in America and Britain have learned through this work that we are God's people *Israel*, and that He is going to *deal with us* as His chosen people—chosen for a service we have FAILED to perform.

Prophesying of what His true ministers would be doing at the time of the end, Jesus said: "Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of Man be come" (Mat. 10:23).

This work of God is now THUNDERING the warning message from Christ to the major cities of America and Britain, Canada, Australia and South Africa. Modern Israel is rapidly being WARNED before it is too late! *This also is the fulfillment of prophecy.*

People may argue and reason, and have their own ideas. They did in Jesus' day, and the religious leaders rejected and ultimately crucified even HIM.

But He said: "If I do not the WORKS of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, *believe the works*: that ye may know and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in Him" (John 10:37-38).

This is the WORK Christ is doing through His human instruments today! God the Father and Christ Himself are "IN" this very work.

You need to begin really STUDYING The PLAIN TRUTH magazine, the booklets offered *freely* over The WORLD TOMORROW broadcast, and to take the *Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course*. Others may hem and haw about a coming world catastrophe, or shout that "the Lord may come tonight" or similar emotional and general statements. But this work of God stands ALONE in being able to clearly depict—event by event—the EXACT order of *major world events* BEFORE they happen and to show the tremendous MEANING of these events in the light of the great PURPOSE which God is working out here below!

Jesus said: "And this Gospel of the Kingdom (*the coming world government of God*) shall be preached in all the world for a WITNESS unto all nations; and *then shall the end come*" (Mat. 24:14). That "witness" of Christ's return and God's coming *world government* is coming to you NOW as you read these lines!

May God grant you an open mind and help you to *study*, to *pray*, and to ACT on the knowledge you are receiving through His Word and through His human servants in this climactic age!

WHY A CHURCH?

(Continued from page 28)

What DID Christ commission His true Church to DO?

What IS its place in this pulsating world of the 60's?

The GREAT JOB of the True Church

Jesus not only *built* His true Church—He gave it a JOB to perform! He *commissioned* that Church to carry on the work He had only *BEGUN*!

This plain and simple truth has been so long *BURIED* and *HIDDEN* from the world that it sounds *SHOCKING*, *STARTLING* when we hear it today—but it's true! Jesus Christ brought the Gospel of the Kingdom of God to this earth! (Matt. 4:17, 23).

He said the Father expressly *SENT* Him to accomplish this great *WORK* of preaching and teaching the Gospel (John 12:49, 50). Jesus said, "My Father *WORKETH* hitherto, and I *WORK!*" (John 5:17).

The *WORK OF GOD* Jesus accomplished was many-fold. But a *MAJOR PART* of that work was the private teaching and training of His disciples (*students, learners*), vigorously *preparing them* to *CARRY ON* the great work He had begun.

He said, "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples" (John 15:8). But what *was* the fruit they were to bear?

Jesus had sent them out two by two, saying, ". . . as ye go, *PREACH*, saying "The *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* is at hand . . ." (Matt. 10:7).

Later, after His parting instructions to Peter, and all the disciples, Jesus *COMMISSIONED* His Church about to be built. He commanded them, "GO ye therefore, and *TEACH ALL NATIONS*, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, *TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THINGS WHATSOEVER I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. . .*" (Matt. 28:19).

He told them to *GO*, to *PREACH* the Gospel of the Kingdom of God! (Mark 16:15).

Then Christ gave a concrete *PROMISE!* He said, ". . . and lo, I *AM WITH YOU*

ALWAY, EVEN UNTO THE END OF THE AGE (margin)" (Matt. 28:20).

He had promised "I *WILL NEVER* leave you, nor forsake you!" Jesus proved He was *ALIVE* after His resurrection, and confirmed "the word, with signs following" (Mark 16:20).

The great *JOB* Jesus Christ gave to His true Church to perform was to *CARRY ON* the work He had begun. He commissioned them to *PREACH AND PUBLISH* the Gospel of the Kingdom of God to *ALL THE WORLD*, saying "And *THIS GOSPEL* [the *SAME GOSPEL HE BROUGHT*] of the Kingdom shall be preached [and *PUBLISHED*] in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and *then* shall the end come" (Matt. 24:14 with Mark 13:10).

Just as Christ had proclaimed the good news in advance of the coming *GOVERNMENT OF GOD* on this earth, so He commissioned His true Church to *CARRY ON* with this great work! He said, "Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come" (Mat. 10:23).

Can we begin to comprehend?

The Church was established for a *PURPOSE*. It was *NOT* to become *PART* and *PARCEL* with *THIS WORLD*, which God labels as *Babylon the Great* and commands every true child of His to *COME OUT* of (Rev. 18:4, I John 2:15), but to preach the good news of the Kingdom of God *TO* the world—going *TO* the world with the Gospel, but not being *OF* the world (John 17:14-16).

Jesus said the Father had *SENT HIM INTO THE WORLD*—for a *JOB!* That job was to *WARN* the world, to preach to the world the warning of its impending *DOOM*, and also to proclaim to the world the *GOOD NEWS* that *GOD* would step in, and *intervene* in human affairs before it was too late. Then He said, "As *THOU* [the Father] hast *SENT ME into the world*, even so have I also *sent them* [His Disciples, His *NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH*, His *BODY!*] into the world!" (John 17:18).

The *JOB* of the Church is *NOT*, shocking though it may sound, to *CONVERT* the world! It is *NOT* to *CHANGE* the world. It is *NOT* to build "churches" to make the community a "nicer place" to live, to keep children off the streets, to help stimulate civic pride, or *ANY*

of these vague and unrealistic ideas of men—but the *JOB* of the Church is to preach the *GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD TO THIS DYING WORLD AS A LAST WARNING MESSAGE—AS A WITNESS*, just before the *CLOSE* of the age! Jesus said, "and *THEN* shall the end come!"

Where is that *SAME, IDENTICAL* Gospel being *PREACHED?* *WHO* is really *DOING* that *PROPHESIED* work of God today?

Where is that true Church of which Jesus spoke—the Church He built—the Church He still *RULES* today?

It was prophesied to be a *LITTLE* flock, little-known by the world, suffering vicious attacks and persecution, but, true to Christ's prophecy, *GROWING* until it became a *GREAT WITNESS TO ALL THE WORLD—a witness the world could no longer IGNORE!*

That Church, the *CHURCH OF GOD*, *GOD'S Church*, the *ONE* and *ONLY CHURCH JESUS BUILT* is on this earth today! Jesus said so.

Somewhere, somehow, there *is* on this earth a small but faithful group, living by the commandments of God (Rev. 12:17), following the *WORD* of God, not only *preaching* but *PRACTICING* the words of Christ—and proclaiming to all the world the *GOOD NEWS* of the coming *KINGDOM OF GOD* on this earth—the way the world *WILL* be—*TOMORROW!*

Those completely *DECEIVED* by the false god of *THIS WORLD* (II Cor. 4:4) call the simple acceptance of these *plain scriptural truths* you have seen in *YOUR OWN BIBLE* "exclusivism!" They somehow have allowed themselves to *CAST ASIDE* the plain, direct, clear teachings of Christ Himself—somehow accepting the vague notion that the "church" is a kind of non-entity, a vague, nebulous "something" in the hearts of men, or a collection of *MANY* conflicting, differing organizations!

It's time *YOU* were really *honest with yourself*. It's time you *faced the truth—SQUARELY!* Paul asked the Corinthians, "is *CHRIST DIVIDED?*" (I Cor. 1:13).

The thundering answer from that Christ *HIMSELF* is—"THERE IS *ONE BODY!*" May God help you to come to *see* that body, and to really *WANT* Christ to *PUT YOU INTO* it!

Is There a REAL HELL FIRE?

There is no need to live in fear and doubt—YOU CAN KNOW what and where hell is, who goes to hell and whether any can leave hell. Read the answers, plainly written and explained from God's Own Word.

by David Jon Hill

THE RESTAURANT was crowded with businessmen and women of Pasadena discussing their day's business over lunch. Fitted in between a bank building and a hat shop, this particular restaurant was long and narrow so that many of those sitting in the rear could not see what was going on toward the entrance. About 12:30, when people were still standing in line waiting to get a table, three women walked in. Two were rather skinny, one was overly plump, all were unkempt and disheveled.

About halfway to the rear of the restaurant, the fat one burst out in a loud voice screaming, "FIRE! FIRE! FIRE! *Hell fire and brimstone!*"

Panic struck! Diners jumped to their feet, dishes clattered to the floor as patrons tried to leave through the nearest exit in response to the one word they had heard over the hubbub of conversation—"FIRE!"

But the fat one went on "witnessing for Christ," crudely informing all of the patrons of the restaurant they would go to *hell* and suffer in ever-burning flames unless they accepted Jesus Christ! While she was screaming this message at the top of her lungs, her disheveled partner bent near a patron's ear and whispered, "If you died *today*, would you be ready to meet Jesus?"

Recovering from his shock, the manager invited these three self-styled prophetesses to leave his establishment. Things quieted down, and the hum of conversation again returned to near normal—but few were talking about business anymore. The name of Jesus Christ had been used in a very unsavory situation—people's stomachs were upset, food had been spilled on some clothing, nerves were shattered and on edge, the train of thought of those dis-

cussing business over their lunch had been forgotten—for some the whole day had been ruined!

But despite her crude manner of presenting it, does the *hell fire* this plump prophetess preached really exist?

World of Confusion!

At the close of the 20th century when mankind seems to have more knowledge on any given point than he has ever had in his entire history, there is more confusion, mixed-up ideas and superstitions prevailing about this burning issue of hell than ever before! God-defying atheists and narrow-minded scientists loudly proclaim they do not even believe *God* exists, much less a heaven or hell. On the other hand are religious people who, for sake of dogma, or because it suits their sense of justice, believe there *is* an ever-burning, never-consuming, torturing hell fire that awaits those who do not make a profession of *their* Christ.

Sincere, though deceived, these individuals insist that the message from God to mankind is that if a man does not accept and love Jesus in his given span of near 70 years, the Eternal God of heaven, All-Wise, All-Loving, All-Merciful will heap unimagined and excruciating pain in the ever-burning flames of hell upon that soul for all eternity—because of 70 years of sin.

Many claim that this is the very *power* of the Gospel! That if you remove the punishment of hell, and the pains of everlasting suffering, from the *good news*, the Gospel message, no one would accept God's other teaching. Hell, in *their* good-news-Gospel, becomes the place where God wreaks vengeance on "sinners!" If this be true, and the governments of this earth were to follow

the example of this All-Wise God—then criminals, instead of being put in jail, or put to death, should be TORTURED!

Those who claim to be God's representatives on earth, from a dignified priest to the street-corner evangelist, all demand that you choose *now* whether you will spend eternity in heaven or in hell! Two things are taken for granted here: one, that everyone *must* choose NOW; and two, that *eternity* will be spent in hell.

The Source of Truth!

Where *can* we go to find the real truth of this matter? If there is an ever-burning, torturing hell fire that the God of heaven has in store for those who sin against Him, then certainly it behooves each of us to find out the details regarding it!

Does science have the answer? Has anyone scientifically *seen* and examined hell? *Felt* and *smelled* of hell? Observed it in all of its excruciating agony and returned to tell of its existence and conditions?

NO! Science does not have the answer!

An encyclopedia can only give you what men have *thought* about hell throughout the ages of the past!

The only source that talks with real authority on this subject is the Word of God! "Thy word is truth" (John 17:17). The Bible is the only source that speaks with *absolute* AUTHORITY on *this subject*—a subject beyond the realm of modern science, and yet modern science, as far as its *knowledge* concerning the dead goes, completely agrees with the Bible in every detail.

Instead of trying to *imagine* what hell might be like, let us go directly

into the pages of God's Word and find out what God has to say—letting the Bible completely interpret itself—not letting our imagination run wild on any point—really proving all things! The doctrine of hell this world propounds determines, by the use of stark fear, to *force* you into acceptance of the Gospel. This is not the Spirit of God, because God's Word says, "For God has NOT given us the *spirit of fear*; but of POWER, and of LOVE, and of a SOUND MIND!" (II Tim. 1:7.)

The truth from God's own Word will agree with God's Spirit of true love, yet will certainly *not detract* from God's power, and will throughout its entire explanation be completely *sound-minded!*

The over-all, principle *choice* that GOD lays down for every individual is found in the much-preached but little-understood "golden text" of the Bible, John 3:16. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should *not perish*, but have everlasting life." On the one hand God says that if you accept the sacrifice of His only begotten Son you *will* have everlasting life. On the other hand, if you do not accept the Savior Who died for you, you must "PERISH!"

How does hell enter into *this*? *What* is hell? *Where* is hell? *Who goes* to hell? *How long do you stay in hell*? *Can you leave* hell?

What Is Hell?

Confusion is in the mind of today's Christian because he is told either that the Bible does not mean what it says or that wherever "hell" is mentioned in the Bible it is a hell of *fire* for the eternal torture of the damned. God's Word plainly reveals that there is more than one kind of hell.

There are three *different* Greek words, each having a *different meaning*, which have been translated "hell" in the King James Version.

The Greek word *hades* simply means "pit" or "grave." In 1611 when the King James Version was translated, the Englishmen spoke of putting their potatoes in "hell" for the winter—that is, simply in a hole in the ground! There has to be a place for those who die and

that place we are all in common knowledge of: the grave. If men immediately when they die either go to heaven or hell, then God's Word would *not* have said, "For David is NOT *ascended* into the heavens" (Acts 2:34) and "Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is BOTH DEAD AND BURIED, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day" (Acts 2:29).

At the time Peter was preaching his first inspired sermon on that day of Pentecost in 31 A.D.—50 days after Christ first ascended to the Father in heaven from this very "hell"—he says that the great patriarch David is still in hell!

Let us *understand* this!

"Because thou wilt not leave my [David's] soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One [Jesus Christ] to see *corruption*" (Acts 2:27). This is quoted in your New Testament from Psalm 16:10, where David prophesied of the coming of Jesus Christ, of His crucifixion and death, of His burial and stay in the grave, "hell"—but not long enough in that grave to suffer "corruption," that is the decaying of the flesh. Yet after Christ was resurrected, David still remained in the grave, in his sepulchre, completely corrupted and nothing but dust at that time.

By comparing this scripture with the Old Testament, we find that this hades-hell of the New Testament is the same as the sheol-hell of the Old Testament. God's Word describes this hell very plainly. It is merely the grave where everyone goes when he dies. It is not "the abode of the dead" in the sense that dead spirits are walking around in a dark, cold cavern somewhere in the heart of the earth, but merely the resting place where all those who have died *await a resurrection*. That is why the triumphant Psalm is quoted in I Corinthians 15—the resurrection chapter—where it states, "O grave, where is thy victory?" (I Cor. 15:55.) All the individuals who have died and rotted and turned to dust will eventually be resurrected—some to eternal life, some to judgment. This hades-hell will not have an eternal hold on those who spend time there.

The description of this hell is not

left to the imagination of men but very clearly defined. "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is *no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom*, in the grave [sheol—hades—hell] whither thou goest" (Eccl. 9:10).

Your Bible describes this as a very dead place! How else would *you* describe the grave?

"For the living know that they shall die: but the dead KNOW NOT ANYTHING, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. Also their *love*, and their *hatred*, and their *envy*, is now PERISHED!" (Eccl. 9:5-6.) God's Word is very plain-spoken. In the grave, "hell," where you or anyone goes upon death, is neither a place of physical or mental activity of any kind. "His [man's] breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in *that very day* HIS THOUGHTS PERISH!" (Ps. 146:4.)

Any scientific experiment which can be enacted and observed completely backs up these Bible statements. But this is as far as science can help us. This is the *only* hell that science is cognizant of.

Churchmen try to confuse this hades-hell by admitting that it is indeed the grave, but going on to explain that *only the body* goes to the grave while the soul goes elsewhere. This doctrine can nowhere be proved within the pages of God's Word (Write for the article "Do You Have an Immortal Soul?"). God's Word very clearly says that David, not David's body, is both dead and buried and is not in heaven! And if David is not then surely no one else is.

Another Hell

The second Greek word translated "hell" is *tartaroo*. It is used *only once* in the Bible. "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell . . ." (II Pet. 2:4). The word here, very loosely translated hell, is not a place but a condition. It refers to the *condition of restraint* that God has imposed upon those angels which rebelled against Him and followed Satan the Devil. This word—tartaroo-hell—is never used in reference to man.

When Satan and his demons rebelled against God, He put them in a condition of restraint—much as modern govern-

ments put criminals in a condition of restraint—where they must remain until their time of judgment (Jude 6).

Science has never observed this tar-taroo-hell! Churchmen are confounded by it! God's truth is very plain concerning it!

The REAL Hell

The Greek word *gehenna* denotes a place of punishment. Gehenna, or the Valley of Hinnom, is a place just outside Jerusalem where trash, filth and dead bodies were thrown to be *burned up*. It was a city dump and there was always a fire burning to *consume the refuse* that was thrown there. Jesus Christ and the disciples and apostles after Him used this word consistently when they were referring to that "hell" which will BURN UP *sinners!* Gehenna-hell is a synonym for the *lake of fire* into which the unrepentant dead are to be cast at the end of time. This is the only hell in the Bible which is associated with flames or fire. No inner caverns in the bowels of the earth are mentioned. No ice-filled rooms where people's feet are sticking out and being tickled by demented spirits are talked about in God's Word in reference to this gehenna-hell. It is never described as a fire in which the damned *live*, but a fire in which the damned DIE!

To explain the usage of the two basic words used in the Greek language and translated "hell" in the English language in the King James Version: "And death and *hell* were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second DEATH. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:14-15). The word translated "hell" in Verse 14 is *hades*, the grave. The grave itself and those which are not found written in the book of life are going to be cast into the lake of fire—gehenna-hell. This will empty the grave—hades-hell—and it will cease to exist—no dead will ever again be buried in the grave. They will be burned up.

Those who refuse to live by God's law, who insist on rebelling against the way of life that God knows brings happiness, health and peace, are going to be cast bodily into this gehenna-hell, the lake of fire, to terminate their *miserable* existence, to put them *out of their*

misery, to END their life!

Why Does God Use Gehenna-Hell?

God's plan of salvation is a 7000-year plan. For 6000 years of this time God has allowed mankind to go his way, under the influence of his own mind and directed also by the mind of Satan the Devil. Man has tried every way he can think of to govern himself to bring peace, happiness, health, prosperity, but has failed miserably! Down through the ages God has selected some few whom He called *out of* this world to realize His plan of salvation, to repent of their ways which are contrary to His laws, and to change their way of life to agree with God.

When Jesus Christ returns to this earth in the very next few years, He will *for the first time* in mankind's history set His hand to save the whole world—that is, all people who are alive on the earth at that time. He will offer them the same salvation that He has in the past only offered to a few whom He has called *out of* the world. Then, at the close of a thousand years of this reign, all of those who have ever died, but never had a chance to know the True Jesus and His true Gospel message, will be resurrected and given their ONE opportunity to obey and by the strength of God's Holy Spirit enter into His Kingdom!

At *one time or another* every man who has ever existed will stand with his mind open and his understanding clear to live a life of overcoming with God's Spirit and endeavor to enter into His Kingdom.

There have been, and there will be, however, some few who will *utterly REBEL* against doing God's will—who will set their wills against obedience to His laws so completely that *nothing can be done with them*. These will be the individuals God refers to in His Word as those who have committed the UNPARDONABLE SIN!

God in His mercy has planned that these individuals should be *completely done away with*—made to CEASE TO EXIST! It is set down very plainly: "For the wages of sin [the transgression of God's law, living contrary to the very nature of life itself] is DEATH [the cessation of life]" (Rom. 6:23).

Lest anyone should question what God meant by this, He firmly stated: "Behold, all *souls* are mine; as the *soul* of the father, so also the *soul* of the son is mine: THE SOUL THAT SINNETH, IT SHALL DIE" (Ezek. 18:4). Regarding this to be of utmost importance, God was not satisfied with stating it once but restated it so that there *would be no question* that He did *not* mean just the body and not the soul, but very firmly reaffirmed, "THE SOUL THAT SINNETH, IT SHALL DIE" (Ezek. 18:20).

God's promise to all people is *life or death!* Not life or *life!*

God realizes that men are weak, that they are subject to vanity—He created them that way! He has not devised this lake of fire in order to torture human beings, but only to rid them once and for all from off the face of the earth—to do away with their lives. Knowing that they cannot continue to live the way they *want* to live, but that they would only bring *misery* and *pain* and *suffering* on themselves throughout eternity if He allowed them to live, God mercifully puts an end to their life. And even in this act God is *NOT pleased*. "For I have NO PLEASURE in the death of him that dieth" (Ezek. 18:32). God does not *want* anyone to be thrown into this lake of fire! But those who insist on living contrary to the laws of life are going to be mercifully *snuffed from existence* by this method.

"For if we sin *wilfully* AFTER that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain FEARFUL looking for of judgment and *fiery indignation*, which shall DEVOUR the adversaries" (Heb. 10:26-27).

Therefore we see from God's Word that hell fire is NOT held over the head of every individual to force him *into* accepting Jesus Christ as his personal Savior—it is NOT a threat of pain and eternal punishing that the Merciful and All-Powerful Eternal God is levying against those who refuse to hear His Gospel—but a final judgment, a doing-away-with the individuals who *reject* Him AFTER they have received a knowledge of His truth.

The time when the *REAL fear* of a *REAL hell fire* comes on an individual is AFTER he has sinned *wilfully* against

the knowledge of God's truth that has been opened to his mind!

How Hell Fire Works!

Long ago God set an example in His Word of what this fire is like, how it works, and what the result of it is. "Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an EXAMPLE, *suffering vengeance of ETERNAL FIRE*" (Jude 7). Sodom and Gomorrah, the two sinful cities in the valley of the Jordan by the Dead Sea suffered, as you can read the account in Genesis 19, from a great fire that fell from heaven *consuming* everything it fell upon. All the people in those cities were *burned to death*. The cities themselves were *consumed* and ARE NOT THERE for us to see today!

But they are NOT STILL BURNING! They have suffered as an EXAMPLE of the vengeance of *eternal fire*.

THEY ARE BURNED UP. The eternity of this fire is its *everlasting effect!*

God explains that this is going to be exactly the penalty for those who insist on disobedience to Him. "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall BURN THEM UP, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall LEAVE THEM NEITHER ROOT NOR BRANCH. . . . And ye [those who become the Sons of God in His Kingdom] shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ASHES under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts" (Mal. 4:1, 3).

When physical bodies come into contact with flame they burn up! David very graphically describes this in the Psalms. "But the wicked shall PERISH, and the enemies of the Lord shall be as THE FAT OF LAMBS: THEY SHALL CONSUME; INTO SMOKE SHALL THEY CONSUME AWAY" (Ps. 37:20).

Yes, that is what GOD says! Very plain and easy to understand! There is no mystery about it, no strange fire that burns forever and yet does not consume anything. No sadistic God on high who desires to execute pain on a human body forever because of sins committed over a period of a few years. Only a

loving God Who, after offering a human being His Very Own Spirit and Mind and Power determines to put that individual out of his misery when that simple human being finally rebels against his Creator and refuses to hear any of His advice and to use any of His power.

There is a *very real hell fire—a very real pain—a very real DEATH!* "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son [born into the very Kingdom of God—this is the purpose of life, the plan of creation from the beginning, the reason why you draw breath now]. But the fearful, the unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolators, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone [gehenna-hell]: which is [by GOD'S own interpretation, NOT by the imagination of mankind] the SECOND DEATH" (Rev. 21:7-8).

Whom You Really Need to Fear!

God offers salvation, not suffering! You do not need to fear men's imaginations. You do not need to fear the unreasoning tortures of an ever-burning hell, but you DO need to have a *healthy*

respect for the One Individual in all creation Who is *able to save you* from being BURNED UP in a lake of fire—gehenna-hell—and *grant you LIFE FOREVER with Him in His Kingdom!*

"And fear *not* them which kill the body [those who kill and execute God's chosen people, making them martyrs because they believe the truth of God], but are *not able* to kill the soul [in Luke's account the word is "life"]: but rather FEAR HIM [fear God, not hell or the Devil] which IS ABLE TO DESTROY *both soul and body in* [gehenna-hell]" (Matt. 10:28).

Do not fear the imaginations of ignorant men's minds. Do not fear that the Devil will plunge you into torture for eternity. But *do* begin to see how powerful and loving and reasonable and true your Creator really is. Begin to have that *respect* and *awe*—that proper fear, respect and honor due to the greatest Power in the universe—that fear that is the beginning of wisdom, not the beginning of terror.

Seek this God of truth, believe His Word, and His Word ONLY! Ask of this great God and He will grant to you the Spirit of *love* and of *power* and of a SOUND MIND!

Autobiography

(Continued from page 16)

"Dad" was preaching. Of course he had always heard me preach, from babyhood. Little children have their minds on other things during the preaching of sermons, usually. Dick had, of course, taken my preaching for granted—but he was a middle-teenage boy, and he had never, as yet, shown any real personal interest in God's TRUTH.

"Dad," he remarked in our hotel room one night after service, "I never really paid special attention to your preaching before. But getting away from home like this, with just you and me alone, it all seems different. I'm beginning to see that what you say *makes sense!*"

Each Wednesday evening, prior to time for the evening service, it was necessary for me to take the train for Denver in order to record the weekly radio program. I stopped overnight at

Colorado Springs, catching the early morning streamliner from Kansas City on into Denver. The transcriptions were air-expressed by a recording studio in Denver to the various radio stations for broadcast on the following Sunday. I then travelled by bus back to Canon City, arriving shortly before the evening service.

During the last two weeks we held daily morning services, as well as evening, and about two-thirds of the audience was able to attend the morning service.

Sensual "Spirituality"

The local minister whom I had come to help had, in his zeal to become "more spiritual," made the mistake many well-meaning people have made, of confusing emotional and sentimental *feeling* with true spirituality. This *feeling* is of the senses—and, of itself, *sensual*—

not spiritual. A true and deep spiritual experience may be, and usually is *accompanied* by certain emotion or feeling. But this is the *effect*, the human physical reaction or response—and of itself is *not* spirituality.

True spirituality comes from GOD, not the FLESH!

This man and his wife had, as guests in their small home for the duration of the meetings, a woman church member from northern Colorado, near Cheyenne. She, too, was of the excessively emotional type. They had started having "seasons of prayer" at the minister's house, in which all three prayed *aloud at once*. This man had wanted me to introduce this unscriptural practise into the meetings. I had refused.

Then he asked me if I would come to their house and at least join *them* in this type of babylon and confusion. I again refused, and pointed out to him how God is *not* the author of confusion, and in any "meeting" of people together, only *one* is to speak at a time, the others keeping silence (I Cor. 14:15, 23, 26-31, 33, 40).

There was, in this town, a man of the extreme "pentecostal" variety, who, this local pastor said, had "backslidden," and given up religion altogether. This was the *one man*, above all others, whom this minister wanted to get into his church. So I went with him to visit this man in his home. I saw at once that his heart was not right, and he should be let alone.

The Fruits: Near-Converts Driven Away

However, on the last Wednesday night of the four weeks' meetings, when I was enroute to Denver and the local pastor conducted the service, things happened. On my return the following night, stepping off the bus, my son Dick was awaiting me.

"Dad," he said solemnly, "I'm all through with those meetings. I've decided I don't want any religion, after all!"

"Why, what's happened?" I asked in surprise.

The night before they had gotten this "pentecostal" "backslider" into the hall. The emotionally-zealous minister had given an "altar call," and this so-

called "backslider" had come to the altar and began yelling, shouting, screaming, and putting on a ridiculous insane, noisy SHOW! The audience, generally, was disgusted. But the local pastor and his wife, in their misguided zeal-without-wisdom, were overjoyed.

I tried to explain to Dick that this was all UNscriptural, and ANTI-Scriptural, and he should ignore it. But it was too much for a young 15-year-old boy. He refused to go to the meeting that night.

I did what I could to hold the interest of the people. With me back in the pulpit they continued to come the remaining four days. Several were baptized, and a local church was organized, with twice as many members as the local pastor had had before his former "flock" had moved away.

Then Dick and I took the train home, via Salt Lake City and San Francisco. Later I learned that almost immediately after this campaign, the minister I had gone to help took a vacation in another state, visiting, I believe, relatives, and left his new local church to this "pentecostal" man to pastor. When he returned home, he had no church.

When misguided zeal takes the place of wisdom and the sound guidance of the *living* CHRIST, a lot of hard work and apparently successful effort can all go down the drain, and into the spiritual sewer! The *fruits* of this false "spirituality" are the disgust of near-converts—driven from salvation!

Of course that well-meaning, over-zealous (emotionally), and misguided minister apparently has always thought that I was not very "spiritual." Somehow, it seems always to have been a MYSTERY to such people that success *appears* to result from my efforts.

I say "*appears*" because the success does not result from my efforts at all. It is the DOING OF THE INVISIBLE GOD! And, being physically invisible, such people never can see GOD in the picture.

In the next installment I will have much to say about the historic San Francisco Conference, at which the UNITED NATIONS was formed, and which I attended as a Press Correspondent, accredited by the State Department—and our start of *permanent every-night* broadcasting.

Printed in U.S.A.

The PLAIN TRUTH
Box 111—Pasadena, California

MRS MARIE JOHNSON
R1 4
LOUISVILLE ILL

R2

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE
Paid at
Pasadena, California